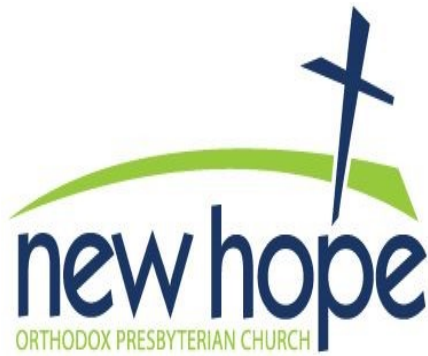


WELCOME!



Worship
10:30 am
12:00 noon

Morning Worship

April 18, 2021

Reflections

To be faithful is to have your heart bound to the will of God by the Spirit of God.

~John Piper

God will have His Church trained up by the pure preaching of His own word, not by the contrivances of men.

~ John Calvin

An unholy church! it is useless to the world, and of no esteem among men. It is an abomination, hell's laughter, heaven's abhorrence. The worst evils which have ever come upon the world have been brought upon her by an unholy church.

~ C. H. Spurgeon

Approach to God

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship — 1 Peter 2:9-10 (responsive)

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, **that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.**

¹⁰ Once you were not a people, **but now you are God's people;** once you had not received mercy, **but now you have received mercy.**

Prayer of Adoration

Songs of Praise

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation,
you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith
in his excellent word!
What more can He say
than to you he has said,
To you, who for refuge
to Jesus have fled?
To you, who for refuge
to Jesus have fled?

Fear not; I am with you.
O, be not dismayed,
For I am your God,
and will still give you aid.
I'll strengthen you, help you,
And cause you to stand,
Upheld by my righteous,
omnipotent hand.
Upheld by my righteous,
omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters
I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow
shall not overflow;
For I will be with you
your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you
your deepest distress.
And sanctify to you
your deepest distress.

When through fiery trials your
pathway shall lie,
My grace all sufficient
shall be your supply.
The flame shall not hurt you;
I only design
Your dross to consume
and your gold to refine.
Your dross to consume
and your gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus
has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert
to his foes;
That soul, though all hell
Should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never,
no never forsake.
I'll never, no never,
no never forsake.

Wonderful Merciful Savior

Wonderful, merciful Savior,
Precious Redeemer and friend.
Who would have thought
that a Lamb could
Rescue the souls of men?
Oh, you rescue the souls of men.

Counselor, comforter, keeper.
Spirit, we long to embrace.
You offer hope when our hearts
Have hopelessly lost the way.
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

*You are the one that we praise,
You are the one we adore.
You give the healing and grace
Our hearts always hunger for.
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

Almighty infinite father,
Faithfully loving your own.
Here in our weakness you find us
wanting you more and more
Oh, wanting you more and more.

Confession of Sin — Revelation 3:14-19

¹⁴ “And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: ‘The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God’s creation.
¹⁵ “I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷ For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see. ¹⁹ Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.

Assurance of Pardon — Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶ that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Congregational Prayer

Offering* 2 Corinthians 9:8 ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

**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 — Acts 20:17-36

¹⁷ Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸ And when they came to him, he said to them: “You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹ serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰ how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹ testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²² And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³ except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴ But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵ And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶ Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, ²⁷ for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸ Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹ Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. ³² And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³ I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴ You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵ In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”³⁶ And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

Sermon — Grappling with the Broken Church

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

Closing Hymn— The Church’s One Foundation (page 8)

—Grappling with the Broken Church —

Acts 20:17-36

1. What God has Done for His Church

2. What God is Doing in His Church

3. What God will Do with His Church

Closing Hymn — The Church's One Foundation

1. The church - 's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
 4. The church shall nev - er per - ish! Her dear Lord to de - fend,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word;
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth;
 by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 to guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, is with her to the end;

from heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food;
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
 though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 a - gainst or foe or trai - tor she ev - er shall pre - vail.

