

WELCOME!



Worship
10:30 am & 12:00 noon

Morning Worship

November 15, 2020

Reflection

Humility is to know how lowly we really are before God.

—H. H. Esser

Approach to God

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship — Psalm 66:5-8 (responsive)

⁵ Come and see what God has done:
he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

⁶ **He turned the sea into dry land;
they passed through the river on foot.**

**There did we rejoice in him,
⁷ who rules by his might forever,
whose eyes keep watch on the nations—**

let not the rebellious exalt themselves.

⁸ Bless our God, O peoples;
let the sound of his praise be heard,

Song of Praise — Come Behold the Wonderous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises, Robed in frail humanity
In our longing, in our darkness, Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ, who condescended, Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous mystery, He the perfect Son of Man
In His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment, of the law; in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners, hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes

Prayer of Invocation

Confession of Sin — Jeremiah 9:23-25

²³ Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, ²⁴ but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.” ²⁵ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will punish all those who are circumcised merely in the flesh—

Silent Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon — Colossians 2:9-14

⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹²having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Response in Song — Our Hope in Life and Death

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone
What is our only confidence? That our souls to Him belong
Who holds our days within His hand?
What comes, apart from His command?
And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand

Chorus:

*O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal, O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess, Christ our hope in life and death*

What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer's blood,
Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us night
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ? (chorus)

Unto the grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He lives!"
And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with Him.
There we will rise to meet the Lord,
Then sin and death will be destroyed,
And we will feast in endless joy, when Christ is ours forevermore.
(chorus)

Congregational Prayer

Offering*

**You can give on-line at the New Hope website: www.newhopeopc.org and click on the green “give” button in the corner.*

Sermon Text — James 1:9-11

⁹Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, ¹⁰and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. ¹¹For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

Sermon — Poverty and Wealth as a Test

~ Dr. John Wise

Closing Hymn — Be Thou My Vision (page 7)

Benediction

Postlude

Poverty & Wealth as a Test

James 1:9-11

1. Lifting Up the Lowly (vs 9)

2. Lowering the Lofty (vs 10-11)

Closing Hymn — Be Thou My Vision

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all
 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er
 3. Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my
 4. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise, thou mine in -
 5. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach

else to me, save that thou art— thou my best thought by
 with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa - ther,
 • dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light, thou my soul's shel - ter,
 her - i - tance, now and al - ways: thou and thou on - ly,
 heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what -

day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 I thy true son; thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
 • thou my high tow'r: raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 first in my heart, High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 ev - er be - fall, still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent.
 Tr. by Mary E. Byrne, 1905
 Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912

Tune arr. © 1927 from the *Revised Church Hymnary* by permission of Oxford University Press.

SLANE 10.10.10.10.
 Traditional Irish melody
 Arr. by David Evans, 1927

COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Our Church Family

- Pray for Haava Beaty as she remains in the hospital after being found unresponsive after a nap. Praise God for recent good reports on her health. Pray for her parents, Jesse & Kendra, as they care for her.
- Pray for Betsy Lalley as she is at home recovering from surgery to remove a cancerous thyroid. Pray for complete healing and strength and give thanks that she is doing well.
- Pray for Ann Burden's parents who are being treated for covid19. Pray for complete healing and recovery and that Ann's father can return home from the hospital soon.
- Give thanks that Dustin Mixon has recovered well from his recent bout of coronavirus. Pray that Jyl & James will remain healthy.
- Pray for the upcoming board of trustees meeting that is happening this week. Pray for unity, clarity, and wisdom as they serve the church.
- Pray for those in Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua (where Emily Howard served) that have been affected by the recent hurricane. As they face devastating damages to their homes and communities, pray these people will put their hope and trust in God through it.
- Pray for wisdom and strength for our session as they carry out the calling that God has given them.
- Continue to pray for those who are struggling: Christopher Burden, the Vidal family, Scott Innes, Kim Hanlin's father, John & Muriel Hadidian's daughter-in-law, Karyn Lynerd's father, the Wright family, Bill Wright, Ron Oakes, Ed Rodatus and those who are grieving from the loss of loved ones. Pray for strength to bear their difficult trials.

Frederick Area

- Pray for the local ministries we support financially — CareNet Pregnancy Center, the Frederick Rescue Mission, and Child Evangelism Fellowship. Pray that the Lord will continue to sustain, provide for, and bless these ministries.

Missionaries & Others

- Pray for our mission of the month, Worldwide Outreach of the OPC that oversees Christian Education, Foreign Missions, and Home Missions within the denomination. Pray particularly for the upcoming Thank Offering and that many would be generous in their giving to it.
- Pray for Claire Hall, who has arrived safely in Scotland will be done with her quarantine this week. Pray for her as she adjusts to her new surroundings and that this time of new beginnings will be one of much joy and trust in Jesus.
- Pray for Kristen in Europe as she ministers there. Give praise with her as she has made it through quarantine in full health. Pray for her and her community as they prepare for another lockdown and for their emotional, physical, and spiritual needs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Night Outdoor Tag Event, November 21st 6:00-9:00pm at the Cruzan Homestead. A bonfire & outdoors games will also be available. Parents are welcome. Ages 11 & up. Pizza, chicken, salad & bottled water provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. See Cathy Cruzan for details & the evite invitation. <http://evite.me/kyDycfPDd4>.

