

*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*

*10<sup>00</sup> AM*

*Sunday, the 26<sup>th</sup> of March, Year of Our Lord 2017*



*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.*



*Please use the time afforded by the Prelude to prayerfully prepare for worship.*

Prelude: *Prelude in E minor, Op. 28, No. 4*

F. Chopin

(10<sup>00</sup> am)

*{Welcome, Announcements, & Greetings}*

Call to Worship: *As You Love*

Trad. Folk tune/K. Bible

Scriptural Call to Worship: *(from Psalm 72 ~ for Solomon)*

Endow the king with Your justice, O God, the royal son with Your righteousness.

**He will judge Your people in righteousness, Your afflicted ones with justice.**

The mountains will bring prosperity to the people, the hills the fruit of righteousness.

**He will defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy.**

He will endure as long as the sun, as long as the moon, through all generations.

**He will be like rain falling on a mown field, like showers watering the earth.**

In his days the righteous will flourish; prosperity will abound till the moon is no more.

**He will rule from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.**

All kings will bow down to him and all nations will serve him.

**For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help.**

He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death.

**Long may he live! May people ever pray for him and bless him all day long.**

Let grain abound throughout the land; on the tops of the hills may it sway.

**May his name endure forever; may it continue as long as the sun. All nations will**

**be blessed through him, and they will call him blessed.**

Praise be to the LORD God, the God of Israel, Who alone does marvelous deeds.

**Praise be His glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with His glory.**

\* Opening Hymn: *Who Is on the Lord's Side?*

#674

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.

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

*Happy the people whose God is the Lord.*

Choir Anthem: *Walking 'Cross the Sea*

from *Upon This Rock* P. Choplin

Children's Moment

Offertory: *Blessed Are Ye, Faithful Souls*

J. Brahms

\* ♪♪ **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.** (#815)

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

*Jesus Walks on the Water*

Matthew 14:22-36 (page 1520)

\* ♪♪ **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.** (#813)

*A Lamp on a Stand*

Luke 8:16-18 (page 1606)

Sermon: *This Little Light of Mine ...*

\* Closing Hymn: *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

#293

Benediction

Postlude: *Solemn Melody*

W. Davies, Arranged for Organ by N. Rawsthorne

*Immediately Jesus reached out His hand and caught him. "You of little faith," He said, "why did you doubt?" ~ Matthew 14:31*

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