

REFORMATION SERVICE

October 27, 2019

Welcome

Organ Prelude Justin Terrell, Organist, Choirmaster

Opening Sentence

Leader: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. (Romans 5:1-2)

(please stand as able) HYMN 110 UMH "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Opening Prayer

Leader: Spirit of promise, Spirit of unity, we thank you that you are also the Spirit of renewal. Renew in the whole Church that passionate desire for the coming of your kingdom which will unite all Christians in one mission to the world. May we all grow up together into him who is our head, the Savior of the world.

All: **Amen.**

The Anthem "By Faith" Chancel Choir

Lesson from Scripture

The Sermon Dr. Sharon Grant, Professor of Church History
Hood Theological Seminary

The Anthem "Sacred Harp Suite" Chancel Choir

Litany for the Church

Leader (L): Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. Therefore let us pray. For the whole church, and bearing many names that it may be no longer torn asunder, divided in itself or weak, but may become the church fulfilling your perfect will.

People (P): **Your will be done in your church, we pray to you, O Lord.**

L: For the churches that are passing through times of suffering and persecution, that their faith and courage may not fail nor their love grow cold.

P: **Save them and us, we pray to you, O Lord.**

L: For the churches that are strong in faith, that they may abound in grace and in your knowledge and love.

P: **Use them and us, we pray to you, O Lord.**

L: For all weak and struggling churches, that they may persevere and be strong, overcoming those forces which hinder their growth or threaten their existence;

P: **Sustain them and us, we pray to you, O Lord.**

L: For the churches throughout the world that they may grow into the full stature of the completeness of Christ, bringing new treasures into the church of the ages;

P: **Direct their steps and ours, we pray to you, O Lord.**

L: May we all hold fast to the truth, be delivered from all error, and walk with one another in the way of unity and love;

P: **Teach us and guide us, we pray to you, O Lord.**

L: Draw all churches nearer to one another, we ask you today, O Lord.

P: **Knit us closely together in a fellowship of understanding and love, we pray to you, O Lord.**

(a period of silence follows)

L: Almighty God, who through the preaching of your servants the blessed reformers, has caused the light of the gospel to shine; grant, we ask you, that knowing its saving power, we may faithfully guard and defend it against all enemies and joyfully proclaim it, to the salvation of souls and to your great glory; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

P: **Amen.**

(please stand as able) HYMN 598 UMH "O Word of God Incarnate"
(alt tune: Ellacombe)

Dismissal with Blessing

L: The spirit that was in Jesus be in us also; in that spirit may we seek the truth and strive to learn the will of God; so may we enter into God's peace.

P: **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

UMH, The United Methodist Hymnal