

Third Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 a.m.

January 24, 2010

Gathering of God's People

Chiming of the Hour

Greetings and Concerns of the Church

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: and also with you.

Opening Prayer

Prelude

Thy Word

Mark Hayes

Introit *You Alone are Holy* Anonymous

You alone are holy; you alone are worthy; you are filled with splendor and with awesome wonder. For our sins you suffered, died and resurrected, granting us salvation, giving us eternal life. You alone are holy; you alone are worthy; you are filled with splendor and with awesome wonder. Send your Holy Spirit; may it shine upon us. Let your wondrous glory with its radiance fill this place.

All: You alone are holy; you alone are worthy; you are filled with splendor and with awesome wonder. Send your Holy Spirit; may it shine upon us. Let your wondrous glory with its radiance fill this place.

*Call to Worship Psalm 19

Let the ears of all people be attentive;

the heavens are telling the glory of God.

Day and night, God is at work among us.

We are drawn together as one body, the Church.

As we dwell with God we know we need one another.

We seek true community where all are honored.

Hear once again God's laws and commandments.

Let the faithful find them sure and true.

*Hymn of Praise 467

O Store Gud

How Great Thou Art

Celebrating God's Grace

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of grace, you desire our freedom in your law.

Jesus came to bring good news,

to mend and to heal,

to release and to redeem,

and to proclaim your reign.

We confess that we have ignored his message.

We remain bruised and broken, captive to our sin.

**We convince ourselves that we are forever stuck
where we are, as we are. Help us hear the truth of the
gospel. Inspire us with your liberating word.**

**Let your Spirit cleanse us and change us so that we
may receive all that you have spoken in Christ Jesus.**

Silent Prayer of Confession

Kyrie Eleison 572 *Lord Have Mercy* Merbecke
***Lord have mercy upon us,
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord have mercy upon us.***

Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri 579

***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.***

*Greeting One Another in Christ's Name.

The Peace of Christ be with you; **and also with you!**

Children's Message

Anthem *Thy Word* arr. Jack Shrader

Refrain: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. Thy Word is lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still You're right there beside me. And nothing I will fear as long as You are near. Please be near to the end. Refrain

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid. I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand. I will not forget Your love for me, and yet, my heart forever is wandering. Jesus, be my guide, and hold me to Your side; and I will love You to the end.

Refrain.

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm 19 Page 472

Gospel Lesson: Luke 4: 14-21 Page 57

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Old Testament Lesson: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Page 416

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Sue A. Riggle

Responding to God's Word

*Hymn of Response *Psalm 19* (Insert)

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

Peter Cutts

Thanks to God Whose Word Was Written

Thanks to God whose word was written in the Bible's sacred page, record of the revelation showing God to every age. God has spoken: Praise God for the living Word.

All: God has spoken: Praise God for the living Word.

Thanks to God whose word Incarnate heights and depths of life did share. Deeds and words and death and rising, grace in human form declare. God has spoken; Praise God for the living Word.

All: God has spoken: Praise God for the living Word.

Thanks to God whose Word is answered by the Spirit's voice within. Here we drink of joy unmeasured, life redeemed from death and sin. God is speaking: Praise God for the living Word.

All: God has spoken, praise God for the living Word.

*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.

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Going in God's Name

Hymn of Commitment 332 *Live Into Hope* Truro

*Benediction

Postlude

Thy Word

arr. John Carter

FPCJ Weekly Prayer Concerns

Church Members

Corina Barbee; Susan Baggarly; Joanne Foster; Pat Fox; Archie Fountain; Penny Fort; Virginia Suty; Florence Landers; Pat Cooper; Bob & Joanne Foster; Pete Garcia and family; Beauford Roberts.

