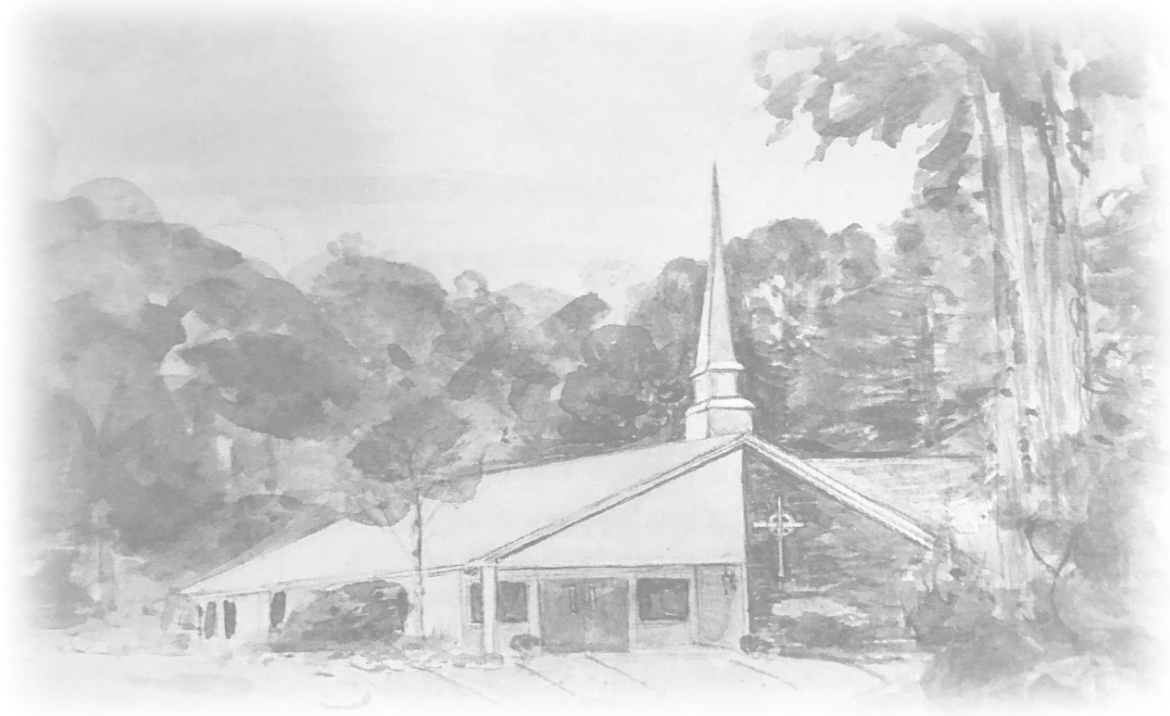


# *Presbyterian Church of Cape Cod*



**“I was glad when they said to me, Let us go to the house of the Lord!” Psalm 122:1**

*The Lord's Day*

June 14, 2020

Rev. Dr. James A. La Belle, Pastor

Morning Worship 10:00 am – Afternoon Study 4:30 pm

*We welcome you* to the Lord's house, to the worship of the living and true God, and into the fellowship of this congregation.

**LIVE STREAMING @**

<http://presbyterianchurchofcapecod.com/live-stream/>

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**GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM AS OUR GOD**

*Psalm 96: 7-13*

**A HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Hymn 212 – Come, Thou Almighty King*

**A PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**THE CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH IN GOD**

