## \* PRAYER OF DEDICATION SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

\* HYMN 362

I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry

- \* BENEDICTION
- \* POSTLUDE

Wer nur den lieben Gott lasst walten BWV 642

J.S. Bach

### PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

*Today's musician* is Gwendolyn Wolski from Fair Oaks Presbyterian Church in Oak Park. Gwendolyn will be entering Oak Park & River Forest High School in the fall. Thank you, Gwendolyn, for sharing your considerable talents with us today!

Acolyte: Jaden Zander

Ushers: Paula McCracken, Elizabeth Musick, Debra Myers and

Dessa Myers.

Liturgist: Doug Asbury

Andrew Minister: David Harper

Trustees of the Month: Jim Sit and Hank Vogel

Coffee Fellowship this morning is hosted by Susan and Kaki Lynch. Flowers this morning are given for God's Glory and in honor of Stephen and Natasha, Stan and Duci, and Alice and Jim; who celebrate their wedding anniversaries this summer, by Elizabeth

Musick.

# Welcome to Riverside Presbyterian Church

July 9, 2017 ~ Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Ask an usher for audio hearing units. ~ Please silence your cell phones. Childcare is available for children 1st grade and younger in the upstairs childcare room.



God Is Holding Your Life

**WELCOME** 

## **WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE (Responsive)
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

PRELUDE & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE Wer nur den lieben Gott lasst walten BWV 647

J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)
O God, you are our God;
we learn about and experience you in worship!
With yearning in our hearts,
we come to more truly know our Holy God.

<sup>\*</sup> You are invited to stand if able.

Loving God, your love is so nurturing, so satisfying and very powerful!

With thankful hearts,

we gather together to praise our Glorious God.

Saving and Keeping God,

we know and experience true security in you.

From the shadows of God's protecting wings, we draw near to our God; and so, we joyfully sing God's praises, because of all that God does for us.

\* HYMN 198

O God, You Are My God

\* CALL TO CONFESSION

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

The journeys of our lives are never fully charted. There come to each of us deserts to cross, barren stretches where the green edge on the horizon may be our destination, or an oasis our way, or a mirage that beckons and will leave us lost.

When fear grips the heart, or despair bows the head, may we bend as heart and head lead us down to touch the ground beneath our feet, and scoop some sand into our hands, and receive what the sand would teach us: It holds the warmth of the sun when the sun has left our sight, as it holds the cool of the night when the stars have faded. And hidden among its grains are tiny seeds, at rest and waiting. Dormant, yet undefeated. Desert flowers. They endure.

Moistened by our tears, and by the rain that comes to end even the longest drought, they send down roots, and they bloom. Oh, may we believe in those seeds, and the seeds within us. May we remember in our dry seasons that we, too, are desert flowers.

Silence is kept.

\* HYMN 579

Glory Be to the Father

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.

## **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Children are invited forward

Rice

HYMN Deep and Wide

Deep and wide, Deep and wide
There's a fountain flowing deep and wide
Deep and wide, Deep and wide
There's a fountain flowing deep and wide

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE Psalm 63

SERMON The Blues

\* HYMN 384 O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

## **WE RESPOND IN FAITH**

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

\* HYMN Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow with Alleluias Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!

<sup>\*</sup> ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS