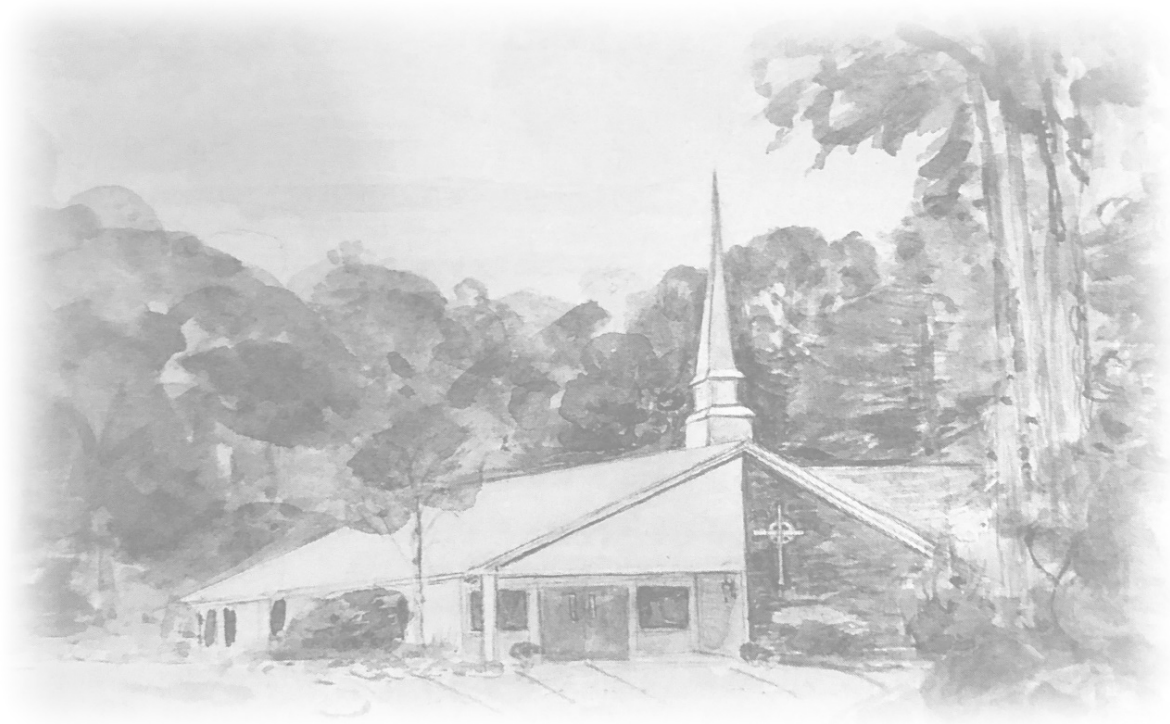


Presbyterian Church of Cape Cod



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

The Lord's Day

Novemembe 1st, 2020

Rev. Dr. James A. La Belle, Pastor

Christian Education 8:50 am – 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 97:10-12

A PSALM OF PRAISE

*Psalm 31A – In You, O Lord, I Put My Trust
(Stanzas 1-6)*

A PRAYER OF INVOCATION

THE CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH IN GOD

Q. What do you believe about the Lord's disposition toward you?

A. This I know, that God is for me. Psalm 56:9b

Q. What about during the days of your sorrow?

A. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23:6

Q. And what about when all hell breaks loose in your life?

A. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her. She shall not be moved. God will help her when morning dawns. The nations rage, the kingdoms totter. He utters his voice, the earth melts. The Lord of hosts is with us. The God of Jacob is our fortress. Psalm 46:1-7

A PSALM OF RESPONSE

Psalm 23A – The Lord's My Shepherd (Stanzas 1 & 3)

OUR RESPONSIVE READING OF GOD'S LAW

The Ten Commandments

Responsive Reading

The Ten Commandments

And God spoke all these words, saying, I am the Lord

your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

1. You shall have no other gods before me.

Response: We shall worship the Lord our God and him only shall we serve. (Matthew 4:10)

2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above or that is in the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Response: God is spirit, and we must worship in spirit and truth. (John 4:24)

3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

Response: Our Father is in heaven and His name is to be hallowed. (Matthew 6:9)

4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Response: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord...to give thanks to the name of the Lord." (Psalm 122:1,4)

5. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

Response: Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. We will not provoke our children to anger but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:1,4)

6. You shall not murder.

Response: Let us be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave us. (Ephesians 4:32)

7. You shall not commit adultery.

Response: But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among us, as is proper among saints. (Ephesians 5:3)

8. You shall not steal.

Response: Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. (Ephesians 4:28)

9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Response: These are the things that we shall do: Speak the truth to one another, render in our gates judgements that are true and make for peace; we

shall not devise evil in our hearts against one another, and we shall love no false oath. (Zechariah 8:16,17)

10. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.

