

WELCOME!



Worship  
10:30 am

# Morning Worship

February 14, 2021

## Reflections

### ***Fruit of Spirit and their Counterfeits:***

Love: *It is sacrificing your interests for the good of another. Its opposite is fear and self-protection. Its counterfeit is selfish ambition (I'll give as long as you give to me).*

Joy: *It is enjoying the unchanging privileges you have in God. Its opposite is hopelessness. Its counterfeit is a good feeling based on present blessings, not the Blessor.*

Peace: *It is confidence and trust in God's wise and good control of your life. Its opposite is worry. Its counterfeit is self-confidence in your ability to control your own life.*

*For the Christian, Job #1 is to be happy in Jesus.  
~Al Tricarico*

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## Approach to God

### Prelude

### Welcome

### Call to Worship — Psalm 111:1-4, 10 (responsive in bold)

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!

**I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

<sup>2</sup>Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.

<sup>3</sup>**Full of splendor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.**

<sup>4</sup>He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;  
**the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

<sup>10</sup>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
**His praise endures forever!**

## **Song of Praise — All Glory be Forever**

We had turned from God to sin's disgrace  
We chose the path to hell  
Perfect law of God condemned our race  
For all in Adam fell  
But the righteousness of God appeared  
And the world found hope again  
For the Righteous One has come down to bear  
All the curse of sin and death

*Now to Him Who's seated on the throne  
All glory be forever  
Oh, the depths of wisdom, grace, and power  
All glory be forever, All glory be forever*

Every bond of sin that held us fast  
Is left in Jesus' grave  
We've been freed from all that gripped our past  
From Satan's rule and reign  
We've been raised to life to breathe His grace  
As captives now reclaimed  
All our guilt is gone, all our strivings ceased  
We're alive to seek His fame (chorus)

Now our future's fixed, our journey clear  
God will not let us go  
Every trial that tempts our hearts to fear  
He'll use to give us hope  
All creation groans as we await  
What our eyes have longed to see  
Every pain and evil we've long endured  
Will be crushed by Christ our King (chorus)

## **Prayer of Adoration**

## **Confession of Sin — Isaiah 47:10**

<sup>10</sup>You felt secure in your wickedness;  
you said, “No one sees me”;  
your wisdom and your knowledge led you astray,  
and you said in your heart,  
“I am, and there is no one besides me.”

## **Assurance of Pardon — Ephesians 1:3, 4, 7-9**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him... <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup>which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ

## **Response in Song — I Will Boast in the Cross**

God did not call us because we were wise,  
Or gifted with riches and might.  
His chosen ones are the weak in this world,  
Who hope in his all saving name,  
That he might receive all the praise.

*So I will boast in the cross of Christ  
And I will glory in Jesus and his sacrifice.  
I will boast in the cross of Christ.  
It is the power, it is the wisdom of God  
And my great ransom, the cross of Christ.*

Great is the myst'ry of God's sovereign ways  
That flow from the depths of his grace.  
That he would give up his one precious Son  
To bear all the cost of my sin,  
Is a wonder I can't comprehend.

## **Congregational Prayer**

### **Offering\***

*\*You can give on-line at the New Hope website: [www.newhopeopc.org](http://www.newhopeopc.org)  
and click on the green "give" button in the corner.*

## **Sermon Text — James 3:13-18**

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup>For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

## **Sermon — Wisdom is Vindicated by Her Deeds**

~ Dr. John Wise

## **Closing Hymn — Be Thou My Vision (pg. 8)**

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

# — **Wisdom is Vindicated by Her Deeds** —

James 3:13-18

1. The Wisdom of Man (v.13–16)

2. The Wisdom of God (v. 17,18)

# 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.



# COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

## **Our Church Family**

- Pray for Tim & Julie Wesolek's daughter, Ann, who is currently in the hospital with preeclampsia. Pray that they will be able to control her high blood pressure and keep the baby in utero until at least April 1st.
- Pray for the session as they lead the congregation. Pray that the Lord will continue to give them strength to carry out their calling, to have the ability to love, care for, and protect the flock, and be diligent in prayer and study of the scripture.
- Pray for wisdom from above: wisdom that is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.
- Pray for peace in our church, in our homes, and in our nation.
- Give thanks for the marriage of John and Dana Bishoff on Saturday. Pray that the Lord will bless them and their lives together as they serve and honor Him.
- Pray for the other couples from New Hope who are preparing to marry: Joe Howard/Katie Kehr, Emily Howard and Leo Zavala, and Caleb Mason/Joanna Wichern.
- Continue to pray for those who are struggling: Jen William's brother, Mike, 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 the Frederick Rescue Mission as it seeks to provide food and physical needs for those who are in need particularly during these cold winter months.

