

*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 14<sup>th</sup> of May, Year of Our Lord 2017*



*Welcome!*

**RYE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

*~ Celebrating God's Love 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: *Waltz in G Sharp minor, Op. 39, No. 3*

J. Brahms

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

{Welcome, Announcements, & Greetings}

Call to Worship: *Ave Maria*

Bach/Gounod, arr.

Melinda McMahan, mezzo Trevor McMahan, piano

Scriptural Call to Worship: (from *Psalm 139*)

O LORD, You have searched me and You know me.

**You know when I sit and when I rise; You perceive my thoughts from afar.**

You discern my going out and my lying down; You are familiar with all my ways.

**Before a word is on my tongue You know it completely, O LORD.**

You hem me in, behind and before; You have laid Your hand upon me.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.**

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence?

**If I go up to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, You are there.**

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there Your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold me fast.

**If I say, Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me, even the darkness will not be dark to You; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to You.**

For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb.

**I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.**

How precious are Your thoughts to me, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

**Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with You.**

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

**See if there is any offense in me, and lead me in the way of life everlasting.**

\* Opening Hymn: *For the Beauty of the Earth*

#793

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

*Happy the people whose God is the Lord.*

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: *Simple Praise*

C. Courtney

Children's Moment

Offertory: *The Church's One Foundation*

S.S. Wesley

\* ☩ **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

*Encouragement to Be Faithful*

2 Timothy 1:1-7 (page 1853)

\* ☩ **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)

*Jesus' Mother and Brothers*

Matthew 12:46-50 (page 1516)

Sermon: *All God's Children*

\* Closing Hymn: *Now Thank We All Our God*

#788

Benediction

Postlude: *March in D from Scipio*

G.F. Handel

*Whoever does the will of My Father in Heaven is My brother, and sister, and mother. ~ Matthew 12.50*

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