

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Our silence and reverence will enable others to prepare their hearts and minds for worship. Please take a few moments to sit quietly before God as you come into the sanctuary.*

*Worship bags are available for all children. The bags, containing activity pages and necessary supplies, hang along the back wall of the sanctuary. We encourage all children to use one each week!*

## Meditation

Come away with me in the night  
Come away with me and I will write you a song  
Come away with me on a bus  
Come away where they can't tempt us, with their lies  
And I want to walk with you on a cloudy day  
In fields where the yellow grass grows knee-high  
So, won't you try to come?  
Come away with me and we'll kiss on a mountaintop  
Come away with me and I'll never stop loving you  
And I want to wake up with the rain falling on a tin roof  
While I'm safe there in your arms  
So all I ask is for you to come away with me in the night  
Come away with me  
— Norah Jones, "Come Away with Me"

Welcome Russ Dean

Music for Preparation  
*Prelude on "CWM Rhondda"* Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Lighting of the Worship Candle Acolyte

Chiming of the Hour

\*Processional Hymn  
#435, *God of Grace and God of Glory* CWM RHONDDA

\*Litany of Worship (*responsively*) Geoff Palmer  
When headlines confound and confuse every day,  
**Let us rekindle the gift of God that is within us.**  
Amidst all that there is to fear,  
**Let us be reminded that God did not give us a spirit of cowardice.**  
With movements seeking to stifle the voice of the Church,  
**Let us reclaim a spirit of power.**  
With voices of hatred and division growing every day,  
**Let us reclaim us a spirit of love.**  
In a season calling for religious and political conformity,  
**Let us reclaim the conviction of self-discipline.**  
In a time of chaos and uncertainty, fear and anger and cultural change,  
may we be reminded:  
**ALL: To rekindle the gift of God that is within us... For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.**  
— from 2 Timothy 1

## \*Invocation

*Lord's Prayer* (congregation sing) Malotte  
**Our Father, which 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 Dan McClintock

Discipline of Silence

Prayer of Confession

**In all his apocalyptic terror, the Jesus of Revelation says to one church: "I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot... so, because you are lukewarm... I am about to spit you out of my mouth." God forgive our apathy, the half-hearted way we tend to important things and real people, and give us the passion to be "either cold or hot." Amen.**  
— from Revelation 3

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response  
*Fire of God, Undying Flame* alt. INNOCENTS  
**Fire of God, undying flame, Spirit who in splendor came,  
Let your heat my soul refine, till it glows with love divine.**

Children's Time Amy Jacks Dean

**Sh'ma**  Music: Solomon Sulzer  
Text: Deuteronomy 6:4; Liturgy

Majestically (♩ = 80)  
capo 2:\* C D F G C D G A C D G A C D



Sh'ma Yis-ra - eil: A - do - nai E - lo - hei - nu, A - do - nai E - chad!

**Hear, O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One!**

Scripture Lesson Song of Solomon 2.8-13 Russ Dean  
*The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. My beloved speaks and says to me: 'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.*

Leader: You have heard the ancient STORY.

People: **Let us listen now for the word of the Lord.** †

## Sh'ma



Music: Solomon Sulzer  
Text: Deuteronomy 6:4; Liturgy

Majestically (♩ = 80)  
capo 2:\* C D F G C D G A C D G A C D



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**Hear, O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One!**

Anthem

*Upon This Rock* John Ness Beck (1930-1987)

Upon this rock I will build my church;  
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.  
I will give thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven.  
And whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven.  
And whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.  
Upon this rock I will build my church.  
Lo, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone;  
the flowers appear on the earth;  
The time of the singing of birds has come.  
Arise, and come away!  
Upon this rock I will build my church  
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it!

*(Please stand as you are able and join in singing with the choir.)*

**The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is His new creation by water and the word;  
From heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.**

**Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us faith that we,  
Like them the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee!  
Amen!**

—adapted from Matthew 16:18-19  
and Song of Solomon 2:11-13

Sermon *Come Away* Russ Dean

Prayer of Intercession Amy Jacks Dean

Mission Offering

September's undesignated offering will go to the Charlotte CROP Walk which supports the hunger fighting efforts of Church World Service, both locally and in 35 countries around the world. There are 150,841 people in Mecklenburg County who live at or below the poverty level and are at risk of hunger, 45,492 of these are children. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised in the Charlotte CROP Walk support these local agencies: Crisis Assistance Ministry, Loaves & Fishes, and Second Harvest Food Bank.  
(The 40th Annual Charlotte Crop Walk will take place on Saturday, October 13, at 9:00a, departing from Independence Park).

