

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF SIN

O God, we desire to serve others,
 but we confess that there are times when serving others is difficult
 and inconvenient.

We desire freedom in our lives, but we confess that there are times
 when our freedom leads to self-indulgence and self-centeredness.

We need balance. We want to be good stewards of our own lives,
 but also love our neighbors as ourselves.

Forgive us for creating fences around ourselves to keep others out.
 Forgive us when we believe we bear no responsibility for brothers and sisters
 who have so much less than we do.

Help us to discern our gifts and to offer them without condition.
 Broaden our compassion. Tell us what it means to serve one another in love.

SILENT PRAYERS

SUNG RESPONSE

Russian Orthodox Chant



1 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
 2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.
 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy.
 Christ, have mer - cy.
 Lord, have mer - cy.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Despite our resistance, we can be assured that God redeems us and calls us by name. God calls us back to God's realm, and embraces us no matter how hard we push back, no matter how often we forget, no matter how far we stray. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

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*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

HS No. 84

Through north and south and east and west
 May God's immortal name be blessed: Alleluia, alleluia!
 Till everywhere beneath the sun, God's reign begins; God's will is done:
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*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

A MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

GOD'S WORD TO US

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 21:1-4

(NT pg. 80)

ANTHEM

Love will find out the way

Howard Goodall

Dana Patek and Megan Sharp, sopranos

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

(NT pg. 179)

SERMON

How Will You Serve?

Ken Henry

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Excerpt from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
 In sovereign love God created the world good
 and makes everyone equally in God's image,
 male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.
 But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
 Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others
 and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
 and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
 We deserve God's condemnation.



Westminster Presbyterian Church

Charlottesville, Virginia

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 15, 2017

“My heart I offer to you, Lord, promptly and sincerely.”
—John Calvin

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Psalm 116* Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

*CALL TO WORSHIP

For we were called to freedom. . .

Let us serve one another in love.

For we were called to freedom. . .

Let us serve one another in love.

*When we are tempted to consume and devour each other;
when strife, jealousy, and anger threaten to break apart community,*

let us live by the Spirit.

Let us serve one another in love.

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*HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

No. 356

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage. Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

*HYMN (11:00) *Come Down, O Love Divine* No. 313

PRAYER CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION
CONCLUDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER (Hymnal, p. 16)

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8:30)

Fantasia

Thomas Tallis

OFFERTORY (11:00)

Many in One

Alice Parker

Dana Patek and Megan Sharp, sopranos

*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

**We rejoice in your generosity, O God.
We are amazed at the bounty of your earth.
May we be trustworthy stewards who use these gifts
where they are most needed in the service of your realm,
where strangers and friends join hearts and reach out with willing hands. Amen.**

*HYMN *Take My Life* No. 391

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Fantasia in C* William Byrd

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

*God, you have
called your
servants
to ventures of which
we cannot see the
ending,
by paths as yet
untrodden,
through perils
unknown.
Give us faith to go
out with good
courage,
not knowing where
we go,
but only that your
hand is leading us
and your love
supporting us;
through Jesus
Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

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