

ST. STEPHEN REFORMED
249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
August 19, 2018 – 10:30 A.M.

*Indicates those able may stand

PIANO PRELUDE – *Let us quiet our hearts as we silently prepare to worship*

GATHERING (Congregation seated)
“Rock of Ages”

Hymn #500

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 117*)

ONE: Praise the LORD, all nations!

ALL: Extol him, all peoples!

ONE: For great is his steadfast love toward us,

ALL: And the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

ONE: Praise the LORD, all nations!

ALL: Extol him, all peoples!

*OPENING HYMN

“Come, We That Love the Lord”

Hymn #700

*INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION (*Isaiah 1:18*)

Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you said, “If you love me, you will obey what I command.” Forgive us our lukewarm love and our disobedience. Lord, you said, “You may ask for anything in my name.” Forgive us when we think we need to solve our own problems. Lord, you said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” We confess that our lives are often consumed by worry and anxiety. Lord, you said, “If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.” Forgive us our barren lives, Lord. You said, “You must testify, for you have been with me.” We confess, Lord, that we have been too often silent. Lord, you said, “Love each other as I have loved you.” In this and in so many other ways, we confess our sins. Amen.

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.**

CONFESSION OF FAITH (Heidelberg Catechism)

Question 1

ONE: What is thy only comfort in life and death?

ALL: That I with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ; who, with his precious blood, has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, and therefore, by his Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me sincerely willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto him.

Question 2

ONE: How many things are necessary for thee to know, that thou, enjoying this comfort, mayest live and die happily?

ALL: Three; the first, how great my sins and miseries are; the second, how I may be delivered from all my sins and miseries; the third, how I shall express my gratitude to God for such deliverance.

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

Father Abraham had many sons
Many sons had Father Abraham
I am one of them and so are you
So let's all praise the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 21:1-21

page #15

SERMON

“The Child of Promise: Laughter”

Rev. Nathaniel Stamper

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

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Christ is Made the Sure Foundation” arr. R. Hobby

*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.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION
**Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your
goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer
ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption
of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for
us—Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” Praise Book #15

*BENEDICTION (Pastor)

*CONGREGATION THREE-FOLD AMEN

*SILENT MEDITATION

*POSTLUDE “Nun Danket alle Gott” from Cantata 79 J.S. Bach/Fox
(Should you be moved to respond to a musical offering, a hearty "Amen" is recommended)

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Welcome Center: Michael & Donna Dorough

Greeter: Betty Humphreys

Ushers: Tom Frankhouser, Chuck Kidhardt, Karen Bates & Stuart Bossler

Altar Guild: Cathy Eby

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

ORGAN PRELUDE

“In dich hab ich gehoffet, Herr” (BWV 640)
(In Thee have I hoped, Lord)
Romanza on ‘Faith’

J.S. Bach

C. Callahan

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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

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Greeters: Bill & Joyce Snyder

Ushers: Gene & Viki Eberly

Altar Guild: Cathy Eby

Counting Team: Bill & Joyce Snyder