

We do not sacrifice as he did. We reserve ourselves, as if some more important task will soon claim us. And daily we reject your claim upon us as your royal and chosen people. O God, forgive our reluctance to be your servants, and declare again and again your words of mercy until we finally and totally believe... until we finally and fully serve you with gratitude and in eagerness. Lord, hear our prayer. (Silent Confession) Amen.

THE GREAT MYSTERY OF FAITH

Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.

PETITIONS

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All Christians are invited to participate in the Sacrament fully.  
It is our custom to commune at the time we are served the bread and the cup.*

COMMUNION SONG

*You Are the Bread*  
Chancel Choir

Ruth Elaine Schram

PRAYER

**BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

\*HYMN 418

*God, Bless Your Church with Strength!*

\*BENEDICTION

One: Go forth from this place inspired to serve one another

**All: and empowered by the love of God to do so.**

One: Go forth from this place to work in company with all God's children

**All: to do God's work and God's will on Earth as it is in heaven,**

One: that in loving and serving one another

**All: the kingdom of God may come to this world through us. Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE

*In Christ There Is No East or West*

Charles Callahan

SUNDAY CELEBRATION

October 2, 2011 ♦ 11:00 a.m.

*World Communion Sunday*

SEEING  
the UNSEEN  
CHRIST

*How His Presence  
Transforms Life*

Listening devices and large-print materials  
are available from the ushers.

*Please turn off all cell phones and electronic pagers.*

*\*All those who are able, please stand.*

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

PRELUDE

*He Who Will Suffer God to Guide Him*

J.S.Bach

♦ ♦ ♦ *Please keep silent so that others can meditate* ♦ ♦ ♦

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise you, God, for you are Lord and Master.

**All: Through our serving may you be honored.**

One: Your presence motivates us to minister to the needs of others.

With cheerful hearts we look out for the interests, needs, and concerns of others.

**All: May we be ready to serve as if we were serving you.**

**For this is our privilege and our responsibility.**

One: O God, you are Lord and Master!

**All: As we worship you, help us to become difference-makers I  
n other people's lives.**

One: Praise you, God, for you are Lord and Master.

**One: Let us honor you by not only looking after our own needs,  
but also the needs of others.**

One: Let us serve one another with gratitude and eagerness.

Let us carry each other's burdens, share with those in need,  
and be devoted to one another in love.

**All: For you, God, are Lord and Master. We worship you!  
For you are worthy of praise!**

\*HYMN 411

*Arise, Your Light Is Come*

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND INVOCATION

TIME WITH CHILDREN  
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.**

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle Reading                      Romans 12:3-8                      (New Testament page 162)

LEADER: This is the word of the Lord  
**PEOPLE: Thanks be to God**

MEDITATION

Seeing the Unseen Christ                      Rev. Gribble  
Serve Christ with Gratitude & Eagerness

\*HYMN 343

*Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

**RESPONDING TO AND SEALING OF THE WORD**

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

DEDICATION

**O God, we seek the transformation of the world, but we fear the change it could bring to our own lives. Grant us the trust and courage to acknowledge your gracious reign among us. Take these gifts as symbols of our desire to genuinely love our neighbors as ourselves. May they be used to build a better world, where your love and salvation are known by all. We offer these monies, symbolizing our lives, that we offer to you in service to meet the needs of a hurting world. In gratitude we give and in eagerness we serve, in the name of Christ be praised. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

*Praise God from Whom*                      Samuel Stanley  
Chancel Choir

THE LORD'S SUPPER

\*INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LEADER: Lift up your hearts.

**PEOPLE: We lift them to the Lord.**

LEADER: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**PEOPLE: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

GLORY TO THE FATHER (sung)

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**

**All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth and sky and sea;**

**Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!**

**God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of unfailing mercy, we acknowledge Christ as the unshakable foundation of our lives. His constant love, his insistent call and his enduring presence among us quell our anxiety and free us to bear his light into the darkest corners of our world. Yet as much as we believe this, we are reluctant to be used by Christ as stones laid upon the foundation of his life.**

continued on page 4