

Scriptural Meditation

But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord:
I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts;
and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jeremiah 31:33

~Gathering the Family of God~

The Peal of Our Church Bell

Welcome

Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ

Prelude

Old 100th

arr. by J. Pachelbel

Call to Worship

One: Welcome today to a service of re-formation.

All: Change is our constant companion.

What does God have in store for us?

One: God seeks to form our lives anew, as lives of love and service.

All: We are ready to hear God's word and to do God's will.

One: Open your eyes, your ears, your hearts to God's awesome love.

All: Come, O Lord, and transform our lives. Amen

Prayer of Invocation

***Gathering Song**

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

#385

***Prayer of Reconciliation**

Let us remain standing and express ourselves to God

All: We think that we want to be healed of our blindness, gracious God, but actually we have become so comfortable in our darkness that we fear the light. It is as though we are living in a cave, and rather than take a risk to face the light, we prefer to face the dark wall. Give us courage to take risks which will result in not only our own transformation, but also the transformation opportunities for others. Forgive our stubborn insistence on living in darkness. Take our hands and lead us to the light. Help us to be ready for your reformation. Amen.

***A Time for Contemplation** (a private time for you and God)

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

One: Turn and see the light of God's love. It is lavished upon you. You have been healed and made whole in God's love. Be at peace and rejoice! Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***Gloria Patri**

581

**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, amen.**

~Hearing God's Word~

Prayer for Understanding God's Word

All: Guide us, O God, by Your Word and Spirit, that in Your light we may see light, and in Your truth find freedom, and in Your will discover Your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 31:31-34

p.735

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Rejoice in God Heinrich Schütz, arr. Nancy Grundahl

Rejoice in God, all Christendom,
Your hearts and voices raising,
With glad new songs, rejoicing come,
God's wondrous mercy praising.
Sing unto God with psaltery,
Let harps and strings accompany
Your hymns of praise and honor.

The word of God is always true,
And we must trust it ever.
What God has promised, God will do,
For love will fail us never.
We sing of truth and righteousness,
The earth which God did make and bless
Is full of love and goodness.

Our soul doth wait for thee, O God,
Our help and our protection.
Our heart rejoiceth in thy word,
We trust in thy direction.
Thy mercy God, upon us be
According as we hope in thee.
Thou art our mighty refuge.

All Christendom, in God rejoice!

Printed and recorded for congregational use only under CCLI # 11373529

New Testament Epistle

Romans 3:19-28

p.154

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Lesson

John 8:31-36

p.101

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Message

The Beauty of 'Always Reforming'

Pastor Kim Nelson

~Responding to God's Word~

***Affirmation of Our Faith**

Let us stand and affirm our faith.

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

[Nicene Creed]

Invitation to Become a Joyful Giver

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings & Friendship Pad

Please take a moment to sign your name and contact information in the pew pad.

Offertory

***Doxology**

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen 1623 Public Domain.

***The Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People followed by Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sung Prayer Response *O Lord, Hear My Prayer* #471

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
When I call, answer me,
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me. (Repeat)**

Words & Music: Jacques Berthier © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé (France).

~Going Forth to Serve God~

Life in Our Church Community

***Departing Song**

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

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***Benediction (Respond with Amen)**

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep with your heart. **Amen.**

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace. **Amen.**

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy. **Amen.**

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done. **Amen.**

Franciscan Blessing

***Postlude**

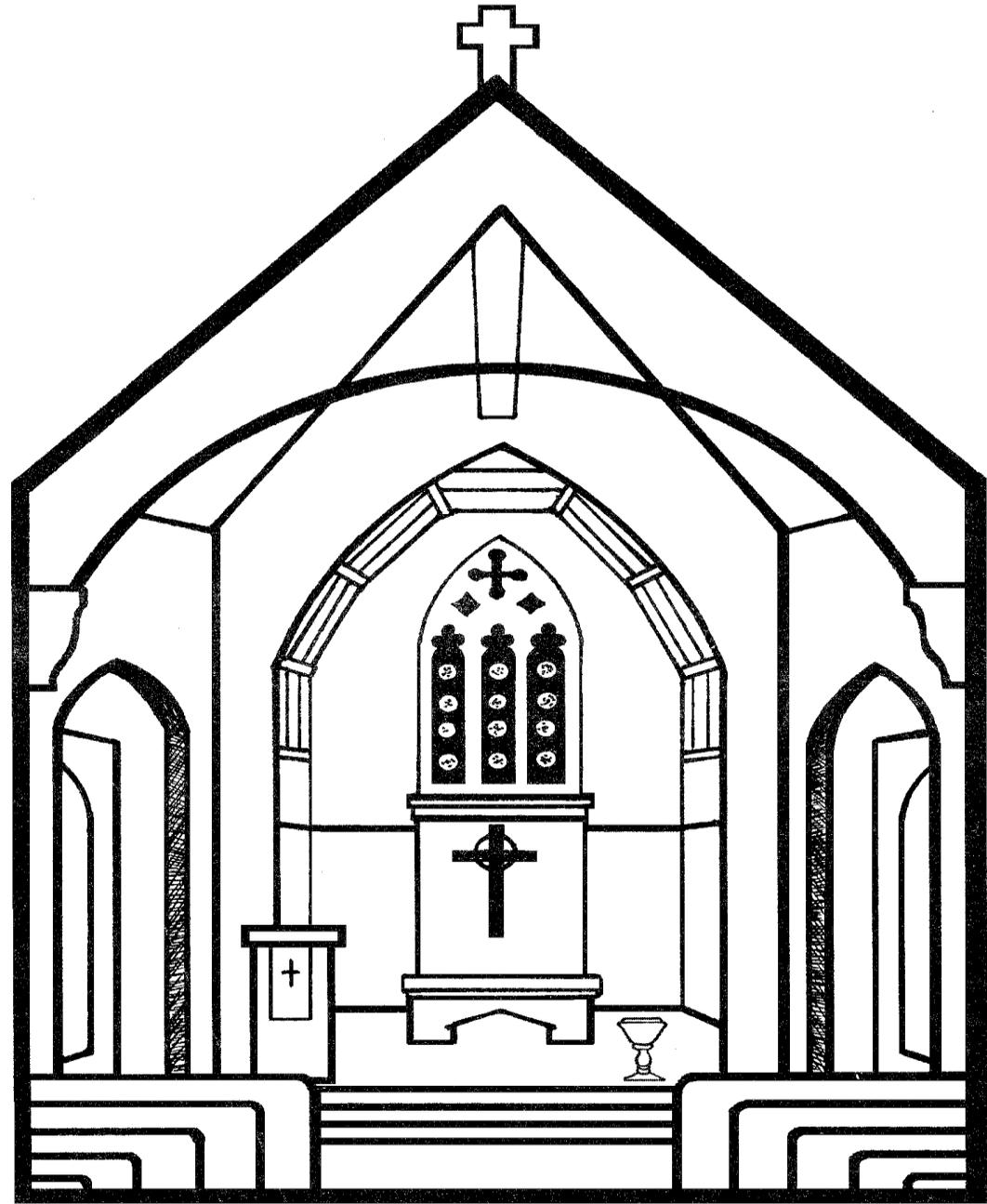
Tocatta and Fugue in d minor

by J. S. Bach

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*Please stand, if you are able.

Electronic aid for the hearing impaired is available from the usher.



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