WELCOMEI



Worship 10:30 am 12:00 noon

Morning Worship

March 28, 2021

Reflections

Repentance is just humility, and humility stands in a low place, not on the mountains of pride. Therefore, humility gets much grace because grace runs downhill.

~ Jack Miller

Our love, demonstrated by our willingness to restore an erring brother or sister, serves not only to prevent judgment from coming their way, but also helps to cover the sin into which they fell. while it is true that there is nothing we can do as sinful humans to actually save a person, we must continually point them to the One who truly can and does save, who finished His redemptive work and who joys in saving sinners. And that's why we preach the gospel of grace.

~ Jim McClarty

Approach to God

Prelude

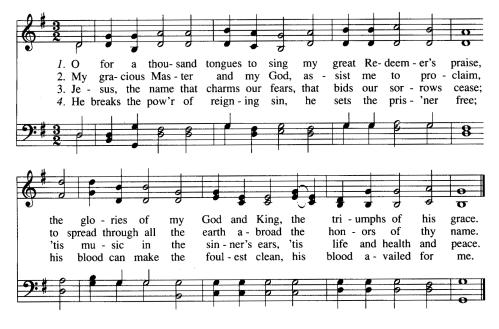
Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

Call to Worship — Psalm 32:11

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous ones; And shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart.

Hymn of Praise — Oh For a Thousand Tongues to Sing



- He speaks and, list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive; the mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.
- Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosen'd tongues employ; ye blind, behold your Savior come; and leap, ye lame, for joy.

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt. Alt. 1961 AZMON C.M. Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829 Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1839

Song of Praise — Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer There is no more for heaven now to give He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus For my life is wholly bound to His Oh how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken For by my side, the Savior He will stay I labor on in weakness and rejoicing For in my need, His power is displayed To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me Through the deepest valley He will lead Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome! Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven The future sure, the price it has been paid For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon And He was raised to overthrow the grave To this I hold, my sin has been defeated Jesus now and ever is my plea Oh the chains are released, I can sing: I am free! Yet not I, but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus For He has said that He will bring me home And day by day I know He will renew me Until I stand with joy before the throne To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus All the glory evermore to Him When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat Yet not I, but through Christ in me!

Confession of Sin — Matthew 18:10-14

¹⁰ "See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹² What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³ And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴ So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon — Psalm 89:30-37

³⁰ If his children forsake my law

- and do not walk according to my rules,
- ³¹ if they violate my statutes
- and do not keep my commandments,
- ³² then I will punish their transgression with the rod and their iniquity with stripes,
- ³³ but I will not remove from him my steadfast love or be false to my faithfulness.
- ³⁴ I will not violate my covenant or alter the word that went forth from my lips.
- ³⁵ Once for all I have sworn by my holiness; I will not lie to David.
- ³⁶ His offspring shall endure forever,
- his throne as long as the sun before me.
- ³⁷ Like the moon it shall be established forever, a faithful witness in the skies."

Response in Song — Jesus Thank You

The mystr'y of the cross I cannot comprehend The agonies of Calvary You the perfect holy One crushed Your Son Drank the bitter cup reserved for me

Your blood has washed away my sin Jesus thank You The Father's wrath completely satisfied Jesus thank You Once Your enemy now seated at Your table Jesus thank You

By Your perfect sacrifice I've been brought near Your enemy You've made Your friend Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace Your mercy and kindness know no end.

Lover of my soul I want to live for you. (3X)

Congregational Prayer

Offering*

Psalm 116:12 ¹²What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me?

*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 5:19-20

¹⁹ My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰ let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Sermon — Love Covers a Multitude of Sins

~ Dr. John Wise, elder & intern

Closing Prayer

Our Father and God, we thank you for calling us your children, for welcoming us to cry out, Abba, Father. Enable us to proclaim your truth in holy boldness - yet with humility - to those around us. Without love, our voices are just irritating noise, so we ask for hearts of love which will be the spring from which our words and service overflow. Touch and heal hurting and dying people across the street and around the world as we share the message of life in Jesus. Let us live and tell the truth and mercy of Jesus.

We thank you for your promise to work deeply in us by your powerful Spirit, to continue and deepen the work of renovation in our hearts so that Christ dwells in us by faith. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Benediction

Postlude

— Love Covers a Multitude of Sins –

James 5:19-20

1. Love that Motivates

2. Love that Restores

Our Church Family

- Pray for Dennis and Laura Caruso as they mourn the death of Dennis' mom, Julia. Pray for comfort in the midst of sorrow that can only come from Christ.
- Pray for Dana Bishoff who is struggling with some unresolved health issues. Please pray that the doctors will be able to figure out what is wrong and how best to help her.
- Pray that we will be a congregation that loves the Lord and each other well, building one another up and sharing one another's burdens.
- Pray for John Wise and his family as they wind down ministry here and look ahead to ministry in Nevada. Pray for the church in Battle Mountain that they will be blessed by John's care for them.
- 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 for those who are struggling with anxiety and/or depression. Pray that the Lord will minister to them through His word and His people to bring comfort and help.
- 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 opportunities to share the gospel in the community, with our neighbors, and those we work with. Pray that hearts and minds will be turned toward Christ.