**Westminster Larger Catechism 145 & 149**

**Q. What are the sins forbidden in the ninth commandment?**

**A.** The sins forbidden in the ninth commandment are, all prejudicing the truth and the good name of our neighbors as well as our own especially in public judicature. Giving false evidence, suborning false witnesses, wittingly appearing and pleading for an evil cause, outfacing and overbearing the truth. Passing unjust sentence, calling evil good and good evil. Rewarding the wicked according to the work of the righteous and the righteous according to the work of the wicked. Forgery, concealing the truth, undue silence in a just cause and holding our peace when iniquity calleth for either a reproof from ourselves or complaint to others. Speaking the truth unseasonably or maliciously to a wrong end or perverting it to a wrong meaning or in doubtful or equivocal expressions to the prejudice of the truth or justice. Speaking untruth, lying, slandering, backbiting, detracting, talebearing, whispering, scoffing, reviling, rash, harsh and partial censuring. Misconstructing intentions, words and actions. Flattering, vainglorious boasting, thinking or speaking too highly or too meanly of ourselves or others. Denying the gifts and graces of God. Aggravating smaller faults, hiding, excusing or extenuating of sins when called to a free confession. Unnecessary discovering of infirmities, raising false rumors, receiving and countenancing evil reports and stopping our ears against just defense. Evil suspicion, envying or grieving at the deserved credit of any. Endeavoring or desiring to impair it, rejoicing in their

disgrace and infamy. Scornful contempt, fond admiration, breach of lawful promises, neglecting such things as are of good report and practicing or not avoiding ourselves or not hindering what we can in others, such things as procure an ill name.

**Q. Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?**

**A.** No man is able, either of himself or by any grace received in this life, perfectly to keep the commandments of God but doth daily break them in thought, word, and deed.

**A HYMN OF RESPONSE**

*Hymn 455 – I Need Thee, Precious Jesus*

**OUR RESPONSIVE READING OF GOD'S LAW**

*The Ten Commandments (see insert)*

**THE CONFESSION OF OUR SINS TO GOD**

Giver of all graces, you are full of grace and truth and all your mercies end in our delight. Since the dawn of time when Satan first tempted with a lie and mankind readily chose to believe it, we have been people full of blindness and deception. In the garden you made a promise that your goodness, kindness and love would triumph over our rebellion and you have kept that promise. You have never lied to us and you have been faithful to your Word though we have been unfaithful deceivers. Father, thank you for your grace, mercy and truth. Spirit of Truth, illuminate us and transform us we pray. Convict us of our specific sins and help us to repent for we cannot do this without your help. May the pure truth of our Father's unconditional love for liars like us, humble us deeply. Let the truth of his joyful determination to save us exalt our hearts and fill us with a gleeful gratitude that lays hold of our hearts and tongues, filling them with thanksgiving and praise. We thank you that you are our advocate, our helper and our closest friend and that you will never leave us. Grow us in truth until the day we stand before our precious Savior and become like him forever. In his name we pray, amen.

**A SILENT MOMENT FOR CONFESSING  
PERSONAL SINS**

**GOD'S ASSURANCE THAT WE ARE PARDONED**

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. Psalm 145:18

**A HYMN OF RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE**

*Hymn 276 - Jesus Paid It All*

**SCRIPTURE RELATIVE TO TODAY'S SERMON**

Ecclesiastes 7: 19-23

Pew Bible Pg. 708

**PASTORAL PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION**

Followed by the Lord's Prayer ("Debts")

**OUR OFFERING AND DOXOLOGY TO GOD**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below. Praise him above ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. *Old Hundreth L.M. (587)*

**PREPARING WITH PRAISE TO HEAR GOD'S WORD**

*Hymn 467 – Cast Down, O God, the Idols*

**THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

James 3:1-12

Pew Bible Pg. 1290

A World on Fire

Intern Derrick Leitão

## OUTLINE

### *James 3.1-12 A World On Fire*

#### **The Controlled Tongue Controls the Whole Man, v. 1-4**

- I. Not many should become teachers. He is addressing the motive to become a teacher.
  - A. Why does he give this advice? Teachers will be held accountable with strict scrutiny. This warning was for the entire congregation, especially those who were misusing their tongue in slander and judgment showing partiality (Ch. 2; Rom. 2.17-23; Luke 12.48; Matt. 12.38-40).
    - 1. For we all sin in many ways (WLC 149; 1 John 1.8). Teachers will more likely sin with their tongues, because they use it more often.
      - a) If you are able to control the tongue, which is true religion (1.26), the rest of the body will fall in line (Matt. 12.34; 15.18-19).
        - (1) The smallest piece of equipment on our body can be its guide.
          - (a) Application. Which one of us can claim that we have never slipped to slander, to lie or to boast? What can an uncontrolled tongue do?

