



The People of God in Worship

August 19, 2018

Eleven O'Clock in the Morning

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

THE GREETING

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse

To our Guests, Members, and Friends: In the pew rack you will find a small brochure to give us the opportunity to get to know you and serve you better. Fill in where appropriate, and place it in the collection plate. Welcome and thank you!

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kearse

Greeting: The peace of Christ be with you!

Reply: **And also with you!**

THE CHIMES

Three chimes are sounded, awakening us to the presence of God, alerting us to the voice of Christ, centering us in the embrace of the Spirit.

THE PRELUDE

Please consider the prelude as an invitation to quietly, reverently prepare yourself for worship.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP - from Proverbs 9

Dr. Bundy Potter

Leader: Wisdom has built her house, with seven strong timbers;

People: Lord, give us wisdom for our lives;

Leader: She has laid out the banquet and opened the doors;

People: Open our ears to the invitation of Wisdom;

Leader: She says, "Come in! Come in! Leave your impoverished life and *live!*
Walk up the street to a life of meaning!"

People: Open our eyes to the joys awaiting us;

Leader: She says, "Skilled living gets its start in the Fear of God, insight into life from knowing a Holy God;"

People: Open our hearts to be willing to accept ourselves and to step onto the path of Wisdom;

All: For it is through Wisdom that our lives will deepen; through Wisdom our lives will mature and ripen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE No. 368**

He Lives

***INVOCATION AND THE GLORIA PATRI**

Dr. Bundy Potter and The Community

*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.*

MISSIONS MOMENT

Mission Model #3
Giving with a Seasonal Focus

Mrs. Fran Christie

THE FIRST READING

Galatians 3:1-14

Dr. Clif Potter

Leader: A word from God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE SECOND READING

Galatians 3:23-29

Dr. Clif Potter

Leader: A word from God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Oh, Freedom
(Freedom Singers)

arr. Randa Kirshbaum

THE MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kears

*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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

***THE OFFERTORY HYMN No. 428**

In Christ There Is No East or West

THE GIFTS

*Offertory Moment and Prayer

Dr. Clif Potter

Offertory *It Is Well with My Soul*
(Freedom Singers)

Philip P. Bliss

*Doxology - No. 815

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

THE MESSAGE

***Heretics: Freedom from the
Tyranny of Religion***

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kears

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

If you desire membership in this congregation, you are invited to present yourself at this time. If you prefer not to present yourself, you may speak to the minister after the service to effect membership. As an open membership church, we honor your previous baptism in any other Christian community. If you have not made a profession of faith, we invite you to do so and receive Christian baptism. Church members are invited to use this time to renew their covenantal relationship with God and their commitment to Christian service.

***HYMN No. 433**

Rise Up, O Church of God

***CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY**

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kears

***THE BENEDICTION**

The Rev. Dr. Martha D. Kears

***THE POSTLUDE**

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- * The ushers will seat those waiting.
 - * Those who are able will please stand.
 - * Hearing aids are available from the ushers.

Copies of last week's sermon and the prayer list are in the narthex.

Offertory Emphasis

From its beginnings, Peakland Baptist Church has been affiliated with the American Baptists USA. American Baptists are racially diverse and hold tightly to the belief that the local church has authority over itself, offering space for churches to define themselves through their own theologies. In recent years, Peakland has also aligned itself with the Cooperative Baptist

Fellowship and with the Alliance of Baptists. In addition, Peakland has strong ecumenical and interfaith connections here in the city—we have a long history of working in our community with other communities of faith. Today, we celebrate the chances we have to partner with these organizations within our denomination and in the interfaith community. We celebrate the ways that our dollars go further and do more good in the world because of these partnerships. We celebrate the common good that we can all work for, and the chance to do it together.

Please join me in prayer:

Lord we give you thanks that we are not alone. We thank you for the many people in the world who, like us, wish to contribute to health, to shared wealth, to shared opportunity, and to wholeness. We thank you that, with our gifts, we join with a larger community and have the chance to offer help to people we will never meet. Thank you for those whose work this money goes to support; thank you for the gift of partnership. In Jesus' name, Amen.