

WELCOME!



Worship
10:30 am

Morning Worship

December 27, 2020

Reflection

We are God's image bearers listening to and speaking with other image bearers. Do we take that seriously? For those who follow Jesus, we are being transformed and changed to be more like Christ. Are we listening to the hurts, pains, struggles, stories, and opinions of others in a Christ-like way that points them to Jesus? Or are we trying to point others to ourselves and how "correct" our view is?

~ Sarah J. Hauser

You are not just in a holding pattern waiting for eternity. This life has meaning and purpose. There is a Kingdom that you have been called to be part of. It is called the Kingdom of God. And God wants you to invest in His Kingdom; your life doesn't belong to you anymore; you have been purchased by another... You see, what you have been called to is a representative way of living. You don't represent yourself. You represent a King who has placed you where you are. And so everything you do and everything you say should be in some way representing Him, His will, His plan, His message, His purpose, His character, His grace.

~ Paul Tripp

Approach to God

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship — Psalm 24:3-7 (responsive)

³ Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

⁴ **He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.**

⁵ He will receive blessing from the Lord
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

⁶ Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

⁷ **Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.**

Hymn of Praise — Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart

1. Re - joice, ye pure in heart, re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
 2. Bright youth and snow-crowned age, strong men and maid-ens meek,
 3. With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth,
 4. Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go,

your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
 raise high your free, ex - ult - ing song; God's won-drous prais - es speak.
 pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth!
 from youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.

REFRAIN

Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks, and sing.
 Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice,

5. At last the march shall end,
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their Father's house,
 Jerusalem the blest.

6. Then on, ye pure in heart,
 rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
 your glorious banner wave on high,
 the cross of Christ your King.

Prayer of Invocation

Song of Invocation — O Great God

O great God, of highest heav'n,
Occupy my lowly heart.
Own it all and reign supreme,
Conquer every rebel pow'r.
Let no vice or sin remain,
That resists Your holy war,
You have loved and purchased me,
Make me Yours forever more.

I was blinded by my sin,
Had no ears to hear Your voice,
Did not know Your love within,
Had no taste for heaven's joys.
Then Your Spirit gave me life,
Opened up Your Word to me,
Through the gospel of Your Son,
Gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life,
That's dependent on your grace,
Keep my heart and guard my soul
From the evils that I face.
You are worthy to be praised
With my every Thought and deed,
O great God of highest heav'n,
Glorify Your Name through me.
(repeat last 2 lines)

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 1:19-21

¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

Sermon — The Way to Grow in Grace

~ Dr. John Wise

The Way to Grow in Grace

James 1:19-21

1. Believe the Truth (vs. 19,20)

2. Receive the Truth (vs. 21)

Prayer of Confession of Sin

O Most holy, wise and powerful God; We acknowledge and confess to you that we are prone to evil and slow to do good;

We confess that we have been slow to listen and quick to speak. Our thoughts have been more precious to us than the needs and concerns of those you have called us to love. We have been slow to build up and quick to criticize.

We have quickly become angry with those closest to us. We acknowledge not only the expression of anger, but the spring of self-reliance and self-righteousness from which it flows.

We need and desire the cleansing of forgiveness that comes only through Jesus Christ.

Give us grace to live as those crucified and raised with Christ and living in the power of the Spirit,

hungering for you alone,

loving righteousness and peace,

being thankful in all circumstances

bringing healing and life to others with our words and

delighting in you ALL FOR YOUR GLORY! Amen.

Assurance of Pardon — Ephesians 2:4-9

⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Song of Thanksgiving — Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus:
My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love, Amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures (chorus)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, who call'd me here below
Will be forever mine (chorus)

Benediction

Missions Moment — Benny & Liesl Boyed

Postlude

COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Our Church Family

- Give thanks for our pastor and our leadership as they love, care for, and serve the flock. Pray for continued grace and strength to carry out the calling God has given them.
- Praise God that Lisa Rodatus' mom is home and recovering from covid-19. Pray that her recovery will continue to go well and will be complete.
- Give thanks for the Lord's continued provision for us during a difficult and challenging year. Pray for His kindness and grace to continue as we trust in His goodness and mercy.
- Pray that the Lord would raise up men to serve as elder and deacon at New Hope.
- Pray for Hannah Willman and her fiancé, Tyler, who are getting married January 9th. Pray for them as they begin their lives together and pray that the Lord would be at the center of it.
- Pray for those who are lonely or struggle during the holiday season that God would meet them in their need, would bring joy in the midst or sorrow, and would bring comfort through His word and the church.
- 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, 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 missions that we support financially: CareNet Pregnancy Center, Child Evangelism Fellowship, and the Frederick Rescue Mission. Pray that God will continue to provide for all their needs.
- Pray for those who struggle with addictions and particularly with opioids. Pray for God's healing hand to be upon them and that He call them to Himself.

