

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

The flowers are given by Bill and Evelyn Hart to the glory of God and in honor of the wedding of their granddaughter, Emily to Joseph LaPlaca.

Adult Bible Study 10:45 a.m. Heritage Room

Sewing Group, 10 a.m. to noon, Wednesdays

Choir: Thursday, 9/28 at 6:45 p.m.

September 27, 6:45 p.m. Session

October 1, 9:30 a.m., Children's Christian Ed begins

October 1, 3 p.m.: "Days of Yesteryear in Titusville and Washington Crossing" will be presented by local historians and collectors of photo and paper memorabilia of this area, Bob and Carol Meszaros. The program is free, childcare will be provided and light refreshments will be served.

October 22, 4 p.m. Food Concession. 6pm Bluegrass Concert

### Gloria patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be  
— world without end.  
Amen, amen.

### Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

### Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen!



Those who delight in the law of the Lord are like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers. Psalm 1

### Spiritual Food for Thought

It is the grace of the gospel, which is so hard for the pious to understand, that it confronts us with the truth and says: you are a sinner, a great desperate sinner; now come, as the sinner that you are, to God who loves you. He wants you as you are; he does not want anything from you; a sacrifice, a work; he wants you alone. "My son, give me thine heart" (Proverbs 23:26)  
--Dietrich Bonhoeffer, [Life Together](#)

#### Session:

Class of 2017  
Barbara Matlack  
Randy Niederer

Class of 2018  
Patti Manz  
Tim Shaub

Class of 2019  
Mark Niederer  
Kristine Schmidt, Clerk

#### Deacons:

Class of 2017  
Judy Niederer, Secretary

Class of 2018  
Gail Butterfoss  
Lettie Ritner, Vice-Moderator

Class of 2019  
Chris Manz, Moderator

Ministers: All members of Titusville Church

Pastor: Rev. Kenneth Good

Worship Assistant: Barbara Matlack

Music Directors: Jon and Helen Eastburn

The Rev. Dr. R. William Shaub, *Pastor Emeritus*  
Barbara Matlack, *Office Administrator*

September 24, 2017

THE EXTRAORDINARY

GOD'S MAJESTIC WORK of  
REUNIFICATION & ADOPTION

Let us worship God! We encounter a troubling story of one of Jacob's sons; Judah, and his daughter in law, Tamar. It is a story placed between the Joseph narratives that we began last week. We will look to see what it has for us, even if it is difficult to read. In Acts, Paul commits himself to going up to Jerusalem,

despite the advice of those around him. The story of Judah teaches us how we lose our humanity when we sin. Paul shows us that following God, however difficult, leads to life.



### Call to Worship

Today, we use our weekly reading from the Psalms as our Call to Worship.

Psalm 143, page 446. We will also be using Psalm 143B (insert) to sing after verses 6, 10, and 12.

*If you are sitting on the pulpit side of the sanctuary, please read the odd numbered verses as part of our responsive reading.*  
*If you are sitting on the lectern side, please read the even numbered verses.*

### Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,  
Our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image.

Let us pause for a silent time of personal confession...

(taken from the Book of Common Worship)



### Order of Liturgy

Prelude

\***Call to Worship** (page 1)

\***Opening Hymns** / Prayer (page 1)

**Confession** (page 1)

—call, prayer, assurance

\*Gloria patri (page 4)

**Scripture** (page 1)

Message

\***Hymn of Response** (page 1)

\*Apostles Creed (page 4)

\*New City Catechism (page 2)

Announcements

Prayers of the People

Offering: "My Worth is Not in What I Own"

\*Doxology

\***Sending Hymn** (page 1)

Benediction

Choral Benediction: "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" Verse 5

\*Please stand if able

### Scripture

Genesis 38 (page 29)

Acts 21:1-36 (page 788)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### Songs for Today

Opening Hymns

#648 "Love Divine All Love's Excelling"

Hymn of Response

Insert "For the Cause"

Sending Hymn

Insert "God Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"

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## Notes on Morning Scripture

### Genesis

Vs 8 Leverite Law is the practice of a brother taking the wife of a deceased brother, was practiced by many cultures, and is referenced in Deuteronomy 25:5-10

