

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

September 14, 2008

11:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Organ Prelude

The Life and Work of the Church

Welcome, friends and members

Please sign welcome folders

Nursery care available in Education Building

Restrooms found in Education Building

Prayer requests for offering plate

Fellowship Hour following worship

Announcements – please use microphone

A Time of Greeting

Steeple Bell

Choral Introit

Call to Worship: (Psalm 103)

God is sheer mercy and grace-

Not easily angered, rich in love.

As high as heaven is over the earth,

So strong is God's love to those who worship.

***Hymn: #478 “Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven”**

***Prayer of Adoration**

***The Lord’s Prayer**

**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.**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

“Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.”

**So we pray, O God; yet we confess
our lives show forth little mercy.**

**We pass judgment on people
who think and live differently than do we.**

**Suspicion, jealousy, and quarrels infect our
relationships,**

**and keep us from building communities
where everyone feels welcome and known.**

**Merciful God, again we ask your forgiveness.
Teach us and guide us to extend to others
what we have received so abundantly from you:
gracious acceptance, saving help,
and love that will bind us together.**

(silent prayers)

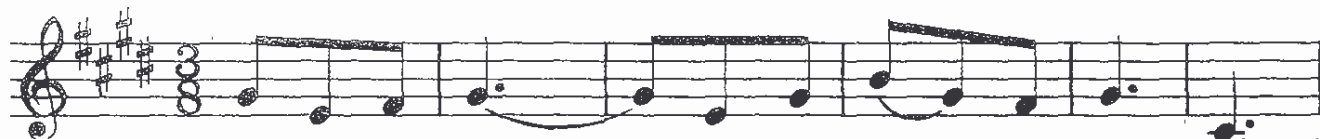
Assurance of Pardon

***Sung Response:**

JOYFUL ARE THOSE WHOSE OFFENSE IS PARDONED

Psalm 32

HAL H. HOPSON



Joy-ful are those _____ whose of-fense__ is par - doned,--

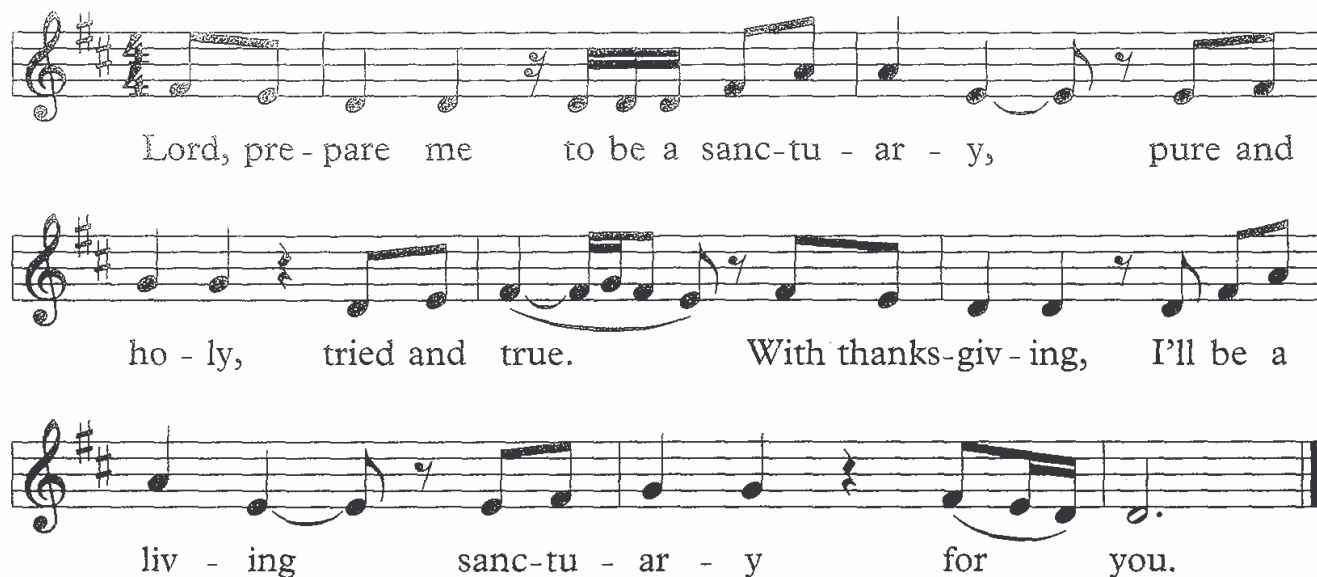


and whose sin _____ is for - giv - en.

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PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination: (sung twice)



Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and
ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a
liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.

WORDS: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs
MUSIC: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs

SANCTUARY
Irregular

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Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 14:19-31

Page: OT 61

Anthem: "Saints Bound for Heaven"
The Choir

arr. Helvey

A Scripture Conversation

Psalm 103:6-13 (sung twice)



Bless the Lord my soul, and bless his ho - ly name.



Bless the Lord my soul, he res - cues me from death.

Refrain

The LORD works vindication

and justice for all who are oppressed.

He made known his ways to Moses,

his acts to the people of Israel.

The LORD is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He will not always accuse,

nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He does not deal with us according to our sins,

nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,

so great is his steadfast love

towards those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,

so far he removes our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion for his children,

so the LORD has compassion

for those who fear him.

Refrain

Epistle Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

Page: NT 163

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:21-22

Page: NT 20

Sermon *“Lessons in Reconciliation”*

***Hymn #438** “Blest Be the Tie that Binds”

***An Affirmation of Faith: Confession of 1967 9.21,22,25**

Jesus’ cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God’s forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God’s grace.

