

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.

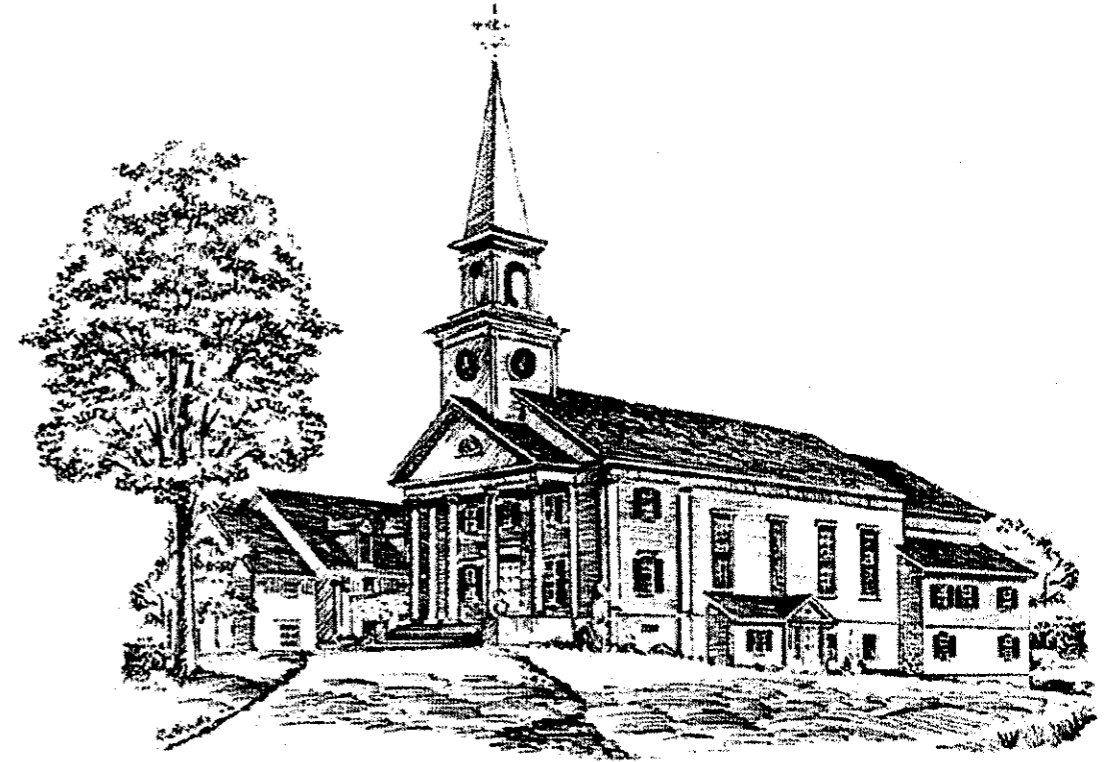
WE BELIEVE that salvation is wholly by grace, that God desires each person to seek Him, to repent of his sin, and to live a life characterized by obedience and holiness. We believe that those who are Christians are so not only in name but in nature. They have acknowledged Jesus Christ to be the Savior 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 January, Year of Our Lord 2019



Welcome!

RYE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

~ Celebrating God's Love in the Heart of Rye Since 1726 ~

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

Prelude: *Unto Us a Boy is Born*

Puer Nobis, arr. David Paxton

(10⁰⁰ am)

{Welcome, Announcements, & Greetings}

♪♪ (#170) *Give thanks with a grateful heart; Give thanks to the Holy One; Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son (repeat).*

And now let the weak say, I am strong; Let the poor say, I am rich, because of what the Lord has done for us (repeat). Give thanks!

Choral Call to Worship: *'Tis Winter Now*

R. Vaughan-Williams

Scriptural Call to Worship: (from Psalm 128 ~ *A Song of Ascents*)

Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in His ways.

You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house.

Your sons will be like olive shoots around your table.

Thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD.

May the LORD bless you from Zion all the days of your life.

May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem, and live to see your children's children.

Peace be upon Israel.

* Opening Hymn: *What Wondrous Love Is This?*

#314

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

♪♪ (#691) *Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days, all the days of my life; Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days, all the days of my life.*

Choir Anthem: *Carol of the Star*

D. Moore

Children's Moment (with Sunday School following)

Offertory

* ♪♪ *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)

* *Those who are comfortably able, please stand.*

O taste and see that the Lord is good!

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

The Visit of the Magi

Matthew 2:1-12 (page 1497)

* ♪♪ *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)

The Escape to Egypt & Return to Nazareth

Matthew 2:13-23 (page 1498)

Sermon: *Heaven's Joy Will Triumph Over Bethlehem's Tears*

* Profession of Faith: *The Apostles' Creed*

The Hymnal, inside back cover

Communion Hymn: *There Is a Fountain*

#336 (vss. 1-3)

The Lord's Supper

* Closing Hymn: *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

#400

Benediction

Postlude: *Toccata on Auld Lang Syne*

Martha Sobaje

... God's home is now among
... people! He will live with them, and
... will be his people. God himself will
be with them. * He will wipe every tear
from their eyes, and there will be no more
death or sorrow or crying or pain. All
these things are gone forever. †
† And the one sitting on the throne said,
"Look, I am making everything new!" And
then he said to me, "Write this down, for
what I tell you is trustworthy and true."

Following the service, please join us at the Fellowship Hour downstairs.

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