

WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

♪ **Organ Prelude** · Bobbi Hunter
O God, Thou Faithful God Flor Peeters

Call to Worship (responsively) · Lou Pennebaker

Leader: Come and worship,
proclaim God's ways of faithfulness and steadfast love.

People: **We will tell of God's love, which unfolds in our lives.**

Leader: Come and worship, for we are God's people,
rejoicing in his graciousness.

People: **God is always with us,
there is nothing which can keep us apart.**

Leader: Come to the One who tells stories;
worship our God who keeps promises.

People: **We rejoice with God who is with us always.**

♪ **Hymn of Praise** · God is Here!
No. 461

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

What can we say about our foolish lives, God of Love? Too often, we choose to worship power when we could serve others in humility. We toss and turn at night, all those things over which we have no control keeping us wide awake, when we could turn them over to you. No matter how often we hear the news that death has lost its power over us, we dread that day and try everything we can to postpone it.

For believing that our sins are more powerful than your mercy, forgive us, Grace of the world. You cast your net of grace to gather all into your kingdom. Your Spirit carries the whispers of our hearts to you, and we are embraced with your hope, blessed with your love through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

♪ **Gloria Patri**

No. 579

Passing of The Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Greetings and Announcements

Minute for Deacons · Shari Plunkett & Gigi MacLeod

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Scripture Readings · Toni DiCapua

Psalm 105:1-11 (pg. 942)

Matthew 13:31-35 (pg. 1516)

♪ **Anthem** · Chancel Choir

His Eye is on the Sparrow – Charles H. Gabriel, arr. Jack Schrader

Richard Dinwiddie, director; Mollie Wakeman, accompanist
(CCLI #20405356)

The Word Interpreted · Vivian Smart-Stewart

"The Cry of a Mustard Seed," poem by Andrew Collins
presented as a monologue

Ministry of the Word · The Rev. Renée Rico

"Mysteries of Mustard Seeds"

Short Stories by Jesus, Part 4

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A Contemporary Reading · Vivian Smart-Stewart

"A Seed Psalm" Edward Hays, from *Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim*

♪ **Hymn of Response** · When We are Living

No. 400

Acknowledgment and Blessing of Offerings

♪ **Anthem** · Chancel Choir

Amazing Grace, arr. Jack Schrader

Richard Dinwiddie, director; Mollie Wakeman, accompanist

(CCLI #20405356)

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

♪ **Closing Hymn** · O God of Earth and Space

No. 274

Benediction

♪ **Congregational Response** · Go Now in Peace

♪ **Organ Postlude** · Bobbi Hunter

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Wilbur Held