

ST. STEPHEN REFORMED
249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
September 9, 2018 – 8:15 A.M.

*Indicates those able may stand

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

ORGAN PRELUDE

“Alle Menschen müssen sterben” (BWV 643) J.S. Bach
(All mankind must die; all flesh is as grass. . .)
“O Jesus, I have Promised” E.L. Diemer

WELCOME

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

ONE: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
ALL: We bless you from the house of the LORD.
ONE: The LORD is God,
ALL: And he has made his light to shine upon us.
ONE: You are my God,
ALL: And I will give thanks to you;
ONE: You are my God;
ALL: I will extol you.
ONE: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
ALL: For his steadfast love endures forever!

*OPENING HYMN “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Hymn #457

*INVOCATION

CALL TO CONFESSION (*Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16*)

The proof of God’s amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Trusting in God’s faithfulness and compassion, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of compassion, you are slow to anger and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts. Thank you for hearing our prayers of and for forgiving our sins. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. 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.**

MUSICAL OFFERING “Oh, What Love!” W.P. Loveless
(Robert Straton, tenor)

SCRIPTURE READING Hosea 3 page #752

SERMON “Love Undefeated” Dr. Stuart Sacks

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

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Children of the Heavenly Father” 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

Giver of every good and perfect gift, we marvel at your love and care for us and for all that you have made. Help us by your Holy Spirit to lift our hearts to you, to taste and see that you are good, and to live lives of abundant generosity, full of gratitude and grace, through Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" Hymn #708

*BENEDICTION (Pastor)

*CONGREGATION THREE-FOLD AMEN

*SILENT MEDITATION

*POSTLUDE "Prelude in E minor" attr. J. Krebs

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

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Ministers: The Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Timothy Witmer

Associate Pastor: Rev. Nathaniel Stamper

Elders: John Garner, Josh Irvine, Richard Miller & Mike Ressler

Deacons: Gene Eberly, Tom Frankhouser, Chuck Kidhardt & Ernie Orr

Organist Emeritus: A.J. Young

Organist and Choirmaster: Douglas Wimer

Music Leader: Rev. Dr. Stuart Sacks

Children's Ministry Director: Faith Titus

Welcome Center: Eric & Alice Olynik

Greeter: Harry Baily

Ushers: Gene Eberly & David Guyer

Altar Guild: Cathy Eby

Counting Team: Bill & Joyce Snyder

Sexton: Jill Wilson

Bookkeeper: Charlene Good

Administrative Assistant: Anita Witmer

ST. STEPHEN REFORMED
249 E. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557
September 9, 2018 – 10:30 A.M.

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

GATHERING (Congregation seated)
“Jesus, Master, Whose I Am”

Hymn #590

WELCOME

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ALL: And he has made his light to shine upon us.

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ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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and to the Holy Ghost;
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CHILDREN’S SONG (Children ages 4-7 may leave for Kingdom Kids)

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(Robert Straton, tenor)

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