

CALL TO CONFESSION

*God declares: Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed.
Confident in our deliverance, let us confess our sins before God and one another.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Holy God,
we confess we have not been obedient to your will for us.
We have sought justice for ourselves,
but neglected justice for others.
We have insisted on our rights,
but have not lived rightly in our relationships with others.
We have desired mercy for our sins,
but we have not offered mercy to those who have sinned against us.
By the power of your Holy Spirit
free us from the prison of our disobedience.
Help us to love as you have loved us
that our lives may testify to your abounding grace through Jesus Christ.

SILENT PRAYERS

SUNG RESPONSE

HS No. 68

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*Our God hears our prayers, forgives our sins, preserves our lives, and restores our souls
through the abundant provision of God's everlasting mercy. Believe that you are forgiven
and healed in the name of Jesus, the Christ.*

Thanks be to God! Amen.

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***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

HS No. 22

**All glory be to God on high, and peace on earth from heaven,
And God's good will unfailingly be to all people given.
We bless, we worship you, we raise
For Your great glory thanks and praise,
O God, the great Creator.**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

A TIME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

GOD'S WORD TO US

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 56:1-8 (OT pg. 645)

THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 15:21-28 (NT pg. 16)

THE SERMON *Nevertheless, She Persisted* Lynne Clements

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

***AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe that God, in a world of injustice and enmity,
is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged.
We believe that God calls the church to follow God in this;
for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry.
We believe that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger,
helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly.
We believe that the church must therefore stand by people
in any form of suffering and need
[and] must witness against and strive against any form of injustice,
so that justice may roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an every-flowing stream.**

—from *the Confession of Belhar*

***HYMN**

Where Charity and Love Prevail

HS No. 17

PRAYER CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION
CONCLUDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Hymnal, p. 16)

THE OFFERING
OFFERTORY

Ubi caritas
Lauren Hauser and Megan Sharp, sopranos

arr. Alan Bullard

*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

No. 591

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious Lord,
you have given us more mercy than we could imagine
and more blessings than we deserve.
Receive these gifts as tokens of our gratitude to you,
that your mercy may be multiplied
and your blessings abound to embrace all those in need. Amen.

*HYMN

For Everyone Born

see insert

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Canzona in G minor

Domenico Zipoli



Westminster Presbyterian Church

Charlottesville, Virginia

Service for the Lord's Day

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 20, 2017

**SILENT
PRAYER AND
MEDITATION**

*Almighty God,
whose compassion
embraces everyone,
gather the outcast
and the lost,
heal the wounds of
fear and distrust,
and make us a
community of
reconciliation
that we may
embody your
merciful love
and rejoice in your
astounding grace
in Jesus Christ.
Amen.*

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Andante sostenuto

Charles-Marie Widor

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
Let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
**For you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon the earth.**
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
Let all the peoples praise you!

#

*HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

No. 263

*Congregation may stand. #Latecomers seated.
Please turn off cell phones during the service.