## **Missionaries & Others**

- Pray for our missionary of the month — Kristen who serves the Lord in Europe. Pray particularly that, as she ministers to the community she lives in, that she will be able to share the gospel well as well as help to meet their physical needs. Pray that they will be able to help this economically hard hit community with food and supplies.
- Pray for Benny and Liesl Boyed in the following ways: pray for their faith and growth, for their marriage, for their health, and for grace to deal with the practical hardships of life in Martadi, Nepal. Evangelism is illegal, so please pray for wisdom in choosing how and when to share their faith. Those who convert to Christianity often face rejection or even violence from their families. Please pray for growth and faithfulness in these new believers, and that God would raise up leaders among them.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Upcoming Dates/Events to Know:**

- Feb. 16, 7:30 pm, Board of Trustees Meeting, via zoom
- March 12-13, New Members Class, times and venue to be decided

**New Hope Family updates**, please be praying for these families as they go through the process of moving and for the all the change that comes with it.

- The Melhorn family is moving to Florida at the end of February
- The Mason family will be moving to New York in stages: Alex in March and the rest of the family in the summer

**Housing Needed**, there is a young woman, Brittany, who stayed with Ron & Valory Snyder is returning to Frederick in May and is looking for a place to live. If you know of anything, please let Ron or Valory know!

# DAILY DEVOTION

**Memory Text:** James 3:18 *A harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.*

**Westminster Confession of Faith XVI.3** Their ability to do good works is not at all of themselves, but wholly from the Spirit of Christ... there is required an actual influence of the same Holy Spirit to work in them to will and to do of his good pleasure: yet are they not hereupon to grow negligent, as if they were not bound to perform any duty, unless upon a special motion of the Spirit; but they ought to be diligent in stirring up the grace of God that is in them.

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**Monday:** James 3:13 James is challenging us with a question. *Who is wise and understanding among you?* Who is this question directed to? Is James just challenging the teacher in the church (Deut. 1:13,15)? Or is James concerned with the whole church (Deut. 4:6)? James has already told us that if any of you lacks wisdom...God will give it to him (1:5). Our Father wants all of His people to reflect His character. Pray for the wisdom from above this day, and every day.

**Tuesday:** James 3:13 James goes from the question and gives us the answer: The wise are evident by their lives, *in the meekness of wisdom*. How do I obtain this meekness of wisdom? This points us back to James 1:21. The implanted word. Christ *is* the wisdom of God (see 1 Cor. 1:20–24). Look to Christ, the perfect One who walked in the wisdom from above (1 Peter 2:21–24). How did Christ demonstrate His wisdom? What fruit has He reaped? *In humility receive the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.*

**Wednesday:** James 3:14–16. James is again challenging us- this time with a picture of what earthly, unspiritual wisdom looks like in action. This exhortation serves to expose what we hide deep in our hearts- jealousy and selfish ambition. It is expressed in our actions that cause disorder, chaos, lack of peace between each other. But the Spirit produces in us the fruit of love, joy, peace... (Gal. 5:22). Ask the Spirit to search you and know you...to reveal to you any hurtful way in you, any way that you have contributed to a lack of peace and disorder. *And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body* (Col. 3:15).

**Thursday:** James 3:17,18. James describes what wisdom from above looks like. *This is a hard saying, who can listen to it* (John 6:60)? Yet Jesus, who perfectly lived this display of wisdom James paints for us, also promises to give His wisdom to us, *it is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all* (John 6:63).

**Friday:** James 3:18. This is a promise of God's Word to His people. If, by the work of the Spirit (1:21) you actively make peace, you will be sowing peace and the Lord will produce a harvest of righteousness. Work hard, work humbly, and boast only in Christ (1 Cor. 1:31).

**Saturday:** read James 4:1–10. In Christ, the Father grants forgiveness and restoration when we humble ourselves before Him.

