

Worship 9:00 am & 10:30 am

Morning Worship

July 25, 2021

Reflections

"Considering how our sin must appear in the pure sight of the righteous and holy God who created us, why are we even still here, alive and breathing? God's mercy is indeed an incredible mystery." ~ Anselm

"A right view of God as holy and merciful is the only foundation for genuine evangelical repentance. His holiness grounds its necessity; his grace and mercy ground its possibility." ~ Sinclair Ferguson

The Spirit makes known the personal presence in and with the Christian and the church of the risen, reigning Savior, the Jesus of history, who is the Christ of faith. Scripture shows that since the Pentecost of Acts 2 this, essentially, is what the Spirit is doing all the time as he empowers, enables, purges, and leads generation after generation of sinners to face the reality of God. And he does it in order that Christ may be known, loved, trusted, honored and praised, which is the Spirit's aim and purpose throughout as it is the aim and purpose of God the Father, too. This is what, in the last analysis, the Spirit's new covenant ministry is all about. ~ J. I. Packer

Approach to God

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship — Psalm 132:7, 11-18 (responsive)

7 "Let us go to his dwelling place; let us worship at his footstool!"

¹¹ The LORD swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back:

"One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne.

¹² If your sons keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, their sons also forever shall sit on your throne."

¹³ For the LORD has chosen Zion;

he has desired it for his dwelling place:

¹⁴ "This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it.

¹⁵ I will abundantly bless her provisions; I will satisfy her poor with bread.

- ¹⁶ Her priests I will clothe with salvation, and her saints will shout for joy.
- ¹⁷ There I will make a horn to sprout for David; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed.
- ¹⁸ His enemies I will clothe with shame, but on him his crown will shine."

Hymn of Praise — A Mighty Fortress is Our God



Prayer of Invocation

Song of Praise — Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand? Kings and nations tremble at His voice All creation rises to rejoice

Behold our God seated on His throne Come, let us adore Him Behold our King—nothing can compare Come, let us adore Him

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?
(Chorus)

Who has felt the nails upon His hands? Bearing all the guilt of sinful man God eternal, humbled to the grave Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign *(Chorus)*

Tag
You will reign forever
Let Your glory fill the earth

Confession of Sin — Responsive 10 Commandments and the Epistles

Leader: You shall have no other gods before me.

People: For from him and through him and to him are all things.

To him be the glory forever!

Leader: You shall not make for yourself an idol.

People: In Christ we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

Leader: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the

Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

People: Let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise-- the fruit of lips that confess his name.

Leader: Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you

shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God.

People: Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

Leader: Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long

in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

People: Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

Leader: You shall not murder.

People: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Leader: You shall not commit adultery.

People: You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Leader: You shall not steal.

People: He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his hands, so that he may have something to share with those in need.

Leader: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. People: Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

Leader: You shall not covet your neighbor's house or anything that

belongs to your neighbor.

People: I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.

Assurance of Pardon — Romans 8:1-4, 9-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Song of Response — 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.

Offering* 1 Timothy 6:6-8 ⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

*You can give on-line at the New Hope website: www.newhopeopc.org and click on the green "give" button in the corner.

Congregational Prayer

Sermon Text — Exodus 25:10-22

¹⁰ "They shall make an ark of acacia wood. Two cubits and a half shall be its length, a cubit and a half its breadth, and a cubit and a half its height. ¹¹ You shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and outside shall you overlay it, and you shall make on it a molding of gold around it. ¹² You shall cast four rings of gold for it and put them on its four feet, two rings on the one side of it, and two rings on the other side of it. ¹³ You shall make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. ¹⁴ And you shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark to carry the ark by them. ¹⁵ The poles shall remain in the rings of the ark; they shall not be taken from it. ¹⁶ And you shall put into the ark the testimony that I shall give you.

¹⁷ "You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold. Two cubits and a half shall be its length, and a cubit and a half its breadth. ¹⁸ And you shall make two cherubim of gold; of hammered work shall you make them, on the two ends of the mercy seat. ¹⁹ Make one cherub on the one end, and one cherub on the other end. Of one piece with the mercy seat shall you make the cherubim on its two ends. ²⁰ The cherubim are to have their wings spread upward, overshadowing the cover with them. The cherubim are to face each other, looking toward the cover. ²¹ Place the cover on top of the ark and put in the ark the tablets of the covenant law that I will give you. ²² There, above the cover between the two cherubim that are over the ark of the covenant law, I will meet with you and give you all my commands for the Israelites.

Sermon — The Ark: God with Us!

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

Benediction

Postlude

The Ark: God with Us -

Exodus 25:10-22

1. God's Holy Presence (vs 10-15)

2. Man's Sinful Presence (vs 16, 22)

3. God's Seat of Mercy (vs 17-22)

COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

Our Church Family

- Pray for Monica Laird as she grieves the loss of her mother this past week. Pray that the Lord will bring comfort and peace to her and her family during this very difficult time.
- Pray for Pastor Francis as he gets ready for "Covenant 3," a study week of accountability, study and refreshment August 2-7.
- Pray for our session as they shepherd the flock of God. Pray that they
 will be faithful servants, diligent disciples of Jesus, and lovers and protectors of the flock.
- Pray for those who struggle with anxiety and/or depression. Pray that the Lord would meet them in their need, will bring people to minister to them, and provide comfort and strength.
- Praise God for those who serve each week so that we can worship together. Pray that God will continue to provide for all of our needs.
- Pray for Ellen Socash & Garrett Kennedy as they prepare for their wedding in September. Pray that they will draw closer to Christ and each other as they work through the details and plans for the wedding.
- Continue to pray for those who are struggling: Barbara & Charles Ruch, Patti Deschamps, John Hardison, Jen Bridenbaugh, Charles Ruch, Jen William's brother, Mike, Christopher Burden, the Vidal family, 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 that God would raise up workers from the congregation to serve at Ballenger Creek Elementary with the Good News Clubs.

