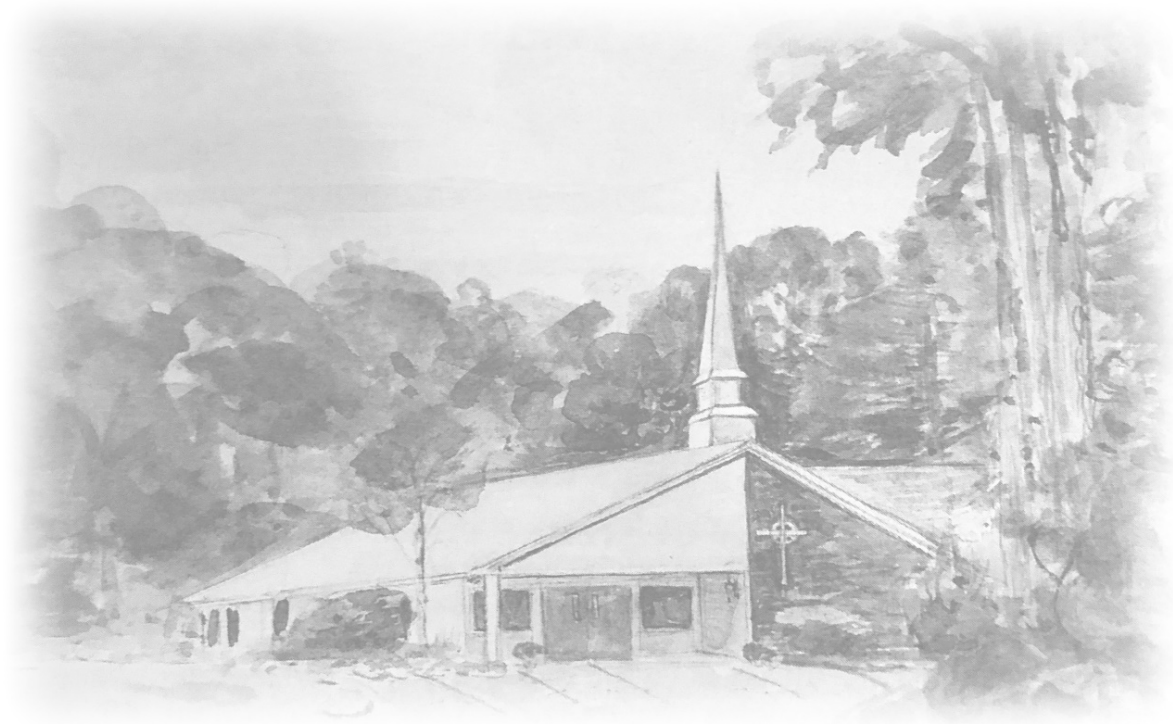


Presbyterian Church of Cape Cod



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

The Lord's Day

September 20th, 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/>

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM AS OUR GOD

Psalm 147:1-6

A HYMN OF PRAISE

Hymn 250 – I Sing the Almighty Power of God

A PRAYER OF INVOCATION

THE CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH IN GOD

Westminster Larger Catechism 141

Q. What are the duties required in the eighth commandment?

A. The duties required in the eighth commandment are truth, faithfulness and justice in contracts and commerce between man and man rendering to every one his due, restitution of goods unlawfully detained from the right owners thereof, giving and lending freely, according to our abilities and the necessities of others. Moderation of our judgments, wills and affections concerning worldly goods, a provident care and study to get, keep, use and dispose these things which are necessary and convenient for the sustentation of our nature and suitable to our condition. A lawful calling and diligence in it, frugality, avoiding unnecessary lawsuits and suretiship or other like engagements and an endeavor by all just and lawful means to procure, preserve and further the wealth and outward estate of others as well as our own.

A HYMN OF RESPONSE

Hymn 475 – Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode

THE CONFESSION OF OUR SINS TO GOD

Patient and loving Father, you have been faithful to us in all things, keeping your promises to those who belong to you throughout all generations. But Lord we are not faithful to you. We have often struck you with our wayward wills when our souls and bodies should embrace you with joy, gratitude and love. Each new day exposes new corruptions in our hearts that we failed to see before and each day we add to the long list of our offenses against you. Not only do we sin against your law which we cannot

keep, but we violate your love repeatedly, disobeying you even though we have drunk deeply from the fountain of your grace and mercy. We struggle to be faithful friends, spouses, siblings, parents and children. We confess that our selfishness invades all of our relationships. Father forgive us. Holy Spirit, show us more of Christ and change us into his likeness. Make us steadfast in our love for him and faithful in obedience. Let our weakness and indwelling sin humble us and fashion in our hearts a desperate desire for the help and hope that is found in him alone. May your deep love and mercy cause us to turn to you, to love you, to trust you and to grow in faithfulness to you. Touch our sinful lips and fill them with praises for you, for you are gracious and you alone can make our spirits right and true. Amen.

