

*The Affirmation of Faith

(from "A Brief Statement of Faith")

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.
Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession
The Lord's Prayer

p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering
The Offertory

"The Lamb"
Rebecca Fisher, soprano

Theodore Chanler

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Doxology, p. 592 in the Hymnal

The most majestic music is an inadequate gift of adoration to You, O God, and yet You hear the simplest song. The most precious gift is beneath Your notice and yet You receive whatever is given out of the deepest poverty. May Your gifts and our lives be worthy of You as they can be only in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the enabling Spirit. Amen.

*Litany for Advent

"O Antiphons"
Come, Lord Jesus!

GO IN GOD'S NAME.

*The Hymn 9

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude

"Fling Wide the Door"

Henry Balcombe