

Upcoming Events

February 15, 6 p.m. **Deacons**

February 19, 4 p.m. **Food Concession.**
6pm **Bluegrass Concert**

February 22, 7 p.m. **Session**

Capital Campaign:

Goal: \$75,400
Received: \$24,705
Pledged: \$15,500
Still Needed: \$35,195

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

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!

Titusville Presbyterian Mission Statement

The multifaceted mission of the First Presbyterian Church, Titusville, NJ is:

(1) as worshippers, to grow in our love for, and express our love to, our Trine God, in worship, prayer, devotion, music stewardship, and Sabbath-keeping (observance of the LORD's Day);

(2) as servants with Christ, to show God's love to our neighbors through intentional works of love and deliberate acts of kindness;

(3) as heralds of the gospel, to proclaim the good news concerning forgiveness, reconciliation, salvation, and eternal life in Christ to those in need of hope and the new spiritual birth;

(4) as living stones, to build up the church of Jesus Christ by building honest, caring, and encouraging relationships with one another as members of his united body, which we treat with tenderness and compassion;

(5) as disciples, to preserve and pass on the revelation of the divine truth of God in Christ as revealed by the Holy Spirit through the holy scriptures to people of all ages and from generation to generation, and to build one another up in this truth that we may be identified by perseverance and by our discovering our competence in the LORD;

- all this we aim to do with hope in the spirit of truth and love, so as to show the world what life under the lordship of Christ looks like, and, in so doing, to glorify the one true God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

Class of 2018
Gail Butterfoss
Lettie Ritner

Class of 2019
Chris Manz

Ministers: All members of Titusville Church
Worship Assistant: Randy Niederer
Jon and Helen Eastburn, *Music Directors*

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

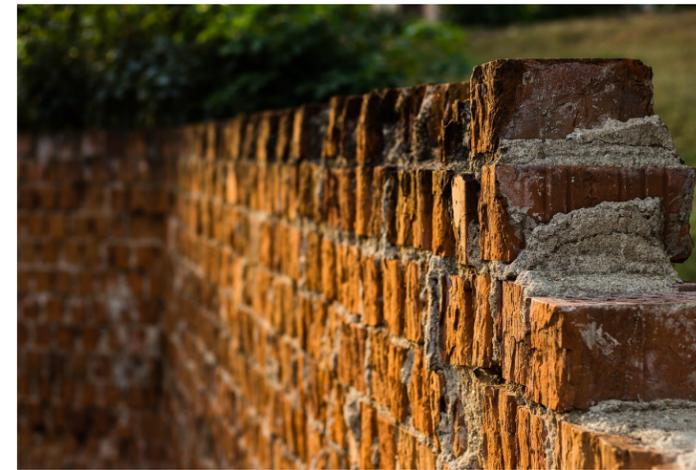
February 12, 2017

THE **EXTRAORDINARY**

**GOD'S MAJESTIC WORK of
REUNIFICATION & ADOPTION**

Let us worship God!
Snow. A 60 degree days in February. What is happening? Well, life is. Sometimes we encounter the extremes. In the church, we continue on in Ordinary Time as we move toward Lent. The Ordinary is a theatre in which we encounter the Extraordinary Lord at work. Today, we visit an ancient story of

human life, gathering and dispersed by God from the Tower of Babel. We also continue reading through the Gospel of Luke. The reading from 7-8:21 include stories of a roman soldier believing in Jesus, resurrection of the dead and a sinner anointing Jesus. What was happening? Well, Jesus was...and is.



Call to Worship

Still, the truth of God calls us away from unbelief. He reminds us that Jesus, the Son of God, who is God, stepped into history...to provide a sacrifice for our sin and fickle belief. God reminds us that the Son he promised in Genesis 3 and Isaiah 53 is the one he sent in Luke. It was planned intricately and it was fulfilled undeniably. And if God cannot and does not lie, then this logic follows: even if we don't feel like it, we must consider every action of God as real, every word he says as true and every promise as certain.

Chris-Ann Manning Forde,
Reformed African American Network

Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God,
whose Son restored Mary
Magdalene to health of mind
and body and called her to be
a witness to his resurrection;
forgive our sins and heal us by
your grace, that we may serve
you in the power of his risen
Son, who is alive and reigns with
you, in the unity of the Holy
spirit, one God, now and for
ever.**

—churchofengland.org



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
Offertory "We Are One in the Spirit"
Doxology (page 4)
Sending Hymn (page 1)
Benediction
Choral Benediction "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

Scripture

Psalm 119:81-96 (page 438)
Genesis 11:1-9 (page 7)
Luke 7-8:21 (page 730)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Songs for Today

Opening Hymns
#8 "Come Thou Almighty King
Insert "How Very Good and Pleasant"
Hymn of Response
#343 "Amazing Grace"
Sending Hymn
#606 "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"

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Notes on Psalm 119 and Luke 7-8:21

Psalm 119 is the longest in the Bible, featuring a stanza of each letter of the Hebrew alphabet, extolling the virtues of God's Word.