Missionaries & Others

- Pray for our mission of the month Short Term Missions within the OPC. Pray that the Lord would provide opportunity for short term missions and the workers to serve. Pray that through these opportunities, God would raise up missionaries who can bring the hope of the gospel to those who do not have a saving faith.
- Continue to pray for Joel Chism and Alyssa Wise as they serve at the Boardwalk Chapel this summer. Pray for continues growth, increased faith, and joy in their service.
- Pray for the OPC mission works (church plants) across North America and those who serve in them. Pray for growth in grace and strength for these fledgling ministries.
- Pray that the Lord would grow the outreach committee so that those missionaries (both long and short term) that we support financially will be served well.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important Dates to Know:

- Wednesday Bible study for youth & adults, 6:00-8:30 pm
- Keys Game, Friday, July 30th, 7:00 pm
- **Outdoor Service Information**, this week is the last week we will be having an outdoor service. Beginning August 1st, we will have one service, indoors, beginning at 10:30 am. The overflow room will be a "mask only" space for those who would prefer it.
- Outreach Committee members, are you interested in missions (foreign or local)? We'd love to have you be a part of the Outreach Committee. Contact Ann Burden or Gingy Socash for more information.
- **Meals Coordinator**, a person to coordinate meals for those in need (i.e. after having a baby, after surgery, etc.) is needed. This is a great part-time ministry. It requires little time/effort but is huge blessing to those who need it. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Pastor Francis.
- Good News Clubs, Reaching out to Kids! The Good News Club is an after-school Bible club held at Ballenger Creek Elementary School, and led by New Hope. We are looking for new team members so we can pull this off. Every Thursday from 3:30-5pm we meet at the school and reach out to the kids. We'd love your help with any of the following: bible teaching; leading songs, games, memory verse; caring/welcoming; snack coordinating. The curriculum includes all you need. Please contact Valory Snyder for more information (valorysnyder@gmail.com, phone number).
- Pastor Francis away, Pastor Francis will be on study leave August 2-7 and vacation August 8-15. If you have a pastoral need, please contact one of the elders or the office.
- Ladies Bible Study group, will be meeting on the second and fourth Wednesdays during the summer months. Come join us at 10:00 a.m. for devotions, prayer and fellowship in the lower building, Sunday School classroom # 3.

Serving Today (7/25):

9:00 am: Usher/Greeter: Wayne Greenfield, Brian & Ann Burden

10:30 am:

Nursery: Karl Koops, Josie O'Shea, Jessie VanDelden

Sound: Belle WetzelLivestream: Craig Lalley

Serving Next Week (8/1):

• Nursery: Ann Burden, Dawn Myers, Aria Chism

Sound: Kim Hanlin

Livestream: Lance Duvall

DAILY DEVOTION

Memory Text: Hebrews 4:15 ¹⁴ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Westminster Confession15.2. By it [repentance unto life], a sinner, out of the sight and sense not only of the danger, but also of the filthiness and odiousness of his sins, as contrary to the holy nature, and righteous law of God; and upon the apprehension of His mercy in Christ to such as are penitent, so grieves for, and hates his sins, as to turn from them all unto God, purposing and endeavoring to walk with Him in all the ways of His commandments.

Monday: Exodus 25:10-20. Consider the holiness of God through these questions: Why were the poles to carry the ark never to be taken from it (v 15, 2 Sam 6:6f)? Why were there two cherubim on top of it (Gen 3:24, Is 6:2ff)? Why was there a veil in front of it (Ex 26:33)? Who was allowed in there? How? When? (Lev 16:2ff)? Do you have an awe and fear of God? How does God's holiness change you? Praise our holy God.

Tuesday: Ex 25:16, 21. What is put into the ark? Of what does this testimony consist (Ex 34:27-28, Ex 20, esp v 2)? The testimony/witness of the covenant relationship between God and Israel was always in God's presence. How is that a problem for a sinful people? Do you consider specific sins of yours and repent of them? How does the holiness of God confront and highlight of sins? What will you do (see WCF 15.2 above)?

Wednesday: Ex 25:17-20. What part of the ark is sandwiched between the "testimony" references? Why? What happened on the mercy seat (Lev 16:11-15, 17, 34)? How does this mercy seat preach the gospel (Rom 3:25, 1 Jn 2:2, Heb 9:25)? What hope for sinners! What kindness of God!

Thursday: Ex 25:16-22. If a sinful people who fail to keep the covenant (10 commandments) is always before God, what "other side" of the covenant is also always before God (Gen 15:17, 17:7, Heb 6:14-20)? How sure is God's Word? His mercy (Rom 8:1-4)? How sure is eternal life? Believe Heb 6:18-20, and give thanks to God.

Friday: Ex 25:20, Is 6:2. Considering Monday's questions, why do you think the angels covered their faces? If the ark is God's footstool (Ps 99:5), how might this be a picture of humility, worship, service? Let your response to God's holiness, mercy, and commitment to his covenant one of worship (Ps 132:7), joy and obedience (Ps 132:9), confidence (Ps 132:10, 14, 16).

Saturday: Pray that God will meet with us and mature us tomorrow.



The Tabernacle of Moses

Figure 1: Physical Arrangement of the Tabernacle