

# Order of Service for the Public Worship of God

June 17, 2007

Ten O'clock, A.M.

Pastor: Dr. James E. Swanson

Liturgist: Mary Reefer

Organist: Miss Beverly Antis

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*Those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good. (Ps. 34:10)*

THE PRELUDE

*Faith of Our Fathers  
It Is Well with My Soul*

Robert Lau

Robert Lau

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: From God comes the wonder of creation.

People: **We gather to worship God the Creator, creating still.**

Leader: From God comes healing for the brokenness we see.

People: **We are here to worship God, our Redeemer.**

Leader: From God comes the strength to face each new day.

People: **We gather to worship God, our Sustainer and Guide.**

Leader: God is here---

People: **Let the conversation begin !**

\*THE OPENING HYMN (See Insert) *Faith of Our Fathers!* ST. CATHERINE

\*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 103:1-19 *(Pew Bible p. 531)*

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

THE CORPORATE 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 reborn; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Though we be lost in sin, God never abandons us to desolation.

People: **God so loved the world that he sent his only Son:  
not to condemn the world,  
but so the world through him might be saved!**

Pastor: In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone!

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

People: **In Jesus, the Christ, we are forgiven!**

\*THE GLORIA PATRI 579

GLORIA PATRI

\*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(A Contemporary Creed)*

**We believe in God,  
creator and lover of the earth,  
origin and destiny of us all.**

**We believe in Jesus the Christ, herald of hope,  
God's laughter in the face of despair.  
Plunged into death and hell,  
he broke free the captives  
and is leading the way to a land of promise  
where justice and peace will flourish.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who plants the seeds of truth,  
brings us to birth as the body of Christ,  
and empowers us to confront and transform  
all that is corrupt, degrading and deceitful.**

**We believe in the coming reign of God.  
In that day all will be consummated  
in the glorious marriage of earth and heaven.  
In that day those who have passed through  
the world's deep sorrow  
will be raised from the waters, robed in righteousness,  
and gathered into the joyous fulfillment of God's desire.**

**For the inbreaking of that day on this day,  
we work and pray:  
Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

\*THE GREETINGS OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

THE SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON      Isaiah 64:1-9      *(Pew Bible p. 658)*

One: This is the word of the Lord.      All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE ANTHEM      *Gott ist mein Hirte*      Anton Dvořák  
Sarah Morrison, Vocal Soloist

THE EPISTLE LESSON      Hebrews 12:1-11      *(Pew Bible p. 211)*

One: Here ends the reading of the Epistle.      All: **Praise be to you, O Lord.**

\*THE GOSPEL LESSON      Matthew 7:1-12      *(Pew Bible p. 6)*

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord.      All: **Glory to You, O Christ.**

\*THE CONGREGATIONAL CANTICLE      *(Hymn Tune #310 ST. AGNES)*

**Lord, let Thy Word illumine us, with truth and love divine,  
And make us faithful to the Christ, 'til we are wholly Thine. Amen.**

THE SERMON      “DADDY DEAREST ”      Dr. Swanson

THE PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER *(using “debts”)*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS AND GIFTS

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM      *All Things Bright and Beautiful*      John Rutter

Sarah Morrison, Vocal Soloist

\*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.*

THE UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**For your abounding grace and steadfast love, we give thanks, O God. May our gifts provide for those who seek refuge from doubt, respite from sorrow, relief from hunger and calamity. As we cheerfully give and gladly serve in Christ's name, help us to grow in the true Spirit of our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

\*THE CLOSING HYMN 293      *This Is My Father's World*      TERRA BEATA

\*THE PRESENTATION OF CARNATION BOUTONNIERES to honor our fathers

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE      *Go with Us, Lord*      TALLIS' CANON

*Go with us, Lord, and guide the way  
Through this and every coming day,  
That in Your Spirit strong and true  
Our lives may be our gift to You.*

\*THE TIME OF SILENCE

\*THE CHARGE AND DISMISSAL

Leader: May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
People: **May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.**  
Leader: Praying, let us work for peace;  
People: **Singing, share our joy with all.**  
Leader: Working, for a world that's new;  
People: **Faithful, when we hear Christ's call.**  
Leader: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!  
People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE POSTLUDE      *Trumpet Voluntary*      William Goodwin

\* Where indicated, those who are able, please stand.

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**GREETINGS** to all this day who worship the God of past, present and future. We want to get to know you. Please introduce yourself to others sitting nearby during the passing of the peace.

