

ST. STEPHEN REFORMED
249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
September 2, 2018 – 8:15 A.M.

*Indicates those able may stand

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

ORGAN PRELUDE

“Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten” (BWV 642)
(If thou but suffer God to guide thee) Hymn #670
“The King of Love”

J.S. Bach

H.A. Matthews

WELCOME

Dr. Timothy Witmer

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Adapted from Psalm 118*)

ONE: Open to me the gates of righteousness,

ALL: That I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

ONE: This is the gate of the LORD;

ALL: The righteous shall enter through it.

ONE: The stone that the builders rejected

ALL: Has become the cornerstone.

ONE: This is the LORD's doing;

ALL: It is marvelous in our eyes.

ONE: This is the day that the LORD has made;

MANY: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*OPENING HYMN

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

Hymn #455

*INVOCATION

Rev. Nathaniel Stamper

CALL TO CONFESSION

Our Lord Jesus said: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” As God has instructed us in these great commandments, and because we have not lived in full obedience, let us now confess our sins to God, trusting Christ as our Savior and Lord, in whom we have forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and

strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name, through Christ, our Lord. 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.**

*APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic¹ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

¹ or universal

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 23

page #16

SERMON

“A Sad Farewell”

Dr. Timothy Witmer

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

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

ST. STEPHEN REFORMED
249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
September 2, 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)

“How Deep the Father’s Love For Us”

Praise Book #15

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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.

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

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“The Call”
(Mike McKeever, tenor)

R. Vaughan Williams

*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.**

COMMUNION HYMN “Here, O My Lord, I see Thee Face to Face” Hymn #378

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

RECEIVING AND SHARING THE ELEMENTS

*CLOSING HYMN “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” Hymn #521

*BENEDICTION (Pastor)

*CONGREGATION THREE-FOLD AMEN

*SILENT MEDITATION

*POSTLUDE “Within My Heart’s Recesses” J.S. Bach

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

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Welcome Center: Eric & Alice Olynik

Greeters: Fran & Sally Rapp

Ushers: Ken & Deb Strubel & Ben & Jocelyn Strubel

Altar Guild: Ruth Kapp

Counting Team: Bob Spotts & Ron Bensinger