

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Sunday, August 26, 2018

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship T. Peterson

One: Come from east and west, north and south!

All: From everywhere God has placed us,
with everything God has given us,
as the people God made us—we come.

One: Come, receive again the gift of grace!

All: Not for owning, not for boasting,
but for celebrating—we come.

One: Come, discover again the way that leads to
life!

All: Remembering who we are,
seeking who we are yet to be—we come.

• **Hymn 237** FOUNDATION
How Firm a Foundation

**How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, is laid
for your faith in God's excellent word! What more
can God say than to you has been said, to you who for
refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed, for I am
your God, and will still give you aid; I'll strengthen
you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my
righteous, omnipotent hand."**

**"When through the deep waters I call you to go, the
rivers of woe over you shall not flow; for I will be
near you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you
your deepest distress."**

**"When through the fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply: the**

**flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to
consume and your gold to refine."**

**"The souls that on Jesus have leaned for repose I will
not, I will not desert to their foes; those souls, though
all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never,
no, never forsake!"**

Prayer of Confession M. P. Boyd

**God of righteousness, your call beckons to us: to
live faithful lives, to walk in your ways. Yet it is so
easy to turn aside: to speak a thoughtless word, to
ignore those in need, to strike out in anger, to forget
your ways. Forgive us. Implant your word in our
hearts. By the power of your love, redeem us, that
we might faithfully serve you. Hear our prayers...**

(moments for silent reflections)

Words of Assurance

Anthem *Panis Angelicus* C. Franck
*May the Bread of Angels become bread for mankind;
The Bread of Heaven puts all foreshadowings to an end;
Oh, thing miraculous! The body of the Lord will nourish the
poor, the poor, the servile, and the humble.*

Children's Message and Lord's Prayer

Katie Morgan

**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.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glo-
ry forever. Amen.**

* **Hymn 401** NEW BRITAIN
Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved and
set me free! I once was lost, but now am found; was**

blind, but now I see.

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my
fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the
hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares I have al-
ready come; 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**

**My God has promised good to me, whose word my
hope secures; God will mu shield and portion be as
long as life endures.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years, bright
shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's
praise than when we'd first begun.**

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Habershon/Gabriel (1907),
arr. Carter Family (1935)
Will the Circle be Unbroken

* **Doxology** OLD HUNDREDTH
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Scripture Lesson Mark 7:1-8, pg 36 NT
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Peter Wiley

Hymn 469

EIN' FESTE BURG

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never fail-
ing; our helper strong amid the flood of mortal ills
prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth seek to work
us woe; with craft and power great, and armed with
cruel hate, on earth us not an equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving
would be losing, were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that
may be? Christ Jesus, it is he; Lord Sabaoth his
name. From age to age the same, and he must win the
battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should
threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath
willed the truth to triumph through us. The powers
of evil grim, we tremble not for them; their rage we
can endure, for lo, their doom is sure: one little word
shall fell them.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to
them, abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Christ who with us sideth. Let goods and
kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may
kill; God's truth abideth still, God's kingdom is for-
ever.

* Benediction

* Passing of the Peace

Postlude