

WELCOME!



Worship  
10:30 am  
12:00 noon



# Morning Worship

March 14, 2021

## Reflections

*“Nearly all the wisdom we possess, that is to say true and sound wisdom, consists of two parts: the knowledge of God and of ourselves. But, while joined by many bonds, which one precedes and brings forth the other is not easy to discern.”*

~John Calvin

*“Draw near to God and he will draw near to you.”*

~ James 4:8a

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## Approach to God

### Prelude

### Welcome

**Call to Worship** — Isaiah 2:3 (in unison)

**<sup>3</sup>Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob,**

**that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.”**

**For out of Zion shall go forth the law,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.**

# Hymn of Praise — Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1. Come, thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;  
3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God:  
Prone to wan - der—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

## Prayer of Adoration

## **Song of Praise — May the Peoples Praise You**

You have called us out of darkest night  
Into Your glorious light  
That we may sing the wonders of  
The risen Christ  
May our every breath retell the grace  
That broke into our strife  
With boundless love and deepest joy  
With endless life

Chorus:

*May the peoples praise You  
Let the nations be glad All Your blessing comes  
That we may praise  
May praise the Name of Jesus*

All the earth is Yours and all within  
Each harvest is Your own  
And from Your hand we give to You  
To make Christ known  
May the seeds of mercy grow in us  
For those who have not heard  
May songs of praise build lives of grace  
To spread Your Word (CHORUS)

This our holy privilege to declare  
Your praises and Your name  
To every nation, tribe and tongue,  
Your church proclaims

CHORUS

Holy, holy is the Lord Almighty  
Worthy, worthy  
is the Lamb Who was slain  
Holy, holy is the Lord Almighty  
All creation praise  
Your glorious Name (CHORUS)

## **Confession of Sin — Ephesians 5:15-17 & the 10 Commandments**

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

### **The Ten Commandments**

And God spoke all these words, saying,

“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

“You shall have no other gods before me.

“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. 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, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

“You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, 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. 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.

“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

“You shall not murder.

“You shall not commit adultery.

“You shall not steal.

“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; 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.”

## **Silent Confession of Sin**

## **Assurance of Pardon — Isaiah 42:6-7**

<sup>6</sup> I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness;  
I will take you by the hand and keep you;  
I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations.  
<sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

## **Response in Song — We Will Feast in the House of Zion**

*Chorus: We will feast in the house of Zion  
We will sing with our hearts restored  
He has done great things, we will say together  
We will feast and weep no more*

We will not be burned by the fire  
He is the LORD our God  
We are not consumed, by the flood  
Upheld, protected, gathered up

In the dark of night, before the dawn  
My soul, be not afraid  
For the promised morning, oh how long?  
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

Every vow we've broken and betrayed  
You are the Faithful one  
And from the garden to the grave  
Bind us together, bring shalom.

## **Congregational Prayer**

### **Offering\***

Matthew 6:19-21 — <sup>19</sup> “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

*\*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 5:1-12**

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. <sup>2</sup>Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. <sup>3</sup>Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. <sup>4</sup>Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. <sup>5</sup>You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup>You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you. <sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. <sup>12</sup>But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

## **Sermon — Wisdom While We’re Waiting**

~ Dr. John Wise

## **Prayer of Application**

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**





# COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

## **Our Church Family**

- Pray for Pastor Chip Hammond (OPC in Leesburg), Donna, and their family as they grieve the loss of their daughter, Becca, this past week. Although they have hope in Christ's resurrection, Becca's passing was unexpected and the pain significant. Pray for God's comfort in this overwhelming, grief-filled time.
- Pray for Dana Bishoff who is having some cardiac issues and is under a doctor's care. Pray that they will be able to figure out the issue quickly and treat her.
- Pray for the Mason family as they begin the moving process and Alex moves to New York to start a new job without his family.
- Pray for John Wise and his family as he prepares to stand on the floor of presbytery next Saturday and be examined in theology.
- Give thanks for those who so graciously serve each Sunday so that we can worship. Pray that the Lord will give them joy in their service and bless them for their work.
- Pray that we will be a people who will patiently wait on the Lord, loving one another, and not grumbling against one another.
- 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 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 particularly for Child Evangelism Fellowship as they look for ways to minister in the school systems as the children begin to return to school.

