

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 6th of March, Year of Our Lord 2016



Welcome!

RYE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

~ In the heart of Rye since 1726 ~

Let us take the cup of salvation and call upon His name.

{Welcome, Announcements, & Greetings}

Introit: *My Mind Will Be Your Holy Place* Irish melody & K. Bible

Prelude: *Mignon* R. Schumann

Call to Worship & Psalm of the Day: *(from Psalm 16 ~ A Miktam of David)*

Keep me safe, O God, for in You do I take refuge.

I said to the LORD, You are my Lord; apart from You I have no good thing.

As for the saints who are in the land, they are the glorious ones in whom is all my delight.

The sorrows of those will increase who run after other gods. I will not pour out their libations of blood or take up their names on my lips.

LORD, You have assigned me my portion and my cup; You have made my lot secure.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

I will praise the LORD, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me.

I have set the LORD always before me. Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because You will not abandon me to the grave, nor will You let your Holy One see decay.

You have made known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in Your presence and with eternal pleasures at Your right hand.

*Opening Hymn: *Near to the Heart of God* #617

Choral Anthem: *Is It I, Lord?* R. Schram

Children's Moment (after which the children gather for Sunday School)

Offertory: *Of Foreign Lands and People* R. Schumann

* (#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.*

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

O taste and see that the Lord is good!

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

Jesus Anointed by a Sinful Woman Luke 7:36-50 (page 1604)

* (#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.*

At the Home of Martha and Mary Luke 10:38-42 (page 1613)

Sermon: *A Story of Redemption and Gratitude*

* Profession of Faith: *The Apostles' Creed* The Hymnal, inside back cover

Words of Institution & Lord's Prayer (*forgive us our debts ...*)

* (#702) *Fill my cup, Lord—I lift it up, Lord! Come and quench this thirsting of my soul. Bread of Heaven, feed me till I want no more; Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!*

Communion

Closing Prayer

* Closing Hymn: *His Eye Is on the Sparrow* #624

* Benediction

Postlude: *Take Up Your Cross* Harmonized by J.S. Bach

... You are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. ~ Luke 11.41-2

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