

The basis of our congregation's common fellowship is comprehended in the following:

STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE that the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, are the inspired and eternal Word of God. These Scriptures are the revealed Will of God to mankind and are the only infallible guide to Christian faith and practice.

WE BELIEVE in one God, the Creator, Preserver, and Ruler of all things, infinite in being and perfect in justice, wisdom, holiness, truth and love. He exists eternally in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

WE BELIEVE that mankind was created in righteousness and holiness in the image of God, and his purpose was to glorify God. He was endowed with the power of rational and responsible choice, and through the test of his obedience, mankind fell from grace. He was alienated from God and now lives in sin. In sin, mankind is separated from God and unable to save himself; physically and spiritually.

WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior. As the eternal Son of God, Jesus took upon Himself human form. Since He was born of the virgin Mary, He perfectly united the divine and human nature. We believe that God provided salvation from sin for mankind through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ upon the cross. In this way, Jesus took upon Himself the penalty of our sin, and all who believe in Him are justified because of His sacrificial death. We believe that on the third day Jesus Christ rose from the dead; that He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God, where He intercedes for us until the time of His coming again. Then He will come personally and visibly to complete His saving work and to consummate the eternal plan of God.

WE BELIEVE in the ministry of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit reveals to us the things of Christ, convicts us of sin, calls us to repentance, justifies us before God and carries on the process of renewal. The work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the individual Christian and congregation is witnessed by the evidence of the fruit of the Spirit and the ministry of the gifts of the Spirit.

WE BELIEVE that salvation is wholly by grace, that God desires each person to seek Him, to repent of his sin, and to live a life characterized by obedience and holiness. We believe that those who are Christians are so not only in name but in nature. They have acknowledged Jesus Christ to be the Savior and Lord of their life and are growing in their knowledge of His Word and Will. The Christian life is a process of repentance and renewal that will not be complete until the consummation of the age.

WE BELIEVE He calls us into His church to accept the cost of discipleship. He requires us to be His servant in the service of mankind, to proclaim the Gospel to all the world and to resist the powers of evil. We are committed to observe the ordinance of baptism and the Lord's Supper, and to proclaim to a lost world that Jesus Christ is Savior and Lord.

Service for the Lord's Day

10⁰⁰ AM

Sunday, the 12th of June, Year of Our Lord 2016




Welcome!

RYE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

~ In the heart of Rye since 1726 ~

I rejoiced with those who said to me, Let us go up to the house of the Lord.

Happy the people whose God is the Lord.

 Please use the opportunity afforded by the Prelude to prayerfully prepare for worship and assist us in establishing an air of reverence as the hour draws near.

Prelude: *Nocturne in E Flat Major, Op. 9, No. 2* F. Chopin

(10⁰⁰ am) {Welcome, Announcements, & Greetings}

Choral Introit: *If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee* (see lyrics next page) J.S. Bach

Call to Worship & Psalm of the Day: (from Psalm 33 ~ A Psalm of David)

Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright.

Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto Him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.

Sing unto Him a new song; play skillfully with a loud noise.

For the word of the LORD is right; and all His works are done in truth.

He loves righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

He gathers the waters of the sea together as an heap: He lays up the depth in storehouses.


Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.

The LORD brings the counsel of the heathen to nothing: He makes the devices of the people of none effect.

The counsel of the LORD stands for ever, the thoughts of His heart to all generations.

* Opening Hymn: *O Perfect Love* #458

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (forgive us our debts ...)

 *Day by day, day by day, O, dear Lord, three things I pray: To see Thee more clearly, Love Thee more dearly, Follow Thee more nearly, Day by day.*

Choir Anthem: *Let There Be Peace on Earth* C. Courtney

* Those who are comfortably able, please stand. All others, please remain comfortably seated.

Children's Moment

Offertory: *Our Father Who Art in Heaven* J.S. Bach

* (#815) **Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

Peter Speaks to the Onlookers Acts 3:11-26 (page 1695)

* (#813) **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

The Beatitudes, Part 3 Matthew 5:7-8 (page 1501)

Sermon: *God Bless the Merciful and the Pure In Heart*

* Closing Hymn: *Jesus Shall Reign* #375

* Benediction

Postlude: *All Praise to Jesus' Hallowed Name* J.S. Bach

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee
by Georg Neumark

If thou but suffer God to guide thee, And hope in Him through all thy ways,
He'll give thee strength whate'er betide thee, And bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love Builds on the rock that naught can move.
What can these anxious cares avail thee, These never-ceasing moans and sighs?
What can it help, if thou bewail thee O'er each dark moment as it flies?
Our cross and trials do but press The heavier for our bitterness.
Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving, So do thine own part faithfully.
And trust His Word, though undeserving, Thou yet shall find it true for thee!
God never yet forsook in need The soul that trusted Him indeed.

(Hearing-aid headphones are available at the sound booth in the rear of the sanctuary.)