#### **The Uncontrolled Tongue Destroys the Whole Man, v. 5-10a**

- I. This small member boasts of great things and can be compared to a small fire.
  - A. Like the spark of a lighter. It's a small fire but it can burn down large forests. It is appointed among our members as a general of an army and is able to destroy everything in its path.
    - 1. What does it do when it is uncontrolled? First, it *stains* the whole body in contrast to remaining *unstained* from the world as James calls them to in 1.27. Our sinful nature is on display by our speech.
    - 2. Secondly, it sets on fire the course of life from birth to death. If our lives are the forests, the tongue is the small fire that burns it down and destroys it. Not only our own lives but the lives of others. Think of the destruction that a small rumor can cause.
      - a) How is this fire ignited? By hell (John 8.44).
  - B. Then, he gives an illustration of how animals are tamed but humans, who are made in God's likeness and image cannot tame the tongue, which is ironic (Rom. 3.10ff). **No human being can tame the tongue.**
    - 1. The evil of our tongues can hide itself like deadly poison even in pious speech.
      - a) We were made in the image and likeness of God, set apart from the rest of creation, especially by our speech and that is what we use to bless God and curse and destroy our neighbor, who is also made in his image.
        - (1) Application. We could be pious in worship and bless God and yet break all of God's commandments by misusing our tongue and cursing our brother or sister (2.10; Isa. 1.12). This could be used as a good spiritual indicator of where we are.

#### **The Controlled Tongue Bears Fruit of its Own Kind, v. 10b-12**

- I. Application. My brothers, these things ought not to be so... We are those who claim to have the Spirit of God within; who claim God to be the rider of our horse or the pilot of our ship, who guides us.

A. He gives three more illustrations to communicate that a tree will produce fruit, or a body of water will yield water of its own kind. What vine are your fruits attached to? Are you bearing fruit of being a child of God? It will be demonstrated by how you control your tongue.

1. How is it possible to control the tongue, which James says no one is able to?

a) Christ died for all sin, especially the sins of the tongue (Mark 3.28), unless you reject the good news of Christ. If we believe this, his seed is planted within and we will bear fruit of his kind (Matt. 7.16).

(1) A tongue that does not destroy or tear down but upbuilds and encourages (Eph. 4.29). Just like our Lord who spoke words of eternal life (John 6.68). This can only be done by yielding to Christ and His Spirit to work in us. See your need and turn to Christ.

## **RESPONDING IN PRAISE TO GOD'S WORD**

*Hymn 502 – All for Jesus!*

### **OUR LORD'S BENEDICTION**

#### **HIS CONGREGATION'S RESPONSE**

Now blessed be the Lord our God, the God of Israel, for he alone does wondrous works in glory that excel. And blessed be his glorious name to all eternity. The whole earth let his glory fill. Amen, so let it be. - McKee CM

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We extend a **cordial welcome** to the visitors in our service today.

Sunday Evening Sermon: **The Walk of Faith, Lesson 3**  
– James LaBelle

**Prayer Meeting – Wednesday, June 17rd, 6:30pm**

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#### **May 2020 Giving Statement**

Total May Giving.....	\$ 27,039.18
May Giving Weekly Average.....	\$ 5,407.84
Weekly Average Giving to Date.....	\$ 4,297.15
Budget - Weekly Average Needed.....	\$ 4,553.88

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#### **Birthdays this week:**

June 16th Tara Furman

June 20th Forrest La Belle

#### **Anniversaries:**

June 17th Jim & Cindy Hobbs

June 18th Kirk & Melissa Gibbons

June 20th David & Karen Kinner

**The missionaries** for this month – Dr. Jim and Jenny Knox, Mbale, Uganda

**Bulletin announcements** should be submitted to Elly Mead by 12 noon on Wednesdays. Please e-mail to [pcccsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:pcccsecretary@gmail.com).