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR** immediately follows this worship service downstairs in the Assembly Room. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

**YOU WERE GREETED TODAY** by Romaine MacDonald.

**WE THANK** Miss Sarah Morrison who provided special music for this morning's worship service. Sarah is 16 years old and is the daughter of Ann and Larry Morrison. She is an honors course student and active in dance, 'cello, Butler Little Theater, Covenant Choir, and the Butler Sequinettes. Sarah will be a junior at Butler Senior High School this fall.

"Blessed indeed is the man who hears many gentle voices call him father!" -- *Lydia M. Child*



During the 10 a.m. worship service today, every man in attendance will receive a carnation boutonniere acknowledging and honoring his pivotal role in the family. Please take this opportunity today to thank your father for his years of personal sacrifice, devotion, guidance, and unconditional love.

**EXTRA COPIES OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL REPORT** are available in the narthex. Copies can also be mailed upon request.

**KERYGMA STUDY "Discovering the Psalms"** continues this Wednesday, June 27 at 1:00 p.m. at Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church. The Reverend Mr. Ed Carlson will lead the session.

**COVENANT CUPBOARD DONATIONS FOR JUNE:** dried beans or rice  
*Baskets for donations are located at the E. Jefferson St. entrance.*  
*Cash donations are always welcomed and will be used to purchase needed items.*

#### **INVITATIONS STILL NEEDED**

Dee Demby and others at the YMCA will be hosting a visiting foreign delegation of 2 adults and five young women from Tai Chung, Taiwan July 5-14. Please call Dee (724.756.5405 home) or (412.603.0258 cell) if you would be willing to host or help.

#### **UNSEAM'D SHAKESPEARE CO. PRODUCTION**

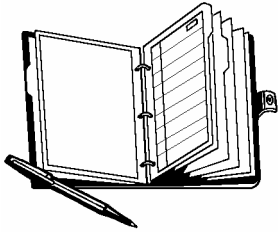


Unseam'd Shakespeare Co. presents: *The Constant Prince* by Pedro Calderon de la Barca and translated and directed by Rick Davis. Performances run Thursday June 14<sup>th</sup> to Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup>. Evening performances are at 8 PM and Sunday performances are at 4 PM. Tickets are \$22 for general admission and \$15 for students. The performance is held at the Open Stage Theatre in Pittsburgh. Call ProArts at 412-394-3353 for more details and ticket information.

*North Africa, 1437* - A Christian Prince at war with a Muslim King. To control one city they will shatter the world. A 17<sup>th</sup> Century tale of love, friendship, faith-of constancy-and the true legacy of martyrs, from the greatest playwright of the Spanish Golden Age.

\*Michael Desnoyers' fiancé, Stephanie, is stage managing this production. See Michael for more details (and his "review").

**ADDRESS BOOK CORRECTION:**



John R. Henninger  
St. Barnabas Retirement Village  
5850 Meridian Rd., Apt. 516-B  
Gibsonia, PA 15044  
Telephone No.: 724-443-7555

*In The Life of Our Church*

*Prayer Concerns* . . . . Chuck Schlicht, Phyllis Thoma, LaRose Black,  
Ellie Walchesky, Dorothy Hitchcock, Muriel Thompson,  
Brenda Keith, Ann Morrison, Bob Moore, Ray Welling

*No birthdays or anniversaries to report this week.*

*If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please accept our apology. If you would like us to publish the date in the Chronicle and bulletin, please call the church office at 724-287-7731.*



THE BUTLER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
PRESENTS . . .

"Primitive Music ~  
Pennsylvania Mountain Voices"

Sunday, June 24th at 1:30 p.m

Guest Presenter

Mr. Bruce Young of State College

**COOPER CABIN PIONEER HOMESTEAD\***

*(Cooper Road near Cabot, just off Route 356,  
approximately 9 miles south of Butler)*

A **FREE** presentation sponsored by a grant from the PA Humanities Council.  
If you are planning to attend, **PLEASE BRING LAWNCHAIRS**

Mr. Young will demonstrate pioneer and mountain instruments and music on the fiddle, guitar and lap dulcimer. This interactive program will include a sing-a-long and any children present will have the opportunity to join in with instrumental activities.

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*\*Built by the Cooper family circa 1810, the cabin was an original county homestead. It was enlarged after the Civil War and family descendants remained in the cabin until 1963. In 1976, the cabin and grounds were bequeathed to the Butler County Historical Society. Tours of Cooper Cabin are available.*

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## **WHAT'S A GOOD FATHER?**

*by the Rev. William C. Noble*



**A good father flies kites with you  
at the park.  
A good father takes you fishing.  
A good father takes good care  
of you.  
A good father keeps you  
out of trouble.  
A good father loves you...  
(and gives you just a sip of his beer).**

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Bart was 13 years old when he prepared a Father's Day card that included the short list above. He drew a red, yellow, and blue kite on the cover of his homemade card, scratched out his list of the five qualities of good fathering on the other side, and then across the page in big, bold letters (half the size of the page) he scrawled: LOVE, BART.