### Acts

Today's passage completes the 3rd Missionary Journey by Paul which starts in 18:23

Vs 24: we see in Acts the great care that Paul made to follow the Hebrew law as best as he could, even while proclaiming the supremacy of Jesus Christ, and believing that Christ's righteousness alone provides our salvation

Vs 25: recalls what was first written in Acts 15

Vs 31: Paul gives testimony of what he endured as an Apostle in II Corinthians 5:3-10

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### Web Link

<http://www.gettymusic.com/>

<http://www.womeninthebible.net/bible-paintings/tamar-judah-paintings/> a review of influential paintings from the Genesis story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kajTOhirRqA> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7CS9Ri274eA> two interactive you tube videos on the geography of Paul's third missionary journey

<http://blog.bible/bible-engagers-blog/entry/is-that-really-in-the-bible> practical method for reading hard to understand passages

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### New City Catechism

*A 52 question catechism developed by Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York. For an introduction to this catechism, visit: <http://www.newcitycatechism.com/intro.php>*

*Part 3: Spirit, Restoration, Growing in Grace*

**Question 38** What is prayer?

Answer: Prayer is pouring out our hearts to God in praise, petition, confession of sin, and thanksgiving.

*To learn more about Question 38, including Scripture background, prayer, commentary and video from scholars, visit <http://newcitycatechism.com/new-city-catechism/#38>*

### Editorial: Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Life Together

The physical presence of other Christians is a source of incomparable joy and strength to the believer. Longingly, the imprisoned Apostle Paul calls his 'dearly beloved son in the faith' Timothy, to come to him in prison in the last days of his life; he would see him again and have him near. Paul has not forgotten the tears Timothy shed when they last parted (II Tim 1:4).

Remembering the congregation in Thessalonica, Paul prays "night and day... exceedingly that we might see your face" (I Thess 3:10). The aged John knows that his joy will not be full until he can come to his own people and speak face to face instead of writing with ink (II John 12).

The believer feels no shame, as though he were still living too much in the flesh, when he yearns for the physical presence of other Christians. Man was created a body, the Son of God appeared on earth in the body, he was raised in the body, in the sacrament the believer receives the Lord Christ in the body, and the resurrection of the dead will bring about the perfected fellowship of God's spiritual-physical creatures. The believer therefore lauds the Creator, the Redeemer, God, Father Son and Holy Spirit, for the bodily presence of a brother or sister. The prisoner, the sick person, the Christian in exile sees in the companionship of a fellow Christian a physical sign of the gracious presence of the triune God. Visitor and visited in loneliness recognize in each other the Christ who is present in the body; they receive and meet each other as one meets the Lord, in reverence, humility and joy. They receive each other's benedictions as the benediction of the Lord Jesus Christ. But if there is so much blessing and joy even in a single encounter, how inexhaustible are the riches that open up for those who by God's will are privileged to live in the daily fellowship of life with other Christians!

It is true of course, that what is an unspeakable gift of God for the lonely individual is easily disregarded and trodden under foot by those who have the gift every day. It is easily forgotten that the fellowship of Christian brethren is a gift of grace, a gift of the Kingdom of God....Therefore, let the one who until now has had the privilege of living a common Christian life with other Christians praise God's grace from the bottom of his heart. Let him thank God on his knees and declare: It is grace, nothing but grace, that we are allowed to live in community with Christian brothers and sisters.

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### Prayers to the Lord and Author of Life (offered in 9/24 worship by the congregation)

### Dear Tabby, Raising Life (issues) Acts 9:36

Tabby will return next week. Here is Ephesians 4:29-5:20 to encourage us in our Christian faith:

<sup>29</sup> Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. <sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. <sup>32</sup> Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. <sup>5</sup> <sup>1</sup> Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children <sup>2</sup> and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

<sup>3</sup> But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. <sup>4</sup> Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. <sup>5</sup> For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. <sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient.

<sup>7</sup> Therefore do not be partners with them.

<sup>8</sup> For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) <sup>10</sup> and find out what pleases the Lord.

<sup>11</sup> Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. <sup>12</sup> It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret.

<sup>13</sup> But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. <sup>14</sup> This is why it is said:

“Wake up, sleeper,  
rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

<sup>15</sup> Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. <sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup> always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.