## **Missionaries & Others**

- Pray for our missions of the month — OPC Home Missions and church planting. Pray particularly John Shaw, general secretary of home missions, and Al Tricarico, associate general secretary, who oversee and encourage those who are planting churches and the regional home missionaries.
- Pray for Brad & Lucy Myers as they complete their final semester with Reformed University Fellowship. Pray that they will end their ministry well and that the Lord will provide direction for their future.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Important Dates to Know:

- March 16, Trustee Meeting, 7:00 pm
- March 23, Session Meeting, 7:00 pm
- April 4, last Sunday the Wise family will be at New Hope and a “good-bye” celebration
- April 10, Wise family departs for Nevada

**Joining the Church**, on Sunday, March 21st, John & Shannan Thorhauer will be taking their membership vows.

## **Treasurer's Report**, by *Elease Layman*

I write this as my kids frolic in the glorious sunshine and warmth we had this week. They both put on shorts for the first time since September, reminding me that we need to buy new clothes for the spring. Those kids sure know how to grow! Refreshing our family wardrobe would be a great way to spend some of that stimulus money that I hear we'll be getting in our bank account any day now...

...Or, perhaps there's a better use for this third unearned government bounty? Something that might last a little longer than a pair of shorts I buy for my 8-year-old son?

You'll be hearing more from our Capital Stewardship Committee in the coming year, but I wanted to take this chance to remind you that New Hope is storing up funds for the future construction of a new church building. The growth of the local church at New Hope will foster the spread of the gospel and encourage the maturity of believers. ...Sounds like something that is a bit more eternal than anything I can get at Kohl's.

Instead of investing this third stimulus check solely in treasures that moth and rust destroy (or, in this case, my kids outgrow), the Laymans will be investing some of that gravy money in God's kingdom through the Facility Fund at New Hope. Will you join us?

## **Giving Update - Jan. 1 - Feb. 28, 2021**

- General Fund giving: \$83,605.80
- General Fund budget: \$81,254.18
- Variance: \$2,351.62 (surplus)
- Facility Fund giving: \$3,138.96

# DAILY DEVOTION

**Memory Text:** James 5:8 —You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

**Westminster Larger Catechism (WLC 43):** *How does Christ execute the office of a prophet?* Christ executes the office of a prophet, in his revealing to the church, in all ages, by his Spirit and word, in diverse ways of administration, the whole will of God, in all things concerning their edification and salvation.

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**Monday:** James 5:1–4. James is not pulling any punches here. Why do you think he is using such strong prophetic imagery to denounce the rich? To what event is he pointing the rich? Where is the hope in this passage? What does verse 4 say about the character of God? What does it say about the care for His people? [e.g. Prov. 11:28; Amos 6:1].

**Tuesday:** James 5:5. How did Jesus view the rich to whom James is speaking? [e.g. Luke 6:19,20,24; Luke 12:21]. Does Jesus condemn *all* who are rich? [e.g. Genesis 13:12; Job 42:10; Luke 19:1–10] Then to what problem is James pointing out in the rich? How should we who are already in Christ hear these warnings? [e.g. 1 Tim. 6:9; 1 Tim. 5:6].

**Wednesday:** James 5:6. There has been much debate among scholars whether James is referring to the innocent pilgrims or to the truly Innocent One, Jesus. How does the work of the Spirit in our lives the implications of both thoughts? [i.e. James 4:2; Acts 3:18,19].

**Thursday:** James 5:7–11. What is the fruit of the Holy Spirit that James is exhorting us to bring forth in these times in which we live? Another word for "establish" in verse 8 is "strengthen." How can we strengthen our hearts? [e.g. 1 Cor. 1:8; 1 Thess. 3:12,13]. To what is the Spirit here pointing our attention in order to keep us focused on Christ? How does this differ for the pilgrim as compared to the rich James has already addressed? To whom is James presenting as examples for us?

**Friday:** James 5:12. Why is James exhorting us to not swear an oath here? What is his point underneath this warning? Remember that James is wisdom literature (e.g. Proverbs, Ecclesiastes). How does that affect our interpretation of this passage? How should this inform the way we speak to one another? [e.g. Eph. 4:25] How is what James saying like the example we find in Mark 14:66–72? How is it different to Paul's statement in 1 Thess. 5:27? Compare this to Hebrews 6:13–18.

**Saturday:** Read James 5:13-18. How should this passage encourage us to pray?