St. ANDREW'S CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2017



5802 Roland Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21210-1398 410-435-9470 www.saintandrewscc.org

THE REV. ERNEST R. D. SMART, Pastor

Patricia McKewen Amato, Music Director

THIS DAY IS GOD'S GIFT TO EVERYONE

PRELUDE: Three Mazurcas (Adelita, Marieta, Mazurca in C)

- F. Tarrega (1852-1909)-

THE WELCOME. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: God is our refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble.

People: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea.

Pastor: "Be still and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations:

I am exalted in all the earth."

People: The Lord of Hosts is with us; the God of Israel is our refuge.

(from Psalm 46)

*HYMN 90

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Madrid

CALL TO PRAYER, PRAYER, AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Almighty God, our Loving Father, You have given us Jesus, the light of the world, but we have so often chosen darkness, and we have shut out the brightness of Your love. We are poor disciples who are slow to live and speak Your Gospel. Immersed in ourselves we have not risen to new life. Grant to us through the days of this new year, forgiveness and renewal so that, with fresh Christian confidence, we may walk more truly in Your light and more surely in the way of Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND THE PROMISE OF NEW LIFE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 33: 1-12

SPECIAL MUSIC:

Suite in D minor

(prelude, allemande, sarabande, minuets I, II, bouree)

R. de Visee(1655-1732)

GOSPEL LESSON:

St. Matthew 6: 22-34

*HYMN 594

Dear Lord, and Father of Mankind

Rest

SERMON:

"THE AMBIGUITY OF RELIGION"

Rev. Ernest Smart

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

*HYMN 721

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

America

THE PRESENTATION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

Prelude no. 3 -

H. Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)

*THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CALL TO PRAYER AND PASTORAL PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: and also with you.

Leader: Let us pray...

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using trespasses)

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 forever and ever. Amen.

*HYMN 709

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Austrian Hymn

BENEDICTION (unison)

May the light of the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ shine in our hearts, transform our lives and brighten the world around us. And may the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Sonata in A Major - D. Scarlatti (1685-1757)

ON THIS GRAND AND GLORIOUS FOURTH SUNDAY OF 2017, MAY YOU HAVE A HEART THAT IS FULL OF HOPE, PEACE, JOY AND LOVE. SUCH ARE THE BLESSINGS OF GOD TO EVERYONE OF US.

WE WELCOME EVERYONE TO WORSHIP TODAY. May this hour be a blessing for you, and all your family and friends. This week we are also called upon to share those blessings.

EVERYONE IS ALSO INVITED to spend an enjoyable time with us at the light reception in the lounge afterwards. Many thanks again to those who have prepared it.

WE WELCOME THIS MORNING Troy King, Guitarist, who is contributing to our musical ministry today.

WELCOME BACK ALSO, AND NOT LEAST, PATTI AMATO after her winter break in Florida.

THE NEXT MEETING OF OUR P&R (PLANNING AND REVIEW) BOARD will take place on Monday, January 23, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. here at church. This is an open meeting to which everyone is invited.

SNOW AND BAD WEATHER POLICY. Generally, we never cancel worship services unless we are faced with Sunday morning blizzard conditions. However, we ask members and friends to exercise a great deal of wisdom and caution.

PASTORAL NEEDS? Please do not hesitate to contact our pastor, Ernest Smart, either for yourself or someone you know. Best number is 410-893-9470.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

"Can't sleep? Don't count sheep. Talk to the Shepherd."
(Sign outside an English Country Church)