On another Sunday in June, several years ago, at some time between breakfast and church, Bart crept into the dining room and put the card beside his father's plate for his dad to find just before lunch. The card celebrated more than Father's Day; it celebrated a memory and a hope. It celebrated that special relationship between a child and his dad.

"A good father takes you to the park . . . a good father takes you fishing." A good father knows what his child likes to do and takes the very few minutes required to enjoy the activity with his children. It is commonly known and repeated that it is not so much the *amount* of time that parents spend with their children that is important, but the *quality* of the time that counts. For busy parents, and especially for those who work, this is both good news and a challenge. The activity does not have to take up lots of time - for a busy parent, that's the good news. But the activity must be one that the child loves, and it must be one that the child wants to share - and that's the challenge. A good father knows his child and knows what the child loves and longs to share. A father must know his child.

The relationship between a father and his children is based in great part on shared experiences and shared interests. It is a relationship built on specific moments -- moments that build a memory. Kite-flying and fishing, for instance. If you ask adult men or women to speak about their fathers, they are likely to talk first about experiences they remember rather than feelings, about memories rather than attitudes or accomplishments.

"A good father takes good care of you." The most recent census figures show that single parent families are growing at surprisingly fast rates in the United States. These reports also show that in these single parent homes, the single parent is most often a woman. But we also see that the number of single fathers is also rapidly increasing. "House-husband" is as much a calling as "lawyer" or "doctor," and though the salary is meager the rewards are huge.

On this Father's Day it might be well to remember that in this culture it historically has been the father who has provided the security of place and the security of limits within which the growing child is able to experiment and to expand, to learn and to grow. Who knows what Bart meant when he said, "A good father takes good care of you." Could he have meant a good father provides a sanctuary and shelter, a good father provides a home?

"A good father keeps you out of trouble. A good father loves you (and gives you just a sip of his beer)." The task of fathering is that of guardian and guide. A father's love cannot protect a child from the dangers of what the church traditionally refers to as "the world, the flesh and the devil." From the child's first day in the First Grade, the parent commits the child to a world where the dangers of "the flesh and the devil" are all about. Not only does the father commit the child, but the father must introduce the child to this world as his guardian and as his guide, knowing the day will come when he can no longer be either guardian or guide.

"Was he a good father or was he a bad father?" This is a very difficult question that has been around for a long time. On one occasion when Jesus wanted to describe his understanding of the love of God for us all, he used the love of a father for his son. "Is there a father among you who will offer his son a snake when he asks for fish, or a scorpion when he asks for an egg? If you, then, bad as you are, know how to give your children what is good for them, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:11)

The final test for parenting - the final test for fathering -- whether "good" or "bad"-- does not come with the cherished affirmation of a Father's Day card, but when two adult human beings who were once parent and child -- one young and one now old -- are friends. Good friends for life.

*The Rev. William C. Noble is Deputy to the Assistant to the Presiding Bishop for Program at the Episcopal Church Center in New York.*

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- 63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes  
(Source: U.S. D.H.H.S., Bureau of the Census")
  - 90% of all homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Welfare)
  - 85% of all children who exhibit behavioral disorders come from fatherless homes (Source: Center for Disease Control)
  - 80% of rapists motivated by displaced anger come from fatherless homes (Source: Criminal Justice & Behavior, Vol 14, p. 403-26, 1978.)
  - 71% of all high school dropouts come from fatherless homes  
(Source: National Principals Association Report on the State of High Schools.)
  - 85% of all youths sitting in prisons grew up in a fatherless home  
(Source: Fulton Co. Georgia jail populations, Texas Dept. of Corrections 1992)

**June 17, 2007**

"Be kind to thy father,  
for when thou wert young,  
Who loved thee so fondly as he?  
He caught the first accents  
that fell from thy tongue,  
And joined in thy innocent glee."

-- Margaret Courtney (1822-1862)

"One father is worth more  
than a hundred schoolmasters."

-- English Proverb

"I cannot think of any need in  
childhood as strong as the  
need for a father's protection."

-- Sigmund Freud (1856-1939)

***The Reverend Dr. James E. Swanson, Pastor***

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