

# Worship

Worship at Seaside is about building bridges that connect God and each other in a community of praise. Our diverse community creates a situation where we have the opportunity to provide many different opportunities for worship week to week and throughout the year. Our three primary worship services are held at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 am each Sunday. Each service has its own distinctive flavor and character.

## **8:00: Weekly Communion**

Our early service each week is most clearly distinguished by the weekly celebration of Holy Communion. Communion is customarily received by "intinction," which is to say that the worshiper is given a piece of bread which they then dip into the cup and consume. A Gluten free alternative bread is available at all of Seaside's communion services for those who have that need. The early service is a full service that includes a choir and mostly traditional hymns and acts of worship.

## **9:30: Praise**

Our middle service offering is of a decidedly up-beat character. Music is an eclectic blend of praise choruses, contemporary worship music and even some traditional hymns. The singing is led by our in-house Praise Team. Children have a time with the pastor in the sanctuary and then are dismissed to go to Sunday School. The 9:30 service includes monthly communion on the First Sunday of each month.

## **11:00: Traditional**

Our later service is often referred to as the "Traditional Methodist" service, with a variety of old and new hymns,

choirs, ensembles or soloists punctuating the worship service and acts of praise, such as the sharing in the reading of Psalms or creeds. Communion is available at this service on the first Sunday of each month.

## **Occasional Combined Services**

At least once per year, usually on the weekend of our Country Fair in the Fall (September 20, 2015), worshipers from all three services join in a 10:00 am common blended service with holy communion. This joint service is a celebration of our unity and our common mission in the ministry of Jesus Christ and is intended to renew our connection across the congregation.

## **Special and Seasonal Services**

**Throughout the year, special services become a part of our worship life together.**

**Christmas Eve 5:00:** Family friendly Christmas Eve celebration

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion 7:00:** A more traditional candlelight communion service

**Ash Wednesday, 7:00 pm:** We begin the season of Lent with the traditional service of the ashes.

**Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm:** This traditional service commemorates Jesus' last supper with the disciples.

**Good Friday noon:** This is the first of two services on Good Friday and includes acts commemorating Jesus' Crucifixion.

**Good Friday evening, "Tenebrae":** Tenebrae means "Darkness" and this service is characterized by the reading of the story

of Jesus' death in short segments and the extinguishing of candles at each reading. It is a dramatic and moving service reminding us of the desolation of the cross.

**Healing Services** are scheduled on an occasional basis, usually on a Sunday evening.