

9:00 a.m.

**Early Service**

October 8, 2017

Entering God's Presence

**\*Surely the Presence of the Lord** (Sing twice)

Lanny Wolfe

*Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this place;  
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

\*Expressing Our Joy

*Leader: Choose this day whom you will serve;*

**People: We choose the living God.**

*Leader: The road is narrow that leads to life;*

**People: We will walk the way of Christ.**

*Leader: Faith is not our holding on;*

**People: Faith is letting go.**

*Leader: We offer you more than words, God;*

**People: We offer you our lives.**

\*Song 8 (Green Songbook)

**Gather Us In**

GATHER US IN

Invitation to Self-Examination and Confession of our Need for God's Forgiveness (unison)

*Amazing God, we are bewildered by our continuing inability to make sense out of life. Our visions and dreams far outpace reality, and your expectations for us are seldom realized. We do not do the good we intend, and the evil we thought we had left behind comes back to haunt us. In our relationships with others, we seem unable to find a common language that unites us, and resist including everyone in our concerns. Forgive our sluggish response to you and our resistance to change. Purify and enliven us by your Spirit at work within and among us.*

Time of Silence and Personal Confession

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Life in the Community

\*Hymn 392 (Blue Hymnal)

**Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord**

HALL

Joshua 24:14-15 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 206 in the pew Bible.]

Matthew 19:16-23 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 20 in the pew Bible.]

Sermon

**Choosing Well!**

The Rev. Vance Polley

Dedicating Our Lives, Gifts, and Tithes

Offertory

(You are invited to bring your offering to God forward and place it on the Communion Table at the front of the sanctuary. You may come down the center aisle and return to your seat by the side aisles.)

\*Song 219 (Green Songbook)

**We Give You Thanks** (Sing twice)

LOCKWARD

*We give you thanks. We give you praise.*

*For you are kind, you are love, you are God!*

*We give you thanks.*

\*Prayer of Dedication, concluding with the *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 442 (Blue Hymnal)

**The Church's One Foundation**

AURELIA

\*Blessing

\*Going Out into the World

\*All those that are able, please stand.