

February 17, 2008

When our lives are Christ-centered, we can disagree without being bitter or divisive. It is a mark of the working of the Holy Spirit that we can hold one another in love and fellowship even though there is diversity among us. –Biblical Inspiration and Authority, 1979 Annual Conference Statement.

Gathering and Praising

Music for Meditation

*Be receptive to the Spirit of God as worship begins
with Music for Meditation*

Prelude and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Welcome and Announcements

***Passing the Peace**

***Call to Worship:**

One: Tell the whole congregation of God's people:
This is a day for new beginnings.

All: *This is a time of God's appearing.
This is the moment for faithful response.*

One: This is the hour to wake from our sleep.
The energy of God's love fills this place.

All: *Here we claim our identity as Christians.
Here we become the church of Jesus Christ.*

***Invocation**

***Hymn:** *Great is Thy faithfulness* #327

First Scripture Reading: *1 Corinthians 1: 10-17, The Message*

Songs of Praise: *O healing river* #372

Heart with loving heart united #420

Confessing and Forgiving

One: Holy God, in whose name we gather, we ask you to give us life
and to free us from the evil that causes us to hurt the ones you love.

All: *What is evil? What shape does it take in our sins?*

One: For every sinful act there is an outer dimension and an inner one.

There is what our families, neighbors, and colleagues feel when we act inappropriately, and then there are the intentions, the motives, and the fears that lie deep in our hearts.

All: *God sees them all; God hears them all;
and God desires to set us free from every manner of evil.*

One: Let us confess our sins, now, in God's presence.

Silence for prayer and confession.

One: The God of love hears every prayer
and sets you free to live in his name.

All: *Amen.*

Proclaiming

Children's story

Judy Myers-Walls

Scriptures: *Matthew 18: 15-22; Ephesians 4: 1-3; Colossians 3: 12-17*

Message: *Forgiveness & Reconciliation 300 years later*

Hymn: *Amazing Grace* #143

Praying

"For this we rejoice..."

"For this we pray..."

Prayer for all God's children

Offering

Invitation to Giving

Offertory

Heather Eicher-Miller

***Offertory Response:** *Grant us, Lord, the grace* #388

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sending

***Hymn:** *Precious Lord, take my hand* #575

***Benediction**

***Sending Christ's light out into the world**

***Postlude**

*Please stand as you are able.

Please join us after worship for a time of fellowship and refreshments
downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.