A SILENT MOMENT FOR CONFESSING PERSONAL SINS

GOD'S ASSURANCE THAT WE ARE PARDONED

Behold, I will gather them from all the countries to which I drove them in my anger and my wrath and in great indignation. I will bring them back to this place and I will make them dwell in safety. And they shall be my people and I will be their God. I will give them one heart and one way that they may fear me forever for their own good and the good of their children after them. I will make with them an everlasting covenant that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts that they may not turn from me. I will rejoice in doing them good and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my heart and all my soul.

Jeremiah 32:37–41

A HYMN OF RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

Hymn 276 – Jesus Paid It All

SCRIPTURE RELATIVE TO TODAY'S SERMON

Deuteronomy 24:14-15 Pew Bible Pg. 211

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 502 – All for Jesus!

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD OF GOD

James 5:1-6 Pew Bible Pg. 1291

Misery Loves Company
Intern Derrick Leitão

OUTLINE

James 5.1-6 Misery Loves Company

Lament and Be Saved, v. 1

- I. James now addresses the rich and unbelieving landowners, who have accumulated massive wealth through unjust and criminal means.
 - A. This is a similar call throughout the OT calling pagan nations and Israel to repent of their injustice (Isa. 1), as it was in God's law, that Israel was to treat the poor with justice.
 1. Why? Because God cares for those who cannot care for themselves as it points to the spiritual nature of his people.
 - a) James now runs into the same sort of people that Jesus ran into (Luke 6.24-26).

- (1) They love money and not God (1 Tim. 6.10; Matt.19.23) but our riches and worldly possessions can be a hindrance to true discipleship, because we are resting in what we own rather than in the One who owns us.

Allow Things to Pass Away, v. 2-3

- I. Riches, garments, gold and silver are of no value in comparison to the riches we can store up in heaven.
- A. 1 Tim. 6.7; 2 Tim. 4.13. Our favorite possessions can become idols that we worship rather than things to be used for good; for ourselves or for others.
1. Matt. 6.19-21. We are in the last days and our material wealth and possessions are not reliable to provide a foundation for eternal life with God. But God is reliable. We can use earthly riches for eternal treasures.
- a) Gathering worldly treasures take up so much time that when they vanish it can be devastating, and it is a witness to how much time we have wasted in worshipping false idols. It is not only a misuse of our time but also a misuse of our wealth.
- (1) If we have ever known as the Psalmist knows, when I kept silent and didn't confess and turn to God (Ps. 32.3), my bones wasted away, it will be far worse for those who refuse to turn to God and repent of this sin (Luke 16.19-31). What are we doing with our possessions? Using them for good or hoarding them for evil?
- (a) 1 Tim. 6.17-19

Hear the Cries of the People, v. 4-6

- II. Throughout the OT and NT, Christians are called to be a just people. It is to reflect our God. We are called to care for others as Christ cares for you. And he gives warning to those who would steal from the mouths of those under their care.
- A. This should call us to never envy the fortune of others.
- B. And that God is the ultimate avenger of wrongs.
- III. They broke the law (Deut. 24.14-15), because to withhold one day's pay may lead to someone starving to death.
- A. Free or slave, we are called to be a just people, giving to others what is their due and not hoarding our wealth (Eph. 6.9; 1 Tim. 5.18). God's mercy reigns on us each day. Why not do the same for others? To disregard this call would be to disregard the gospel.
1. When we live in luxury there is the danger of self-indulgence.
- a) But it will reap its own rewards, storing up wrath for judgment day.
- (1) These are the same sins of man against man (Gen. 4.10) and it is considered murder. They used their wealth to deprive others of their right to live. If we live a certain way with certain benefits, would we want others to live this way?
- (a) Our greed deprives others of their lives. And it is the same sin when we try to overpower others weaker than ourselves when we know they cannot and will not resist us, with manipulation and deceit.
- i) But think of all the riches we have in Christ (John 14.2). What are the riches of this world? What are the places of power in this world in comparison to Christ and what he has promised to give us? Amen.

RESPONDING IN PRAISE TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn 538 – Take My Life, and Let It Be (Stanzas 3, 4 & 6)

OUR LORD'S BLESSING

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

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

The Session is pleased to announce that it has examined David Belcher for membership and is satisfied with his trust in Christ as Savior and commitment to live, by grace, for Him. David will be publicly received into membership on Sunday, October 18.

Afternoon Study – Corporate Prayer Meeting, Led by Elder Marcel

Prayer Meeting – Wednesday, September 23rd, 6:30pm Led by River La Belle

Christian Education: September 27th, 8:50am, Led by Rev. Thiago Reis

Birthdays this week:

21st – Timothy Barr

23rd – Annaliese Johnson

23rd – Terra La Belle

26th – Lori Chapman

Anniversaries:

21st – Carl & Reene Johnson

REMINDER: Pick up your shoe box today and help us reach as many children as possible. Every shoe box gift is an opportunity for children to hear the Gospel. Many children are in need around the world and many of them never receive a gift. Samaritan's Purse ministry through Operation Christmas Child wants as many as possible to know of God's gift of salvation. A follow up program teaches children about Christ's love.

The missionaries for this month – Tony and Kathleen Curto, Ethiopia

Bulletin announcements should be submitted to Elly Mead by 12 noon on Wednesdays. Please e-mail to pcccsecretary@gmail.com.