Benediction

Postlude

COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Our Church Family

- Pray for New Hope — that the Lord will continue to grow and build her and bring healing to those who are wounded. Pray for a commitment to the truths of the scripture and for protection from the wolves that prowl that seek to destroy.
- Pray for Pastor Francis as he brings the Word to us each week that he will be a faithful and discerning teacher.
- Pray for the session as they shepherd the flock of New Hope that they will be wise and gentle and seeking the good for those they serve.
- Pray for the presbytery of the mid-Atlantic as they meet to consider the appeal and the charges they have before them. Pray for wisdom, clarity, and truth to be evident.
- Give thanks for those who serve at New Hope each week so that we can meet for worship.
- 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 — the foreign missions of the OPC. Pray for protection for those who serve in hostile environments. Pray, too, for generous giving to Worldwide Outreach which supports the ministries of the OPC in Home Missions, Christian Education, and Foreign Mission.
- Pray for Benny & Liesl Boyed as they serve with Pastor Pramod and his wife Rama in Nepal.
- Pray for Claire Hall as she ministers in Merkinch, Scotland. Pray that, despite the brokenness of the schemes and the despair that is often evident, that the truth of Christ risen from the dead will ring within the schemes and bring life and hope and joy.
- Pray for Kristen in Europe as she ministers to those in need both spiritually and physically. Pray for the long-term care for those most vulnerable in her community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important Dates to Know:

- Ladies' Bible Study, every Wednesday at 10:00 am in the lower building in Sunday school classroom #3
- Trustee Meeting, April 20, 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, April 21st, youth study 6pm pizza, 6:30 study
- Wednesday, April 21st, adult study via zoom, 6:45pm on Rev 20
- Mid-Atlantic Presbytery Meeting, Saturday, May 1
- Ladies' Night Out, May 13th at Ann Burden's home at 7:00 pm.

Ladies' Night Out is back! - Ladies, please join us for a casual gathering at Ann Burden's patio at 7:00pm, Thursday, April 13. Some waters and light dessert will be provided, but feel free to BYOB and BYODessert, too! There will be some chairs available but you may want to bring your own in case of a high turn-out. Masking is not required. Ann lives at 4408 Noah Ct, Mt. Airy, MD. Are you interested in hosting our May 20th LNO on YOUR deck or patio? If so, contact Elease Layman (elease.layman@gmail.com).

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!

Joining the Church, on Sunday, April 25th, we will have several joining New Hope! Bruce & Susan Johnson and Jim & Lora Washburn will be joining via reaffirmation of faith; Joel, Aria, and Chalice Chism will be joining by profession of faith.

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Text —Acts 20:32 ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

Westminster Confession of faith 25.3 — Unto this catholic visible Church Christ has given the ministry, oracles, and ordinances of God, for the gathering and perfecting of the saints, in this life, to the end of the world: and does, by His own presence and Spirit, according to His promise, make them effectual thereunto.

Monday: What four things does God call his church in the following passages: Acts 20:28, Eph 2:21, Eph 4:15-16, Rev 21:2? What unique things does each communicate? Have you considered your local church in these terms? Pray for her in light of these names.

Tuesday: Read through Acts 20:17-36 looking for threats to the church, and (potential) brokenness in the church. What are some brokennesses you have seen in the church? How are we to lament, listen, and look higher? What has Christ done for his broken church (Acts 20:28)? How precious is the church to God despite her condition?

Wednesday: Why is the church, as God's tool, necessary (e.g. Acts 20:20, 21, 24, 25, 27)? How is Sunday worship a covenant renewal ceremony (covenant = I am your God, you are my people)? How is the preaching to affect unbelievers (Rom 10:14ff, Acts 20:21)? How is the preaching to affect believers (Col 1:5-6, 9-10, 11-12)? Pray for, and work at these things.

Thursday: If Sunday worship is a celebration of the resurrection, or the resurrected Christ, how do our services do that? Why do we primarily come to church (Ps 95:6)? What does Christ do for his church (Eph 4:8, 11-13)? How can you cultivate an attitude of "how can I serve the church/congregant today" (Eph 4:15-16)?

Friday: In Acts 20:32, where does Paul put his hope for the Ephesian church? What means does he expect God to use to change her? According to this verse, what are two of God's goals for the church? Listen to the Word that way. And long for (Rev 22:17) the day when Christ's church will be a glorious bride (Rev 19:7-9, 21:9-11), a holy temple, a mature body, and an intimate flock.

Saturday: 1 Pet 4:7-11. Why has God given you gifts? How are you to use them?