

Announcements and Upcoming Events

The flowers are given by Don and Connie Kilmer to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones.

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

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

Choir: Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.

October 22, Canceled due to several band members family emergencies.

October 29, 4 p.m. Celebrate the Reformation



Wartburg Castle, where Martin Luther translated the New Testament into German. He called it 'his Patmos' (see Revelation 1:9)

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!

Spiritual Food for Thought

"So when the devil throws your sins in your face and declares that you deserve death and hell, tell him this: "I admit that I deserve death and hell, what of it? For I know One who suffered and made satisfaction on my behalf. His name is Jesus Christ, Son of God, and where He is there I shall be also!"
— Martin Luther

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: Kris Schmidt

Music Directors: Jon and Helen Eastburn

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

October 15, 2017

THE EXTRAORDINARY

GOD'S MAJESTIC WORK of
REUNIFICATION & ADOPTION

Worship God!

Famine. Hunger. Fear.

Word was that Egypt had food in abundance. Ten of Jacob's sons go, and by the providence of God, face the brother they had sent to Egypt years before. Today, we worship the One who is the Bread of life. Jesus also called the thirsty to come to him and find 'the spring of water welling up to eternal life' (John

4:12). "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6). We join in prayer for those enduring physical famine, and spiritual hunger.



Call to Worship

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

Psalm 146, page 447.

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

Merciful God,
In Jesus Christ you do not call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Draw us away from the easy road that leads to destruction, and guide us into paths that lead to life abundant, that in seeking your truth, and obeying your will, we may know the joy of being a disciple of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

(from the *Book of Common Worship*)



Order of Liturgy

Prelude

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

***Opening Hymn** / 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

*Doxology

***Sending Hymn** (page 1)

Benediction

Choral Benediction: "May God Support You All Your Days" Verse 3

*Please stand if able

Scripture

Genesis 42-44 (page 32)

Acts 24 (page 791)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Songs for Today

Opening Hymns

Insert "I'll Praise My Maker"

Hymn of Response

#444 "I Love to Tell the Story"

Sending Hymn

#572 "Blessed Assurance"



Notes on Morning Scripture

Genesis 42-44

God's work within this story is preserved in Psalm 105:16-23

42:6 fulfills Genesis 37:7

42:22 Here Reuben, and in chapter 44, Judah--both mentioned in the chapter 37 as the brothers act upon their jealousy of Joseph-- offer more appropriate responses

43:2 It seems as if the families go through their food supply before fulfilling Joseph's orders to return with Benjamin (what did Simeon think of this timeframe?)

44:18 While Joseph was deeply moved at seeing Benjamin, it was Judah's noble humility that ultimately causes Joseph to reveal his identity to his brothers.

Acts 23

Vs 1: Previously mentioned in 23:2, he is the third Ananias in Acts of the Apostles, with the husband of Sapphira, and the man who restored Paul's vision the first two.

Vs 22: The Way, original name for the disciples, predates the term "Christian". See Acts 9:2, 19:9

Web Link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6JNeGi2egsk> upcoming song entitled God the Uncreated One: You are King Forever

<http://www.biblearchaeology.org/post/2010/02/18/Joseph-in-Egypt-Part-I.aspx#Article> one of four articles on Joseph

http://www.bible-history.com/links.php?cat=39&sub=477&cat_name=Manners+%26+Customs&subcat_name=Eating+Customs All you need to know about eating customs in the Ancient Near East

<https://obscurecharacters.com/2015/02/07/felix-an-unscrupulous-governor/>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/29874.Martin_Luther)I question the veracity of a few of the quotes, but the page includes many thought-provoking sayings.)

<https://cruxnow.com/commentary/2017/06/21/catholic-reads-bible-first-time/> (article by my department chair when I taught at Kean.)

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 41: What is the Lord's Prayer?

Answer: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

To learn more about Question 41, including Scripture background, prayer, commentary and video from scholars, visit <http://newcitycatechism.com/new-city-catechism/#41>

Editorial: The Gracious and Merciful God

Benjamin, whose name means 'son of my right hand', receives blessing from both his Father and Brother. Jacob calls upon El Shaddai to grant mercy upon Benjamin as he is sent off. Joseph, upon seeing his brother, speaks "God be gracious to you" (43:14, 29). They speak two attributes of God that Israel often called upon throughout her history and music, and through the prophets. We share their reliance upon the grace and mercy of God.

Moses heard from the Lord on Mt. Sinai, describing himself as the gracious and compassionate One (Exodus 34:6).

Nehemiah, leading the people in prayer upon return from Exile, declared; "You are a gracious and merciful God" (9:17, 31)

David sang "Lord, you are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness" (Psalm 86:15, 103:8, 145:8)

The prophet Joel beckons the people back to God: Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate (2:13)

Jonah also joins the chorus as he wrestles with the Lord's grace (4:2).

In Scripture, the right hand symbolized the favor of God (whereas the left symbolized judgment). For example, Jesus is exalted to the right hand of the Father. The Son of My Right Hand (Benjamin) hears blessings upon him as he lives within God's story.

Acknowledging the grace and mercy of God is the rewarding way to observe life. It is far better path than to hold onto the guilt we carry. Think about Benjamin's brothers:

"The resulting deception of their father lies at the bottom of everything. The brothers have no room in which to act, no energy for imagination, and no possibility of freedom. They are bound by the power of an unforgiven past, immobilized by guilt and driven by anxiety. Their guilt and anxiety can surface neither in the presence of the father nor in the presence of Joseph...They cannot see themselves as a generation of promise-bearers. They are unable to think of any generation after themselves. They are fated, locked to a past moment. They cannot be open to any new possibility, either as a new gift from God or as afresh work of Joseph." (Brueggemann, Genesis, 338)

Rather, we are invited to follow Christ, full of grace and truth (John 1:14). "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need" (Hebrews 4:16)

Prayers to the Lord and Author of Life
(offered in 10/15 worship by the congregation)

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

Dear Tabby

How is the Reformation going?

Martin from Mercerville

Dear Martin,

Thanks for asking. At the end of this month, we will observe the 500th anniversary of the lecture that you posted, which sparked the spiritual reforming of continental Europe. The printing press, and increase in exploration allowed the message of righteousness by faith to spread throughout the earth. I'd like to quote from a collection of your writings entitled Day by Day We Magnify Thee.

And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain, ye are yet in your sins. (I Corinthians 15:17)

If a man desires to preach the Gospel, he must above all else preach that Christ is risen. Whoever does not preach this is no apostle, for it is the main article of our belief, and those are the purest and noblest books which teach most about this. The greatest power lies in this article of our belief, for if there was no Resurrection we should have no comfort or hope, and everything else that Christ has done and suffered would be in vain. Therefore we must teach this: Behold, Christ died for you; He took upon Himself your sin, death and hell, and bore the burden of it all. But nothing could hold Him down. He was too strong. He rose from beneath it all and overcame it and subjected it to Himself, and He did this only that you should be freed from it and made lord over it. If you believe it, it is yours. O, how well we Christians should know this; how clear and distinct should this Epistle be to us!

Earlier in his letter to the Church in Corinth, Paul wrote these words:

God will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (1:8-9)