



Nicolls Memorial Presbyterian Church

Sunday Morning Worship

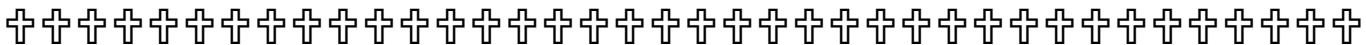
September 17, 2017

15th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

Our Mission

*To live out Christ's love by nurturing spiritual growth and fellowship,
and by reaching out in faith and love.*



***We invite those who are able, to stand.**

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WELCOME

Elizabeth McDowell

PRELUDE

INTROIT – *Let Us Build a House*

#301

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Prologue to John

Rev. Dewey

***HYMN** – "O Word of God Incarnate"

(tune only)

#321

stanzas 1, 3, Dennis Dewey, 1993
stanza 2 William How, 1867, alt.

1. O Word of God Incarnate, O Light of Humankind,
Come teach us how to love with our heart and soul and mind.
For in your breath of Spirit we gather here today
To hear and share the stories that lead us in the Way.
2. O Word of God Incarnate, O Human and Divine,
O Light of Life most holy, that in the dark does shine,
We praise you for the radiance that from your story flows,
The light that guides our journey, the light that in us glows.

3. O Word come dwell among us, our life and faith refresh,
And let your story live and your gospel truth take flesh,
That as your storied people, we may become aware
How God so loved the world, and this good news gladly share!

STORIES FROM JOHN

- Wedding at Cana

-
Cleansing of the Temple

GUIDED PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Elizabeth McDowell

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son that whoever believes in him might not perish, but have eternal life. In the name of Christ, the Light of the World, I declare that the work of God is made manifest in this good news: that all our sins are forgiven!

***THE PEACE** Greet those around you with
"The peace of Christ be with you."

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Know that God is Good

#659

TIME WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH

Nicodemus

We invite all children & youth to come forward.

STORIES FROM JOHN -

The Woman at the Well

-

The Man Born Blind

-

The Raising of Lazarus

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Elizabeth McDowell

STORIES FROM JOHN -

The Crucifixion

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Elizabeth McDowell

We have been showered with an abundance of mercy from God.
We are called to go forth and witness to the presence of Christ in our lives
in many diverse ways. One of the ways in which we tell the story is through the giving of gifts to God. In our gift-giving we participate with God
in providing for the needs of God's people.

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

***DOXOLOGY** – *Give Thanks*

#647

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Gracious God,
May our gifts become symbols of our intention
to minister with you to satisfy the needs of those whom we love.
Amen.**

STORIES FROM JOHN -

The Resurrection

***HYMN "I Love to Tell the Story"**

(tune only) #462

stanza 1, A. Catherine Hankey 1834-1911
stanza 2, Dennis Dewey 1993

1. I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story. 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.
2. I love to tell the story; the story changes things!
It challenges the powers; it whispers, thunders, sings!
It births the holy presence in moments of surprise,
It heals, empowers and strengthens, and opens ears and eyes!
I love to tell the story, of Jesus and his glory,
Because it is God's story of justice, peace and love!

***BLESSING**

EXTROIT (all sing) – *For Everyone Born*

#769

POSTLUDE

Interim Pastor – Rev. Pamela J. Peterson

Pastor Emeritus – Rev. James L. Ulrich

Organists – Judith Barker, Susann Rundell

Ushers – Katie Boesché, Katie Kelly, Kathy Riehle, Natalie Tickner

TODAY WE WELCOME REV. DENNIS DEWEY AS WORSHIP LEADER AND PREACHER. Dennis Dewey (www.dennisdewey.org) is a Master Biblical Storyteller who describes his work as “helping people hear the biblical stories again for the first time.” He has performed and lectured all over the United States and Canada as well as in Europe, New Zealand, Australia, Korea and Israel/Palestine and South Africa. Ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA), he has been engaged in this itinerant, ecumenical storytelling ministry since 1982. He has also served as Executive Director of the Network of Biblical Storytellers, an international organization whose mission is to encourage everyone to learn and tell biblical stories. Among hundreds of his venues have been the National Storytelling Festival, Princeton Theological Seminary's Institute of Theology, the Joseph Campbell Festival, Oxford University, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Lutheran National Youth Triennium and

national television appearances. Dewey is the organizer of the Biblical Storytelling and Scholarship Seminar, the author of numerous articles. His audio CDs include "John According to Jazz," and he has produced a number of DVDs as well. Dr. Thomas G. Long, noted scholar and author says, "Dennis Dewey does not merely memorize the texts; he *absorbs* them, *embodies* them." In addition, he leads church groups on storytelling adventures to the Holy Land, St. Paul's Greece, the UK of the Celtic Saints and St. James' Spain.