The members of the church are emissaries of peace and seek the good of all in cooperation with powers and authorities in politics, culture, and economics. But they have to fight against pretensions and injustices when these same powers endanger human welfare. Their strength is in their confidence that God's purpose rather than human schemes will finally prevail.

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

Reception of Offerings by Ushers

*Presentation

***Doxology (#592)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Thanks

Pastoral Prayers

GO IN GOD'S NAME

***Hymn:** “Lord We Come to Ask Your Blessing”

**1. Lord, we come to ask your blessing
on the love that makes us one;
here, as Christians, to acknowledge
you are Lord, and you alone.
God of love, unless you bless us,
how can we each other bless?
Only as you live within us
is there depth of happiness.**

**2. May our loving be a sharing
of the gifts we each possess;
may no failure of forbearance
turn our love to bitterness.
Lord, we come to ask your blessing
in the presence of our friends:
Grant us joy that blesses others,
grant us love that never ends.**

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Tune: CONVERSE (What a Friend We Have in Jesus)

*Charge and Benediction

Choral Benediction

Steeple Bell

Organ Postlude

You may recycle your bulletins in the basket at the back of the Meeting House.

The Call to Worship paraphrase of Ps 103 is based on “The Message”, by Eugene Peterson.

Childcare

Child Care for infants is available. Please see an usher for directions. Children ages 2 and above may exit after the Scripture Conversation for **Someplace Else** (a lesson and activities in the CE Building) or remain in worship. Children of any age are always welcome in worship.

Worship Assistance

Please see an usher to receive hearing assistance, a large print bulletin or bible, or a personal seat cushion.

Prayer List:

Nursing Home and Hospital

The Arbors at New Castle:

32 Buena Vista Dr, New Castle, DE 19720
phone: 302-326-4121

Arline Olds

Cokesbury Village:

726 Loveville Rd, Hockessin, DE 19707;
Attn: Rm 1026 phone: 302-235-6017

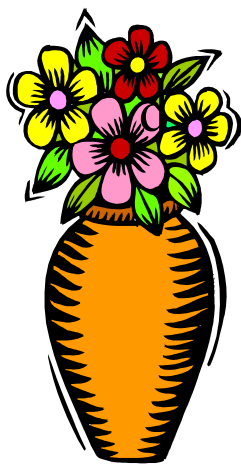
Isabel Klein

Prayers for:

The Flowers are given to the glory of God by:

Bev Stoudt Family

In Memory of Alice & David McCallion



Special Gifts Memorial Case:

Regina Hopkins

1891-1989

James Harlan Carpenter

1959-1990

Someplace Else (Children's Bible Study and Activities):

Molly Fouracre



Annual Clothing Drive

We will be collecting items for Friendship House's Clothing Bank of Delaware throughout the month of September. All clothing items and bed linens are welcomed, especially children's, men's, and larger-sized, work appropriate women's clothing. It is important that donations be clean and in 'wearable' condition.

All donations should be bagged (large garbage bags work well) and left in the Christian Education building in Room 205 during office hours (Mon–Fri 8:30 am–12:30 pm) or after church on Sundays. If climbing stairs is a problem, simply leave your donations on the first floor making sure that the bags do not interfere with normal traffic. Tax donation slips will be available along with a guide to help determine the value of donated items.

If you need additional information, please contact Conchita Showell or Janet Spring.



Congregational Meeting

There will be a meeting of the congregation on September 21st after worship in the Meeting House for the purpose of electing a trustee to the Class of 2011.



Plan on Giving Thanks

We need a few volunteers to plan and supervise the Thanksgiving Breakfast on Thursday, November 27. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall during coffee hour. The revival of this event was a huge success last year, with many requests that it be repeated. For any questions, see Nancy Coning or Pat Taylor.

Volunteers for Membership Evangelism Teams

Would you like to see our congregation gain in new members? Would you be willing to give some time and energy to sharing our warm fellowship with others? We are looking for volunteers to serve on four special teams:

- Hospitality (welcoming and incorporating new members)
- Publicity (getting the word out through print and electronic resources)
- Events (developing events for the purpose of attracting new members)
- Neighborhoods (identifying particular neighborhoods and strategies for meeting their needs)

Share the good news of NCPC! Sign up today!



Adult Education

Take advantage of these stimulating opportunities:

Sundays at 9:30 Room 206:

Liberation Theology – find out what all the fuss is about. We will examine liberation theology, its underlying scripture and its applications for African Americans, women, Latin America, and others.

Wednesdays at 1:00 Fellowship Hall

The Parables of Jesus – See yourself in a new way through these enigmatic sayings and stories.

We begin with the parable of The Sower (Matthew 13:3-9) on September 17.

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY	9/14	7:00am	Serve Breakfast @ Friendship House
		9:00am	Community Sunday School-Immanuel Parish Hall
		9:30am	Adult Bible Study
		11:00am	Worship & Someplace Else
		12:00pm	Fellowship Hour
		12:30pm	Youth Fellowship
Monday	9/15	6:45pm	English Country Dancers
		7:30pm	Trustees
Wednesday	9/17	1:00pm	Bible Study
		6:00pm	Worship Committee
		7:30pm	Choir
Thursday	9/18	6:45pm	Colonial Chimers
		7:00pm	Al-Anon Meeting
		8:00pm	Celebration Ringers
Saturday	9/20	8:00am	Tai Chi
SUNDAY	9/21	9:30am	Adult Bible Study
		11:00am	Worship & Someplace Else
		12:00pm	Fellowship Hour
		12:30pm	Youth Fellowship-Setup Pinwheels