

ST. STEPHEN REFORMED
249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
March 18, 2018 – 8:15 A.M.

*Indicates those able may stand

When the prelude begins please quiet your hearts in preparation for worship.

ORGAN PRELUDE

“O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig” (BWV 618)
(O Lamb of God, unyielding)
“Canon in D”

J. S. Bach

St Stephen Bells

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 150*)

ONE: Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary;

ALL: Praise him in his mighty heavens!

ONE: Praise him for his mighty deeds;

ALL: Praise him according to his excellent greatness!

ONE: Praise him with trumpet sound;

ALL: Praise him with lute and harp!

ONE: Praise him with tambourine and dance;

ALL: Praise him with strings and pipe!

ONE: Praise him with sounding cymbals;

ALL: Praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

ONE: Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!

ALL: Praise the LORD!

*OPENING HYMN “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Hymn #457

*INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION (*Psalm 34:18*)

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
Let us admit our brokenness to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, you are holy beyond all that we can think or imagine. You are the source of righteousness, the overflowing fountain of goodness. You made us to be in your image in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness. And yet, so often we fail to be wise, righteous, and holy. Please forgive and restore

us and through your Spirit confirm us to the image of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYER FOR MERCY (Kyrie) “Lord Have Mercy upon Us”

ONE: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ALL: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ONE: Christ, have mercy upon us.

ALL: Christ, have mercy upon us.

ONE: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ALL: Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “The Gloria Patri”

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.**

MUSICAL OFFERING “Clouds and Darkness” (Op. 99, Biblical Songs) A. Dvorak
(Carolyn McClain, soprano)

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 21:5-24 page #880

SERMON “Signs of the Times” Part 1 Dr. Timothy Witmer

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Steal Away” arr. H. T. Burleigh
(Carolyn McClain, soprano)

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Doxology”

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.

Bookkeeper: Charlene Good
Administrative Assistant: Anita Witmer

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Our God, all good things come from you: life and breath, food and drink, forgiveness of sin, and adoption as your children. Through your Spirit nourish us with these gifts, that we may be signs of your grace in the world. With grateful hearts we offer our hearts and lives to you, the giver of every good and perfect gift, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN "Thy Lovingkindness, Lord, is Good and Free" Hymn #607

*BENEDICTION (Pastor)

*CONGREGATION THREE-FOLD AMEN

*SILENT MEDITATION

*POSTLUDE "Rondo" J. Bull/R. Ellsasser

(Should you be moved to respond to a special musical offering, a hearty "Amen" is recommended)

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Ministers: The Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Timothy Witmer

Associate Pastor: Rev. Nathaniel Stamper

Elders: John Garner, Josh Irvine, Richard Miller & Mike Ressler

Deacons: Gene Eberly, Tom Frankhouser, Chuck Kidhardt & Ernie Orr

Organist Emeritus: A.J. Young

Organist and Choirmaster: Douglas Wimer

Music Leader: Rev. Dr. Stuart Sacks

Children's Ministry Director: Faith Titus

Ushers: Lamar Martin & David Guyer

Greeters: Ron & Dot Bensinger

Altar Guild: Raymell Houck

Counting Team: Donna Burkholder & Dot Koble

Sexton: Jill Wilson

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249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
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PRELUDE "Canon in D" St Stephen Bells

GATHERING
"Holy God, We Praise Your Name" Hymn #103

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ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SONG (Children ages 4-8 may leave for Kingdom Kids)

Stop; and let me tell you, what the Lord has done for me,
Stop; and let me tell you, what the Lord has done for me,
He forgave my sins and He saved my soul,
He cleansed my heart and He made me whole,
Stop; and let me tell you, what the Lord has done for me.

Go; and tell the story, of the Christ of Calvary,
Go; and tell the story, of the Christ of Calvary.
He will forgive their sins, He will save their souls,
He will cleanse their hearts, He will make them whole,
Go; and tell the story of the Christ of Calvary.

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