Christmas Trees!, Would you like to have our youth pick out, cut down, and deliver a live Christmas tree to you on Saturday, December 5th??? We are planning a trip to Gaver Farm for the youth on this date. If you would like to have a Christmas tree delivered to you, please e-mail or text or call Farrah Wise at farrah.wise@comcast.net, or 240-286-4408.

Thank offering, the annual denominational Thank Offering is kicking off this week. Please read the information on the back of this bulletin and pray about how you can support this ministry. A collection for the Thank Offering will be taken November 29th. You can give to it via the website...just make sure to put a memo that it is for the Thank Offering.

Help Bless the Vidal Family, The Vidal family has several birthdays plus Christmas coming up in December, and Hannah would welcome support for helping cover the cost of gifts for the kids. She would appreciate gift cards to several places, a list of which can be found at <http://bit.ly/vidalgiftcards>. This link also has additional information about getting the gift cards to her. Contact Elease Layman with questions (elease.layman@gmail.com). Thank you to our church family for your continued support of this sister and her kids!

Annual Report, it's hard to believe it's that time again... time to submit reports for the annual report. If you are a chairperson of any of the main committees, please contact your subcommittee folks for their submissions for the annual report. These reports should include information about what when on in the committee in 2020, what future plans might be, and information that would help give justification for the budget for that committee. These reports will be due Friday, December 4th.

Upcoming Events & Dates to Know:

- Board of Trustee Meeting, Tuesday, Nov., 17, 7:30 pm
- Budget & Finance Committee Meeting, Wednesday, Nov., 18, 8:30 pm
- Youth Outdoor Tag Event, Nov. 21, see announcement above
- Thank Offering Collection, November 29th
- Annual Reports due to the office, December 4th

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Text — James 1:2-3 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

Westminster Confession of Faith V.V. *The most wise, righteous, and gracious God, doth oftentimes leave for a season his own children to manifold temptations, and the corruption of their own hearts, to chastise them for their former sins, or to discover unto them the hidden strength of corruption, and deceitfulness of their hearts, that they may be humbled; and to raise them to a more close and constant dependence for their support upon himself.*

Monday: James 1:9. How does God view the poor, the downcast, the marginalized in this world? How should that inform us of how we should have compassion on the poor, and the outcast of society? Read Luke 1:48-53.

Tuesday: James 1:9. How does this verse point us to Christ? Did Jesus just talk about the poor, or did He live out His teaching? How does this exhortation to the lowly brother read as calling us to be like Christ? Read Phil. 2:5-11.

Wednesday: James 1:9. Read how James is echoing the wisdom and warnings of Jesus in Matt. 19:23-30. What role do you read of the Holy Spirit in this passage? What hope do we have apart from the work of the Spirit in our lives?

Thursday: James 1:10,11. James tells us much about the care of God for the poor, and the way His church should mirror His heart for the poor, the lowly. How does James challenge us in the church today? Read ahead to James 2:1-13.

Friday: James 1:9-11. This is not a question of “which one are you?” James is pointing out a warning to us. James is warning, “Don’t get fooled by the riches of this world, see what happens to the rich man.” Ask God for wisdom in how you handle what He has given to you. Keep asking. We will never arrive at perfection this side of glory.

Saturday: Read James 1:1-15.

Thank Offering 2020

What would you name this year? The year of COVID-19? The year of global shutdown? The year of sports disruptions? There are countless ways to mark this time when a virus has messed up so much of ordinary life.

There is another way to remember 2020—as a year of God’s sustaining grace. This has been a season when the testing of faith has produced steadfastness in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (James 1:3).

This year your giving to Worldwide Outreach has supported twenty-seven mission works, four church-planting interns, and six regional home missionaries. A number of other works have been approved for support and await the arrival of organizing pastors. Additional opportunities are emerging. Please pray for the growing harvest.

At a time when regular modes of ministry have been interrupted, creative approaches—mainly via virtual formats—have been used. God has blessed the efforts.

New and surprising opportunities to serve have come as well. For example, Jay Bennett (Neon, Kentucky) reports that a new addiction



RHM Mark Sumpter



Outside service for The Haven OPC in Suffolk County, Long Island, NY

Home Missions

recovery center began to operate nearby. He writes, “Due to the COVID shutdown, they have been unable to visit churches for worship on Sundays. They’ve been hoping a local minister might offer to come. Turns out I’m that minister!” A weekly Bible study is under way.

Gospel reach has been extended in the neighborhoods of our home missionaries. More people have heard the Word, and new friends are discovering our works and attending worship services. Michael Seufert serves Mission OPC in St. Paul, Minnesota. He writes, “The church has seen a swell of visitors and interest in membership—not just formal membership, but a genuine excitement to join the communion of saints.”

Our newest mission work is Covenant Reformed Church in West Plains, Missouri. Its organizing pastor, Paul Mourreale, writes, “Nearly every week we have had new visitors come to our worship.” Other church planters describe the same thing.

Three mission works have been organized during the pandemic. Providence OPC in Cumming, Georgia, and Firelands Grace OPC in Sandusky, Ohio, are two of them. A third was scheduled to be organized on November 1, and that likely has happened by the time you read this. The Haven OPC in Suffolk County, Long Island, New York, became a particular congregation after less than one year of Committee support.

Scripture cannot be broken (John 10:35). God’s kingdom cannot be shaken (Heb. 12:28). Consequently, the Orthodox Presbyterian Church is resilient—not due to personal strength and resolve, but by the sustaining and empowering grace of Christ. It is grace that brings the full effect of steadfastness (James 1:4), and in this we rejoice.



The organization service for Providence OPC in Cumming, GA