Response: We have learned in whatever situation we are to be content. (Philippians 4:11)

And the Lord Jesus said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets. (Matthew 22:37-40)

THE CONFESSION OF OUR SINS TO GOD

Lord of all wisdom, we thank you for the wisdom by which you made this world. You order all nature and history by your wisdom, working all things according to your holy will. You order our personal lives by your wisdom, bringing into them exactly the right combination of joys and sorrows, trials and blessings, to shape us after the image of your beloved Son. Lord we confess that we deeply lack wisdom. We have not feared you but instead have feared people and circumstances, giving the reverence and awe to the created order that belongs to you as our Creator. We have rejected your perfect wisdom, revealed in your Word, preferring to trust the wisdom of this world instead. We have sought to define for ourselves what is good and what is evil in our relationships, our speech, our work and our sexuality. We have failed to love others as we ought. Instead we have hurt them with foolish and unkind words or with cold and heartless silence. We have grumbled about your providence and the circumstances of our lives instead of recognizing and delighting in your fatherly wisdom that does all things well. Spirit of wisdom, teach us to seek after wisdom passionately. Wisdom is your gift. Give us hearts that desire it and pursue it. Show us how wisdom always leads us back to the cross, on to obedience and upward toward our heavenly home. Hasten the day when we will join the crowd around the throne in heaven, lost in reverence before the God of all wisdom, the Lamb slain for our sins. Amen.

A SILENT MOMENT FOR CONFESSING PERSONAL SINS

GOD'S ASSURANCE THAT WE ARE PARDONED

God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise. God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong. God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption. 1 Corinthians 1:27–30

A HYMN OF RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

Hymn 245 – Great Is Thy Faithfulness (Stanza 3)

SCRIPTURE RELATIVE TO TODAY'S SERMON

Psalm 23

Pew Bible Pg. 581

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.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Job 9:27-35 Pew Bible Pg. 536

Discouraged & Afraid
Pastor James A. La Belle

OUTLINE

Job 9.27-35—Discouraged & Afraid

- Introduction: Job 5.8; 8.5
- Job's problem is not so much the loss of his possessions as the loss of the sense of God's favor, all the marks of God's friendship.
- So when his friends tell him to simply seek God, it's nowhere near as simple for Job as they make it out to be. How do you seek a God you're convinced is angry at you? a God whose ways baffle you?

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| What's the point!?! vv.27-31 |
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- I. *What's the point of trying to be cheerful when I know it won't change a thing!?*
 - A. Job could dare to hope that things are going to get better, and he could try to cheer himself up, but what's the point when God's not done afflicting him?
 - B. Job's lost all confidence in God's intention to do him good.

- II. *What's the point of ripping my insides apart looking for a sin that I know isn't there!?*
 - A. Job doesn't know why God's turned on him; but he knows it's not for any allowed sin in his life—despite his friends' insistence.
 - B. Job's problem isn't something he's done and now needs to set right. Rather, it's something God's doing, something Job doesn't understand and can't explain.

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| I need an arbiter! vv.32-35 |
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- I. The problem Job has with his friends' advice to seek God is that God and Job are simply not on par with one another.
 - A. The crux of the matter comes out at last in v.32 and then gives way to the heart-cry of v.33
 - B. To see just how critical an arbiter is for Job, look at vv.34-35 where Job says he's terrified of God! How is this the same man introduced to us in Job 1.8?
 - C. This is truly the valley of the shadow of death for Job.

Applications

- I. See what an incomparable thing the loss of the sense of God's favor is to a genuine believer! Pss 13.1; 79.5; 89.46; 90.13; 80.3, 7, 19

 - II. If you're in a place similar to Job's:
 - A. Don't be so hard on your brethren.
 1. As hard as it is for you to put your feelings and sorrows into words it's just as hard for others to put themselves in your shoes. So be gracious and thankful.
 2. Sorrow is by nature a lonely place because, in part, that's the whole point: getting you alone with yourself and God. So don't miss the point of your loneliness.
 - B. Don't be afraid to be honest with yourself and with God.
 1. Whatever you're going to get out of your suffering, it all depends on your walking through it with honesty.
 2. So put your heart where your mouth is and speak truthfully with God, because no real work gets done until you do.
 - C. Don't let your sorrow cloud your judgment of God.
 1. Job lived in a very dark time in the history of redemption. But you live in a time of great light! cf. 1Cor 10.11
 2. See that you make good use of what you know about God and His ways and don't let your sorrow cloud your judgment of Him, Ezk 36.9; Heb 12.6; Heb 13.5-6; Isa 41.10
 3. Put your faith to work and trust more in what God says than in what you feel or see.

 - III. Jesus Christ is the answer to Job's cry in v.33
 - A. He's the mediator of our salvation (1Tim 2.5) but He's also the arbiter to make sense of all our suffering.
 1. 1Cor 15.3, God's never punishing for our sins.
 2. Rom 15.9, God never deals with us in anger or wrath.
 3. Heb 2.11-14, our sufferings always have a purpose—none of our trials is pointless.
 4. Lam 3.22, whatever God does with us, it's always congruent with His love for us.
 - B. Go to Jesus and let Him make sense of your suffering and walk with you through it—because He's the arbiter, the reconciler of God to man and the revealer of God's heart to sufferers. Look to Him and be patient under the cross.
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RESPONDING IN PRAISE TO GOD'S WORD

Psalm 27A – The Lord's My Light (Stanzas 4-6)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(The inner circles of cups contain wine and the outer circle contains grape juice. Please hold each element until all have been served so that we may partake together.)

DEACON'S OFFERING

RESPONDING IN PRAISE TO GOD'S GRACE & MERCY

Hymn 196 – At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

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

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

Afternoon Study – Sinful words: What are they and how to overcome them, Part 1 – Pastor La Belle

Prayer Meeting – Wednesday, November 4th, 6:30pm

Birthdays this week:

1st – Sonia Connolly

4th – Reene Johnson

4th – Violet Mae Peters

Christian Education: November 8th – Jeff Dodge, Chapter 5:21-48, J.C. Ryle's Matthew Study

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 – James and Esther Folkerts, Uganda

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