

Worship 10:30 am & 12:00 noon

Morning Worship

November 22, 2020

Reflection

Augustine, great saint of God, had lived with a prostitute before his conversion. After he was wonderfully saved, he was walking down the street and this prostitute saw him. She shouted his name and he kept walking. He saw her, but kept his eyes straightforward and walked. She continued crying after him and ran after him. And finally, she said, Augustine, it is I. To which he replied, I know, but it is no longer I. That's right, [God] begot us again to be a new creation of his own possession. And we have in us that new creation that allows us to overcome evil if we use the means of grace, the weapons of our warfare, which are not fleshly: prayer, the study of the word of God, a disciplined mind. The strength of spiritual accountability to stop sin at the point where it starts.

~John MacArthur

And the victory doesn't end with our conversion. Do you feel yourself drifting or wandering in your walk with God? Do the temptations feel too strong? The good news is that all those whom God has called to himself by grace, he is daily keeping in that same grace until he brings them home. Even when we feel weakest, God is demonstrating his perfect power by causing our faith to persevere until the very end. The inheritance is ours in Christ, waiting secure for us in glory.

~ Marshall Segal

Approach to God

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship — Psalm 18:1-3 (in unison)

I love you, O LORD, my strength.

- ² The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
- ³I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.

Song of Praise — Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Whoever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heaven He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair And tells me of the guilt within Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end of all my sin Because the sinless Savior died My sinful soul is counted free For God the Just is satisfied To look on Him and pardon me To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there the Risen Lamb My perfect spotless righteousness The great unchangeable I Am The King of glory and of grace One with Himself I cannot die My soul is purchased by His blood My life is hid with Christ on high With Christ my Savior and my God With Christ my Savior and my God

Prayer of Adoration

Confession of Sin — James 4:2, 10 Commandments

² You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask.

Exodus 20:1-17

And God spoke all these words, saying, $\,^2$ "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

³ "You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him quiltless who takes his name in vain.

⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹² "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ "You shall not murder. ¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ "You shall not steal. ¹⁶ "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

Mark 12:30-31

³⁰ And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Assurance of Pardon — Romans 4:24-8:1

²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?
²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Response in Song — How Firm a Foundation



- 5. "E'en down to old age all my people shall prove my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love; and when hoary hairs shall their temples adom, like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.
- 6. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

Let Us Love & Sing & Wonder

Let us love and sing and wonder, Let us praise the Savior's name.

He has hushed the law's loud thunder.

He has quenched Mount Sinai's flame:

He has washed us with his blood, He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, Pitied us when enemies, Called us by his grace, and taught us, Gave us ears and gave us eyes: He has washed us with his blood, He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptation threaten hard to bear us down! For the Lord, our strong salvation holds in view the conqu'ror's crown: He who washed us with his blood, Soon will bring us home to God.

Let us wonder, grace and justice, Join and point to mercy's store; When through grace in Christ our trust is, Justice smiles and asks no more: He who washed us with his blood, Has secured our way to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus Of the saints enthroned on high; Here they trusted him before us, Now their praises fill the sky: "You have washed us with your blood; You are worthy, Lamb of God."

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 1:12-15

¹² Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵ Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Sermon — Trying Desires

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

Closing Song — Doxology

Benediction

Trying Desires

James 1:12-15

1. Run for Life (vs 12)

2. Flee from Death (vs 13-15)

COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Our Church Family

- Give thanks that Haava Beaty has been able to go home from the hospital. Continue to pray for a full and speedy recovery.
- Praise God for answered prayer that Ann Burden's father is now home from the hospital. Pray that he and Ann's mom will continue heal and have a full recovery.
- Pray for wisdom and strength for our session as they carry out the calling that God has given them.
- Pray for the Wise family as they prepare to move to Nevada in April.
 Pray for God's provision, for strength to make this difficult move, and for joy in this new stage of their lives.
 Pray for John as he studies for his ordination exams.
- Pray for those who struggle with anxiety and depression that God will meet them in their need, will assure them of His promises through His word, and bring encouragement to them through the love and care of other believers.
- Pray for the health and safety of the elderly in our church body. Pray
 that God would provide for all of their needs including fellowship with
 other believers in this time of distancing from each other.
- 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.
- Pray for the churches here in Frederick as they care for the local community. Pray that they will be committed to teaching the Truth that can only be found through the Word of God.

