Second Sunday after Epiphany

11:00 a.m. *January 14, 2018*

Entering God's Presence *Cello Sonata* No. 1 - Op. 38 (1st movement) J. Brahms
Noah Barnhart, cello

Welcome and Ritual of Friendship

*Hymn 457 ***I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*** (vs. 1-4) TOULON

*Expressing Our Joy Reece H. Smith

Leader: *The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?*
People: ***The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?***
Leader: *Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!*
People: ***"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"***
Leader: *Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me.*
People: ***I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.***
Leader: *Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage;*
People: ***Wait for the Lord!*** (Psalm 27)
Leader: *May the Lord be with you.*
People: ***And also with you.***
Leader: *Let us pray.* (Congregation seated.)

Prayer of Trust and Confidence

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

Loving God, in mystery and grace you sustain us, though we do not often recognize the full extent of your care. We confess that our worries consume our attention, that we put our material needs first, and that too often we remain numb to our spiritual hunger. Jesus has told us that if we seek material things before our spiritual treasure, our priorities are wrong. God, forgive us. Set us free from anxiety, and give us a new trust in your ability to care for us.

Time of Silence and Personal Confession

Reassurance of God's Forgiveness

Moment with the Children
(Afterward, children kindergarten age and younger may leave the Sanctuary for a period of supervised activity.)

*Hymn 422 ***God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*** BEACH SPRING

Psalm 105:1-8 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 525 in the pew Bible.]

Cello solo *Prelude* (from *Cello Suite* No. 2, BWV 1008) J.S. Bach
Noah Barnhart, cello

Matthew 25:31-40 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 27 in the pew Bible.]

Sermon ***Surprising Good News*** The Rev. Vance E. Polley

*The Apostles' Creed (page 14, *Traditional*) and ***Gloria Patri*** (No. 579)

Ministry of Prayer

The Bringing of our Tithes and Gifts
(During the offertory please sign the fellowship pad as it is passed and return it to the center aisle in order that we may get to know one another.)

Offertory

*At the Presentation ***Doxology*** (No. 592) OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication and *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 ***The Church's One Foundation*** (vs. 1-4) AURELIA

*Benediction

Choral Benediction ***Amen***

Going Out into the World *Etude No. 6* David Popper
Noah Barnhart, cello

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*All those who are able, please stand.

Noah Barnhart is currently a senior in the Honors Orchestra at Wando High School. He has been playing the cello for nine years, starting in the fifth grade and plans to attend Belmont University next year. He will be pursuing a degree in Music Performance.