Missionaries & Others

- Pray for our missions of the month OPC Home Missions and church planting. Pray particularly for the regional home missionaries that serve within the OPC and who give care, support, and guidance to the church planters within their scope.
- Pray for Benny & Liesl Boyed as they serve with Pastor Pramod and his wife Rama in Nepal. Pray for open doors and open heart for the gospel in Martadi and in the surrounding villages. Pray that they will be wise to know God's will and strong to do it, moment by moment.
- Pray for Kristen in Europe as she ministers to the community she lives in. Pray for opportunity to share the gospel with those she comes into contact with.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important Dates to Know:

- March 30, Property Development Committee meeting, 7:00 pm
- April 4, last Sunday the Wise family will be at New Hope and a "good-bye" celebration
- April 6, Session Meeting, 7:30 pm
- April 10, Wise family departs for Nevada
- April 20, Trustee Meeting, 7:30 pm
- Research Team for Long-Term Maintenance Fund With the creation of the new long-term maintenance fund, New Hope took a step in the right direction to prepare for big maintenance expenses. Now, the Board of Trustees is seeking help to set guidelines for this fund's use and growth. To do that, we need lots of research done on specific maintenance projects and costs, equipment and facility lifespans, and so forth. Best-fit helpers might have knowledge of maintenance, skills with data/ spreadsheets, and/or just a general willingness to call various vendors to get quotes. Do you have one of these skills and time to serve New Hope in this way? Please contact Elease Layman (elease.layman@gmail.com) for more information.
- **New Members,** Bruce & Susan Johnson were interviewed for membership by the session and will be officially joining New Hope on April 18th!
- Ladies' Bible Study, The Ladies Wednesday morning Bible Study is coming back in early April! Please join us for our first meeting on April 7 at 10:00 a.m. in Sunday School room # 3, lower church building. We'll start where we left off a year ago: Chapter 7 of *Extravagant Grace, God's Glory Displayed in our Weakness* by Barbara R. Duguid. We expect to observe facemasking and social distancing, although this will depend on the status of coronavirus infections/vaccinations at the time. All ladies are welcome. Please call or email Jackie Plowman if you have any questions.
- **Stay Tuned!**, as things continue to open up and more are coming to church activities, we have many areas of ministry opportunity for the people of New Hope. Stay tuned for details that are coming soon!

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Text: James 5:20 let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Westminster Confession Chapter XXX.3 III. Church censures are necessary for the reclaiming and gaining of offending brethren; for deterring of others from the like offences; for purging out of that leaven which might infect the whole lump; for vindicating the honor of Christ, and the holy profession of the gospel; and for preventing the wrath of God, which might justly fall upon the church, if they should suffer his covenant, and the seals thereof, to be profaned by notorious and obstinate offenders.

Monday: James 5:19,20. What seems to be missing from this inspired exhortation of James? How does this emphasis upon the covering of sins (forgiveness) and the reclaiming of one who has wandered from the truth reveal to us the heart of God, the Father, for His children?

Tuesday: James 5:19,20. How is this passage reflective of the emphasis of the teaching of our Savior regarding reclaiming the wanderer? Read Matt. 18:10–14. How does this parable inform our understanding of the work of Christ for His people? Does He just make salvation and forgiveness possible? Or does He go after His own and make them secure in His care?

Wednesday: James 5:19,20. One may wonder, "Where is the Holy Spirit active in this scenario?" Doesn't He work to bring to conviction the wanderer? Why does this passage seem to emphasize the role of fellow brothers and sisters in Christ to effect the reclamation and reconciliation found in Christ?

Thursday: James 5:19,20. What about the details? How are we to know how to go about this turning a wanderer back from his sin? As King and Head of His Church, Christ gave us instructions to make clear both how private sins (Matt. 18:15–20) and public sins (Gal. 2:11–14; 1 Tim. 5:19–21) are to be handled in the Church.

Friday: James 5:19,20. This exhortation is to be understood in light of all Scripture, and especially the topics of the book of James itself. re-read James 4:5–10 to grasp the attitude we are called to have with one another as we live in the presence of our great God and Savior.

Saturday: Take time today to read through the passion/ crucifixion/ resurrection narratives in preparation to worship our Redeemer and Lord (Matt. 26:17–28:20; Mark 14:12–16:8; Luke 22:1–24:12; John 19:1–20:31).