Luke 7:22 Jesus encouraging John the Baptist that he was indeed the Messiah, using similar phrases as he first declared in Luke 4:18 when quoting Isaiah 61

Luke 7:27 Jesus validates John's ministry by teaching that John is the fulfillment of Malachi 3:1

Luke 7:32 possible allusion to Aesop's Fable, The Fisherman Piping

Luke 8:2 <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/all-women-bible/Mary-Magdalene> provides an extensive background of biblical and historical understanding of this woman, her healing and call.

Luke 8:10 Jesus quotes from Isaiah 6:9, which is part of a passage on Isaiah's commission from the Holy Lord.

Web Links

https://global.oup.com/obso/focus/focus_on_towerbabel/ thought provoking ideas on cause of dispersion from Babel's Tower.

<http://www.artbible.info/art/large/122.html> famous paintings of the Tower of Babel

<http://www.bible-history.com/sketches/ancient/roman-centurion.html> cultural background and biblical references to centurions

<http://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/authority/> overview of meaning and NT use of word

<http://www.crivoice.org/travelers.html> ancient customs of hospitality

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/pharisees-sadducees-and-essenes> background on Hebrew religious leadership during time of Christ.

<http://www.colsoncenter.org/the-center/columns/indepth/15062-jesus-christ-and-the-kingdom-of-god>

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 1: God, Creation and Fall, Law

Week 9 What does God require in the first, second and third commandments?

Answer: *First, that we know and trust God as the only true and living God. Second, that we avoid all idolatry and do not worship God improperly. Third, that we treat God's name with fear and reverence, honoring also his Word and works.*

To learn more about Question 7, including Scripture background, prayer, commentary and video from scholars, visit <http://www.newcitycatechism.com/q-parent/q9.php>

Editorial: Confusion

At the tower of Babel, the Lord causes confusion to the languages of the people and then scatters them abroad. Though we don't know exactly why, it is obvious that the human plans and actions were not honorable and pleasing to God. Because God uses even confusion for good, we can join in praying that God will confuse the plans of the wicked.

In the gospel stories for today's worship, Jesus rescues the people from several types of confusion.

The first story though, is not about confusion at all. The Centurion understands Jesus' authority, honors it and displays great faith that amazes Jesus. The centurion is a model for us.

Jesus raises a widow's son

There is a confusion that comes from grief. This is the most understandable type of confusion. It is hard to think broadly in the pain of a loved one's death. Jesus comes to this confusion. After he healed the son, the people proclaim, "God has come to help his people" (7:16)

Jesus and John the Baptist

There is a confusion that comes from dark days and hardship. John had been in prison, isolated and discouraged. He was wondering if Jesus was indeed the Messiah. Jesus spoke the word of the prophet to John, which brought back perspective.

The Parable of the Marketplace and Jesus anointed by a sinful woman

There is confusion caused by our judgment of others. The people rejected God's good news that had come to them through two different messengers: John—"he has a demon" and Jesus—"he is a glutton". These inaccurate understandings caused confusion. As did Simon's judgment of the sinful woman, whom Jesus calls to go live in peace after he forgave her sins. Simon wasn't able to see fully what Jesus had done for another.

The Parable of the Sower

Confusion comes from bad choices. We see different seeds not bearing crops because they didn't react appropriately to God's word.

A Lamp on a Stand and Jesus Mother's and Brothers.

Confusion comes when we don't do our job. We are not to hide, but shine for the Lord. We are not to demand, but to do God's will.

Prayers to the Lord and Author of Life
(offered in 2/12 worship by the congregation)

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

Dear Tabby,

I've done something I am ashamed of. I can't forgive myself, and I cannot imagine that God will forgive me. I feel lost.

Petrified in Pennington

Dear Petrified

You are correct, you cannot forgive yourself. It is impossible. All sin causes harm to something/one beyond yourself: the creation, another human and to God. Forgiveness must come to us, it is not something we conjure within us to absolve ourselves. This is a figment of the modern abuse of extreme individualism.

Sin does bring harm to our selves. When we do wrong there are consequences, and we will feel distance until we come to the Lord. Even after we come to the Lord, we have to trust in him.

The story of the sinful woman anointing Jesus reminds us that wrongdoing, when brought before a Holy and gracious God and confessed, can be forgiven. The result of the Lord's forgiveness should be a transformational gratitude: "Therefore I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown". Jesus also taught that "whoever has been forgiven little loves little".

Jesus speaks to the woman that "your faith has saved you; go in peace". It is not her self-evaluation or her self-absolution that makes her right, it is faith in the living God. The Lord makes her right. This faith in the Lord brings righteousness into the creation, into our relationships with others and with God, and yes, makes us right as well.

Being made right, we are then able to go in peace. The Hebrew word for peace is Shalom, which evokes 'wholeness'. In the Lord, we are right, forgiven and freed. We can go in peace, to serve our Lord. Our brokenness is made whole.

Getting out of the trap of self, we can meet the Lord, in whom our life and transformation exist. Christ is our peace.