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 and is done
 with her quarantine. Pray that the Lord would give her insight into her
 new community in Merkinch as she walks the streets as well as provide "divine appointments" with people.
- Pray for Brad & Lucy Myers as they finish up the fall semester at UNC in Wilmington with RUF. Pray for the students that they have been ministering to over the past few months.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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 NEXT WEEK. There will be envelopes available for you to use if you'd like one. 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:

- Thank Offering Collection, November 29th
- Joint Trustee/Session Meeting, December 1st
- Annual Reports due to the office, December 4th

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Text — James $1:12 - ^{12}$ Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

Westminster Confession of Faith 5.4: The almighty power, unsearchable wisdom, and infinite goodness of God so far manifest themselves in His providence, that it extends itself even to the first fall, and all other sins of angels and men; and that not by a bare permission, but such as has joined with it a most wise and powerful bounding, and otherwise ordering, and governing of them, in a manifold dispensation, to His own holy ends; yet so, as the sinfulness thereof proceeds only from the creature, and not from God, who, being most holy and righteous, neither is nor can be the author or approver of sin.

Monday: James 1:12. What do you/others mean when you say "I'm blessed"? What do you think James means? Consider "blessed" in these texts: Rom 4:7f, Ps 40:4, 65:4, 89:15, 94:12, Mt 5:3-11, 16:17. How are trials faith-tests? How can trials cause you to swerve from, doubt, or give up on, such blessedness (God's favor)? Stay strong!

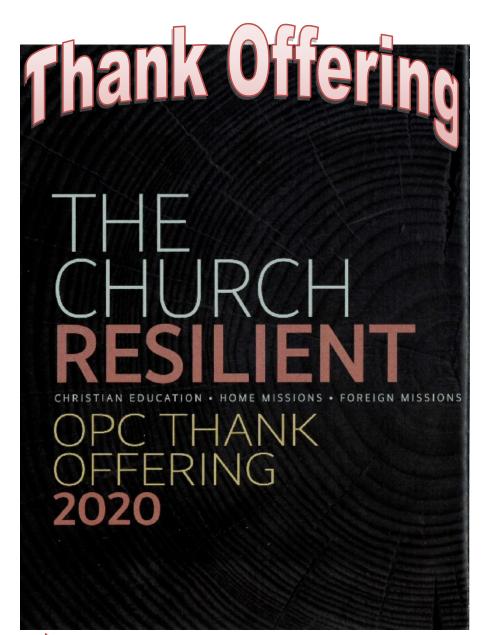
Tuesday: James 1:12. What reason has James 1:2-4 given you to remain steadfast in trial? What reason does v 12 add? How does eternity with God (crown of life) help you stay strong in trials? Ponder the magnitude of God promising *you* eternal life (2 Cor 4:17). How does the phrase "who love him" fit in? Pray that love for God becomes your chief desire more and more, no matter what tests it.

Wednesday: James 1:13. Why might we be tempted to blame God when temptation comes? Are they outside of God's control or purposes? How does James counter this thought? What kind of God would God be if he had any desire for evil, or desired that evil be brought about in man? Consider God's purpose in trial in Deut 8:2-5.

Thursday: James 1:14-15. If temptation to sin doesn't have its source in God, where does James root it (Mt 15:19, Rom 5:12, 16f)? How is temptation tied to our desires? Take a sin you've recently committed, and trace it to the desire underneath it. How did that desire lure and entice you? How does knowing that help you replace that desire, and change how you pray about sin?

Friday: James 1:15. What does James 1:15 say about the inevitability and growth of desire once it is given sway? How does that reality charge you to cut off sinful desires quickly, at their source? Determine to stand against sin, to kill these desires quickly! Flee from that which leads to death, and set yourself toward life! Continue turning to Him in love, and he will bring you home (Jn 10:28).

Saturday: Contrast the birthing of James 1:15 with that in James 1:18. What strength is ours in the latter birth (v 18) that helps us fight the former (v 15)?



November 29th