



Traditional Service Bulletin



WITH: What God Longs
For Most of All

January 15, 2023

Cultivating a WITH-God
Life

We Gather to Worship

Prelude "When Morning Guilds the Skies...May Jesus Christ Be Praised" Arr. by Mark Hayes

(Cathy McGill/piano)

[Selected music is CCLI Song Select, One License, Public Domain, or written permission was provided by composer or arranger.]

Celebration of Community

- For visitors and members, we have QR codes that will take you directly to our visitor information, online bulletin, upcoming events/news and giving page. Just open your camera and scan the QR code, no app necessary. There are also paper visitor forms if you would like to fill those in and drop them off in the baskets as you leave the service.

- Saxe Gotha is forming a brand new orchestra. We would love to have you! Rehearsals will begin on Sunday, January 29 at 12:15 pm in the Music Suite. Go to saxegotha.org/winter for details.

- Sunday Afternoons re-start for Youth and Kids on January 22! We hope to see you then!

Introit "I Have Been to the Mountain" by Mary Kay Beall and John Carter

Worship Vocal Team or Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano) and Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

*** Call to Worship**

One: God has given us faith and hope.

ALL: God's message of love is with us.

One: When we live in God's love, our love overflows.

ALL: God calls us out of darkness and into the light.

One: With joy and love, let us worship God together.

*** Opening Hymn #128 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" (vs. 1-3) [CH]**

Worship Vocal Team, Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano), and Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, it's so easy to get lost
in the noise and busyness of life.

Forgive the times we lose focus
and forget the praise we owe you,
offering it to the world instead.

You alone are worthy of our praise.

You alone are worthy of our adoration.

You alone are worthy of our love.

Creator who makes all things new,
renew our hearts and strengthen our resolve,
that we may graciously receive
what you have in store for us today.

Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Do not be alarmed in times of trial, temptation, and doubt.
Stand firm, for God is with you.
Take courage, for Christ is our strength.
And rest assured, that we are safe in the arms
of God's love and grace.
Through the love of Christ, who is always faithful,
for our sins are forgiven and our lives are made whole. Amen.

*** Affirmation of Faith**

One: What is the chief and highest end of man?
ALL: Man's chief and highest end is to glorify God, and fully to enjoy him forever.

-from the The Westminster Larger Catechism

*** Doxology #166 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" [CH]**

Worship Vocal Team, Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano), and Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

Children's Message

*** Passing of the Peace**

With the love of Christ in our hearts, please stand as you are able to share the signs of love and peace with our neighbors.

One: Peace be with you,
ALL: and also with you.

*** Hymn #648 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" (vs.1-4) [Sung to the hymn, "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" #244-CH] [HYFRYDOL]**

Worship Vocal Team, Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano), and Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

Offertory Prayer

Give Online: SaxeGotha.org
Text: 803-302-3499
Mail: 5503 Sunset Blvd, Lexington, SC 29072
Place in Basket with Usher as you leave

Anthem

8:30 "The Little Light of Mine" by John Behnke | Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)
11:00 "Down by the Riverside with Standing in the Need of Prayer" arr. by Mary McDonald | Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano), and Chris Lee (drums)

We Hear God's Word

Bumper Video

Message: WITH: What God Longs For Most of All

John 1:1-5 NRSV

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Genesis 1:26-28; 31 NRSV

26 Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

27 So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

31 God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good...

Revelation 21:1-3 NRSV

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them..."

Core

The Trinity reveals that the universe is the creation of a personal and relational God who longs to have personal relationship with us.

Call

This week, notice how we settle for less than a with-God life because we act out of fear and scarcity instead. Keep a tally of fear/control moments you experience this week.

Compel

A sense of curiosity and conviction about how much fear/control rules when God longs for something greater for us and with us.

We Respond to God's Word

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*** Closing Hymn 377 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" (vs. 1-3) [GTG]**

Worship Vocal Team, Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano), and Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

*** Invitation and Benediction**

Postlude "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" by David Cherwein

Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

*** Congregation is asked to stand if able.**

Pocket Anthem "The Little Light of Mine" by John Behnke

Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)