Please designate **all checks and envelopes** as either "Annual Ministry Plan" (AMP) or "mission." In keeping with our initiative to "create a culture of generosity," **all loose cash** in the offering will be given to our mission for this month. If you write a check or put cash in an envelope, however,  
**please designate this gift.**

Offertory

*Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier* J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

\*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow:  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

\*Prayer of Dedication

Russ Dean

\*Call to Discipleship

We offer all who worship this day an opportunity to commit to the challenge of Jesus: *“Come, follow me.”* This commitment may be made as a profession of faith, or as a commitment through membership in this church to join us in seeking to follow in the Way of Jesus. You are invited to come forward to be welcomed as we sing.

\*Hymn of Commitment

#491, *Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve* CHRISTMAS

Meditation of Commitment

This unnamed woman poet [the author of this text] declares that love is as strong as death, passion as fierce as the grave. Love is like a raging fire. “Many waters cannot quench love, nor floods drown it.” Sex is all over this book, but she didn’t say sex is as strong as death, or that many waters cannot quench sex. No. It’s the power of love that is so unstoppable... This mortal body, these mortal bodies – growing, dying, maturing, aging, sexual, hormonal – connect us to powers beyond our physical experience: love, justice, God.

— Tim Moore, “Sexual Freedom,”  
a sermon preached at Park Road this summer

Benediction

Russ and Amy Jacks Dean

Choral Response

*Hava Nashira* Josh Nelson (b. 20th c.)

Postlude

*Entrata Festiva* David Lasky (b. 1957)

\*Those who are able are invited to stand.

†The challenge an ancient text presents to modern readers is to allow the truth that originally animated the text to become a “living Word” for us. Only as we interact with a given text in a continual “now” (“now” in the anthem, “now” in the sermon, “now” in the fellowship that follows worship, “now” in the work and service, the joys and sorrows of busy lives) can that Word truly become “*living and active*” (Hebrews 4.12).

**Deacon of the Week: Geoff Palmer**

Geoff Palmer has been a member at Park Road for six years. Geoff is married to Virginia and they have two children in the youth group, Caroline and Jack. Geoff has recently become one of Park Road’s Augustine Literacy Tutors for Sedgefield Elementary. He is a guru of all things healthy and good for you and works at the YMCA as a personal trainer.

**Wednesday Night Programs, Fall 2018**

Sign up in the narthex or call the office by Tuesday for dinner reservations.  
Dinner: 5:30p (\$7/adults, \$3/children).  
Programs for Children: 6:00p and for Youth, and Adults: 6:30p  
Choir Rehearsal: 7:30p

**Adult Program Schedule**

September 5 – First Wednesday Concert: Steve Simpson  
September 12 – Jessica Saxe: Physicians for Single Payer HealthCare  
Dr. Saxe represents physicians who believe a national system providing care for all is the best way forward for the U.S. This presentation is driven by data collected by U.S. medical professionals and is the basis for a helpful and challenging dialogue for the faith community, regardless one’s political perspective.  
September 19 – Intergenerational Game Night  
September 26 – Susan Harden from UNCC: A Discussion of Public Education, especially looking at CMS teacher pay  
October 3 – Bible Trivia (this date is flexible)  
October 10 – TBD  
October 17 – Table Sharing (this date is flexible)  
October 24 – TBD  
October 31 – NO PROGRAM. HALLOWEEN  
November 7 – Katie Oates, A Night of Folk Music  
November 14 – Greg Jarrell speaks about his new book:  
*A Riff of Love: Notes on Community and Belonging*  
November 21 – NO PROGRAM. THANKSGIVING  
November 28 – Children’s Music and A Conversation about the Alliance of Baptists with Tim Moore

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT PARK ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**

Please turn off all cell phones during worship.

Our newsletter, *Good Tidings*, and copies of past sermons are available in the sanctuary narthex.

A podcast of sermons is available at [www.parkroadbaptist.org](http://www.parkroadbaptist.org).

CDs of past worship services are available through the church office.

We encourage you to take the bulletin with you but you may leave it on the back pew to be recycled.

**OUR CHURCH STAFF**

Monty Bennett, *Director of Music and Organist*  
Russ and Amy Jacks Dean, *Pastors*  
Heather Gaskins, *Director, Child Development Center*  
Leslie Gipple, *Operations Manager*  
Joey Haynes, *Minister of Youth*  
Bruce Holliday, *Director of Communications*  
Dan McClintock, *Minister of Mission and Family Life*  
Allison Wieland, *Financial Administrator*  
Joyce Williams, *Administrative Assistant*

3900 Park Road, Charlotte, North Carolina 28209  
704.523-5717 [www.parkroadbaptist.org](http://www.parkroadbaptist.org)



*Passion*