Scripture Reading for Next Sunday, Sept. 24, Matthew 20: 1-16

Notes and Announcements

Whatever your religious background and however you have come to be here, we welcome you to our fellowship in Niccolls Memorial Presbyterian Church. We hope you feel comfortable and will be strengthened in your walk with God. We invite you to join us for fellowship and sustenance in the Social Room following worship.

We begin our worship this day by remembering our baptism. Also, please notice the empty plate (paten) and cup (chalice) on the center of the Communion Table. These symbols speak to us of our hunger for Christ who feeds us at this table.

***THE DEACON OF THE MONTH** is Tina Yukel. If you or someone you know has a special need, please call her at 315-369-2823.

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY – Praying for others is a blessing and a privilege. If you know of someone who is in need of prayer, please ask if you may share his or her name and need with the prayer chain at Niccolls. If the response is yes, please call Sue Mahoney at 315-390-4025, and she will initiate the chain. All information is confidential and is not shared with anyone other than prayer chain members.

CHURCHES PRAYER CYCLE – The Presbyterian Church is connectional by design and practice. Every week we lift up in prayer a church or ministry within the Presbytery of Utica. This week we pray for the First Presbyterian Church, Springfield.

CHURCH WIDE SERVICE SCHOOL BAGS Once again it's time to collect items for our *CWS School Bags*. While you are out shopping for your own children's school supplies please pick up some or all of the items on the list located on the table in the narthex. Some of the items are: blunt scissors, bound notebooks, rulers, erasers and crayons. There is a \$2.00 per bag handling fee for mailing if you would like to make a donation toward the handling fee. Collection continues through today. Please contact Cindy Rose for details.

CALL FOR THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING The Annual Congregational Meeting of Niccolls Memorial Presbyterian Church will be held today Sunday, September 17 beginning at 11:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to elect new Session members, review the proposed operating budget for the 2017-2018 operating year, and to discuss any other new business to be brought before the congregation. All members are encouraged to attend. A soup luncheon will follow the meeting.

PRESBYTERY OF UTICA IS COMING TO NICCOLLS

The fall meeting of the Presbytery of Utica will be held at Niccolls Church on Tuesday September 26, beginning at 4:00 p.m. The meeting includes worship and a dinner meal. Please help us be Adirondack guide style hosts! You may sign up to set up, cook, serve and clean up for the meal. Sign -up sheets are in the Narthex or see Cindy Rose for details.

HELP FOR HARVEY

Your Mission Committee will donate \$500 to the PCUSA Disaster Relief Fund to help support their response to Hurricane Harvey. You can also contribute to this by putting a check in the offering or dropping it off at the office in the next two weeks. Please remember to put "Harvey Relief" on the memo line.

MIDWEEK FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

"Why does God seem so different in the Old Testament than in the New Testament?" This question comes up often when groups study the Bible together. This fall, our Midweek Faith and Fellowship Group, meeting on Tuesday mornings, will discuss this question using a book called, *When Did God Become a Christian?* Please join this group each week beginning on Tuesday, October 3rd. We will meet in the Social room at 9:30am and will conclude by 11:00am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS SOON! WATCH FOR INFORMATION HERE, IN NICCOLLS NEWS 'N NUGGETS AND ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

Calendar of Events Week of September 17-23

Monday	10am-12pm	Mission Boutique Sorting
Tuesday	10:00 am	CE Curriculum Crew
Wednesday	10am-12pm	Mission Boutique Sorting
	10am-2pm	Senior Activity Program
	7-8:30 pm	Mission Boutique Open
Friday	10am-12pm	Mission Boutique Open
	7-8:30 pm	Mission Boutique Open
Saturday	10am-12pm	Mission Boutique Open
Sunday	7:30 am	Early Worship Service
	10:00 am	Worship Service