

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF CARY

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2016

Guest Speaker Dan Casey
Dr. Loñieta Cornwall, Music Director

Prelude

Guest Pianist

Congregational Concerns

Votum *“Our Help is in the name of the Lord who made the heaven and the earth.”*

Introit

“Praise You”

Chancel Choir

Invitation to Worship

***Hymn of Praise #21**

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

The Approach to God

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Joel 2:12-13

“Even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

***Hymn #281**

“How Blest Is He”

Reception of Gifts & Offerings

Ministry of Music *“We are climbing Jacobs Ladder (3x) Soldiers of the cross.
Every round goes higher, higher.....Children, do you love my Jesus?.....
If you love him, why not serve Him?.....Rise, shine, give God Glory.....”*

***Doxology**

***Offertory Prayer**

The Word of God

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: (Revelation 21:1-5) The New Heaven and the New Earth

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place[a] of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people,[b] and God himself will be with them as their God.[c] 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

5 And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

Sermon ***“Trustworthy & True”***

Our Response to God

***Confession of Faith** **The Apostles’ Creed** (Page 12 Hymnal)

We are and will continue to be a community that loves and worships God in the Reformed tradition for the purpose of being known as a congregation that actively cares for those in need around us.

Congregational Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Closing Hymn #508** ***“O Holy City”

Benediction** ***“Three-Fold Amen” Chancel Choir

***Postlude**

***Those who are able please stand**

WELCOME

Dan Casey recently began his second year of a Master's in Theological Studies at Duke Divinity School. He is a graduate of Davidson College where he played football and is the Chaplain at St. David's School in Raleigh, NC. He is married to Grace who is a talented artist and graphic designer. The Casey's live in Durham, North Carolina.

GUEST PIANIST

We extend our thanks to Zoey Brouthers for providing the music for our Worship Service today.

MISSION

Our Mission for the month of September is to support Phoenix Assisted Living.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Just a reminder, this Friday, September 23rd, is our scheduled day for delivery of meals. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Dey.

CONSISTORY CONTACTS

If you have need of pastoral care or if you have questions or concerns, please reach out to one of the members of the consistory.

Elders:

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Jenn Legg	919-600-9240
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