

WELCOME!



Worship
10:30 am

Morning Worship

February 21, 2021

Reflections

"The healthy Christian is not necessarily the extrovert, ebullient Christian, but the Christian who has a sense of God's presence stamped deep on his soul, who trembles at God's word, who lets it dwell in him richly by constant meditation upon it, and who tests and reforms his life daily in response to it."

~ J.I. Packer

"Life is about who God is, not what we own. His presence is always the answer to every need, every fear, every suffering."

~ Julie Lowe

"The end of God's appointing this day [Judgment Day] is for the manifestation of the glory of his mercy in the eternal salvation of the elect, and of his justice in the damnation of the reprobate, who are wicked and disobedient. For then shall the righteous go into everlasting life, and receive that fulness of joy and refreshing which shall come from the presence of the Lord...."

~ Westminster Confession of Faith, XXXIII

Approach to God

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship — Psalm 95:1-6 (responsive in bold)

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

³ For the LORD is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are his also.

⁵ The sea is his, for he made it,

and his hands formed the dry land.

⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

Prayer of Invocation

Songs of Praise

Christ Our Hope in Life & 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

*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 nigh
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ
(chorus)

Unto the grave,
what will 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)

His Mercy is More

What love could remember no
wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all knowing,
He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea
without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more

CHORUS:
*Praise the Lord,
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness,
new every morn
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more*

What patience would wait
as we constantly roam
What Father, so tender,
is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest,
the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more (chorus)

What riches of kindness
he lavished on us
His blood was the payment,
His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt
we could never afford
Our sins they are many,
His mercy is more (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 4:1-4

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ²You 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. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? ⁶But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Sermon — The War Within

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

Silent Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon — 1 Corinthians 6:11

¹¹And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

The War Within

James 4:1-10

1. The War Within (vs 1-3)
2. Friendship with the World (vs 4-6)
3. Fellowship with God (vs 7-10)

Closing Hymn — Nearer, Still Nearer

1. Near - er, still near - er, close to thy heart, draw me, my
 2. Near - er, still near - er, noth - ing I bring, naught as an
 3. Near - er, still near - er, Lord, to be thine, sin with its
 4. Near - er, still near - er, while life shall last, till safe in

Sav - ior, so pre - cious thou art. Fold me, O fold me
 of - f'ring to Je - sus my King— on - ly my sin - ful,
 fol - lies I glad - ly re - sign, all of its plea - sures,
 glo - ry my an - chor is cast; through end - less a - ges,

close to thy breast; shel - ter me safe in that ha - ven of
 now con - trite heart; grant me the cleans - ing thy blood doth im -
 pomp, and its pride; give me but Je - sus, my Lord cru - ci -
 ev - er to be near - er, my Sav - ior, still near - er to

rest, shel - ter me safe in that ha - ven of rest.
 part, grant me the cleans - ing thy blood doth im - part.
 fied, give me but Je - sus, my Lord cru - ci - fied.
 thee, near - er, my Sav - ior, still near - er to thee.

Benediction

Postlude

COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Our Church Family

- Pray for Tim & Julie Wesolek's granddaughter, Eleanor, who is in the NICU at Frederick Memorial Hospital. Pray that she will continue to strengthen and grow and that Ann, Tim & Julie's daughter, will recover well from the birth.
- 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.
- 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 Joe Howard & Katie Kehr who are getting married this coming Saturday. Pray for the other couples from New Hope who are preparing to marry: Emily Howard/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.
- Pray for Ben Westerveld who serves in Quebec at St. Marc's Reformed church and also teaches at the reformed seminary. Pray that his love and care for those he comes in contact with will bring about great fruit in their lives. Pray particularly for the non-Christians he has developed relationship with.

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Text: James 3:13 ¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

Westminster Shorter Catechism 98: What is Prayer? Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgement of his mercies.

Monday: How does James 4:1-2 tie in to 3:18? How do we typically respond when asked why we are fighting/quarreling (Gen 3:12-13)? Where does James want us to look first? What passions (pleasures) battle in you? What desires drive you? What is it you want? Spend time tracing specific desires/wants that you hold tightly. How do those desires shape how you interact with others?

Tuesday: What does James 4:2-3 say can hinder our prayers? Why would God not answer such a prayer? How do such requests view/treat our generous, gracious God? Can you think of examples of this from your own life? What *are* we to ask for (e.g. 1:5, 3:17-18)? How is your prayer life? Are you asking God for needs, for kingdom purposes, God's glory? Ask God to help reset or deepen your prayer life.

Wednesday: Read James 4:4-5 in view of Christ as the church's bridegroom (see Hosea 2:14-16, 9:1, Eph 5:25ff). God has brought us into joyous, intimate union with himself. No wonder he is jealous for our unswerving devotion! You cannot love the things of the world, and God. Aren't these verses a strong call to repent? What needs to change? Do it!

Thursday: After a shaking conviction, what does James remind us of in James 4:6? Apply this truth-promise to yourself (Rom 5:1-2)! But James does not let us rest idly or presumptively in grace -what response does he require in v 6 (Mt 5:3, 4, 5)? How do the next verses describe what humility looks like?

Friday: James 4:7-8. Drawing from vv 1-10, and 3:15 (and Mt 4:7), what does it look like to resist the devil? According to vv 1-10, how are we to draw near to God? What other normal ways are we to draw near to God? What does he promise will result from this hard work (v 8b)? Think about that promise -this is true pleasure! Obedience is not our ultimate goal, fellowship with God is.

Saturday: James 4:11-12. What's wrong with judging your brother or sister?