Missionaries & Others

- Pray for our mission of the month, the Frederick Rescue Mission. Pray for this ministry to seek to serve those in the community who are physically and spiritually needy. Pray that the Lord would bless their work and would provide for all of their needs particularly during this difficult time.
- Continue to pray for Claire Hall as she serves the Lord in a scheme in Merkinch, Scotland. Pray for her and her team as the minister to people during the Christmas season. Pray that many will be saved and come to know the saving power of Jesus.
- Pray for Kristen in Europe as she serves and ministers there. Pray particularly for continued good health for her and her team so that they can care for their community well.
- Pray for Benny & Liesl Boyed as they prepare to leave for Nepal in January to work with a missionary there.

COMMUNITY NEWS

2020 Donation Deadline - Please note the following deadlines for donations to New Hope to be counted toward the 2020 tax year:

- **Cash must be received in the offering basket on any Sunday through 12/27/2020 and must be in an envelope with your name and contact information marked in order to be recorded on your donor contribution statement. Mailing cash is not advised.**
- **Checks must be properly dated (no later than 12/31/2020). They can be put in the offering basket on any Sunday through 12/27/2020 or mailed to the church with a postmark of no later than 12/31/2020 and received by 1/7/2021. Mailed checks received after 1/7/2021 will be recorded for tax year 2021, regardless of check date, unless there is a clear postmark of 12/31/2020 or earlier.**
- **PayPal Donations must be processed no later than 11:59pm ET on 12/31/2020.**

Contribution statements for 2020 will be provided no later than 1/31/2021. These statements will be emailed to everyone this year unless requested otherwise. If you have any questions, please contact Elease Layman at treasurer@newhopeopc.org.

Nominations for Elder & Deacon, now is the time to nominate men for elder and deacon. If you know of anyone that you think would be a good elder or deacon, please ask them first if they are willing, fill out the form that was sent via email, and then give it to Pastor Francis or one of the elders.

Pastor Francis away on vacation, Pastor Francis will be on vacation from December 25th-January 1st. If you have a shepherding need, please contact either your shepherding elder or John Wise.

Office hours next week, the office will have limited hours from December 25th-January 1st but email will be checked and responded to.

Help Needed!, if you attend either the outdoor or indoor worship services, we could use some help! Please see the needs below and contact the appropriate person if you are able to serve:

- Musicians — Ron Socash, ronsocash66@gmail.com
- Ushers — Brian Burden, bricumbur@gmail.com
- Sound technicians — Dan Poppert dan.poppert@gmail.com, Ed Wright wright.ed@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sign Language Class Offering Thursdays 2:00-3:00 1/14-2/25 at the Cruzan Homestead. In this 7 week class, we'll introduce basic vocabulary, conversational signs, fingerspelling & some history of Deaf culture. All ages welcome. *Taught by myself (ASL Interpreter/CODA) & Joseph (Deaf) we'll immerse you in this rich language & have fun in the process.* Suggested donation is \$35/person or \$50/family. 50% of profits go to the Rinehart adoption fund. A PE class immediately follows the ASL class Contact Cathy Cruzan for additional information. dncruzan@gmail.com.

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Text James 1:21 “Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.”

Westminster Confession of Faith VI.4 “From this original corruption, whereby we are utterly indisposed, disabled, and made opposite to all good, and wholly inclined to all evil, do proceed all actual transgressions.”

Monday: James 1:19,20. How does the exhortation “be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger” reflect the character of God (cf. 2 Peter 3:2–9)? How can we develop that godly character in our lives? (see James 1:21).

Tuesday: James 1:19–21. How did Christ in His earthly ministry exemplify the fulfillment of these exhortations (cf. Phil. 2:3–11) How did He display the perfect balance of anger in His righteous dealings with some (John 2:14–17; Hebrews 5:7,8)? How can a theology of imitation inform us as we work out our sanctification (Phil. 2:12,13)?

Wednesday: James 1:21. What is going on “behind the scenes” that James is referring to here? Is he advocating a “just do it” mentality? Is James telling us to clean yourself up so that you can be saved? Read 1 Cor. 15:2; Eph. 1:13 for the theology behind what James is teaching.

Thursday: James 1:19, 20. Why is James so concerned about these three exhortations, “quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger”? How damaging is the ignoring of these commands to the life of the church?

Friday: James 1:21. What is the answer that James gives to each member of the church for your innate tendencies to be slow to hear, quick to speak and quick to anger? How does immersing yourself in the gospel apply to your life? How does what you read in the Scriptures and hear preached from the pulpit affect your speech? Your reactions to others?

Saturday: Read James 1:22–27 and ponder how this is the outworking of “the implanted word” discussed in this past week’s passage.