Family & Friends of Church Members

Cindy Anderson and family (friends of Melissa Ham); **Dr. Hector Lopez; Dot Harber** (cousin of Eloise Belle Isle); **Carolyn Scroggins** (friend of Kevin & Wendy Taylor); **Jerry Kopp** (friend of Albert Wallace); **Mary Katherine Wood** (granddaughter of Oliver & Pat Wood); **Jose Smith; Carley Scroggins** (cousin of Wendy Taylor); **Dean Pritchett** (Friend of Marvin Ham); **Claudia Mertl** (friend of Baggarly family); **Ruth Anne** (friend of Linda McElroy); **Dorothy and Fred Kobus** (sister & brother-in-law of Ruby White); **Rufus Thompson** (brother of Ruby White & Chris Lizama); **Jeannie & James Lassiter, Melvin & Lorraine Saunders** (cousins of Ruby White); **Ruth Hays Smith** (friend of Susan Baggarly); **Sarah & Mel Griffith** (parents of Deanie Turner); **Becky Diaz** (cousin of Raymond Baggarly); **Taylor Hulsey** (12 year old critically ill cancer patient); **Byrdie Bevel** (Aunt of Pat Woods); **Inez Rutledge** (mother of Wendy Taylor's office manager); **Good Shepherd Clinic; Dick & Barbara Fox** (Pat Fox's brother and sister-in-law); **Richard Sandifer** (brother-in-law of Walter & Gwen Taylor); **Dianne Campbell** (friend of Ruby White); **Steve & Cheryl Lewis** (son-in-law of Dr. Charles & Margaret Carter (friends of Carolyn Fox); **Debora Bryson & family**

(friends of Elaine & Ronnie Piper); **Christopher Brewer** (Betty Bush's grandson); **Jack Silvernail** (uncle of Corina Barbee); **Michael Foster** (Bob & Joanne Foster's son); **Jasper Hartz**; **Justin Elliott** (friend of Laura Parkhouse).

Military

Marc Maketo; Josh Hamby; Jason Ali-Talha; William R. Robinson; Alan & Regina Simpson Gulke; Daniel Hudalla; Kyle Hudalla; Morgan Nickerson, Ryan Tewell; Philip Ham, John Ham, Chris Lankford and Spencer Hardy.

Areas of Service – January 24, 2009

Fellowship – Administration

Ushers –Brian Luetkemeyer, Gene Hatfield,
Terry & Leah Sapp, John Westervelt

Greeter: Beth Trebendis & John Anzalone

Worship Assistant: Keith Parkhouse

WORSHIP AND MUSIC NOTES

After the destruction of the Temple and the exile into Babylon in 587 B.C., The proclamation and study of the *Torah* gradually replaced the sacrificial system of the Temple as the focus of Jewish worship. Today's reading from Nehemiah 8 provides a glimpse of the early stages of worship after the exile. The *Torah*, attributed to Moses was regarded as God's instruction to Israel for covenant living. While Christian translators and commentators often refer to it as Law, Jews have always interpreted the word *Torah* as instruction for

living as God's people, a view many contemporary Christian scholars now share. For the Church, the teachings of Jesus in the New Testament, and particularly the Gospels are a way of interpreting *Torah*, but are not meant to replace it.

Today's Psalm is #19, one of three celebrating God's instruction to God's people in *Torah*. The others are Psalm 1 and 119. The first half of Psalm 19 celebrates God's revelation in creation, while the second half declares the perfection of God's revelation in God's Word. The Hymn of Response today is a paraphrase of the Psalm, and the Hymn of Praise, *How Great Thou Art*, draws on the imagery of Psalm 19 (and 8) to celebrate the presence of God in creation, and in God's own Son. *Thy Word*, a popular contemporary praise song is taken from Psalm 119: 105, praising God for the Word as a guiding light. As we gather this day, we pray that we may be guided by the Spirit to join Jesus in proclaiming and living the Good News found in God's Word.

Global Christian Education Minute
Sponsored by the
FPCJ Christian Education Committee

Minute for Mission: Christian Unity

This summer will bring two great opportunities in the church ecumenical and in our own Reformed family to witness to the unity power of God's Spirit. Our hope is that these opportunities will make us more determined to seek broader and deeper unity among all of God's people for a better and more just world.

June 2-6 in Edinburgh, Scotland, the church will commemorate the centenary of the World Missionary conference, which started the modern ecumenical movement and consequently, the establishment of the World Council of Churches.

June 18-28 in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the historic Uniting General Council will meet, when the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the Reformed Ecumenical Council will unite to form the World Communion of Reformed Ecumenical Churches. Delegates will gather under the theme “Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace.”

In my own community I am working toward unity through an initiative I have called the Middlesex Quartet, an ecumenical mission partnership of our Presbyterian congregation and congregations from the Roman Catholic Assemblies of God, and Southern Baptist traditions.

Abram and Lot, though kinsman, found that the only way they could survive and thrive economically was to split. Little did they know that the Lord God had other plans. The reconciliation of family at the local level would bring all nations from all corners of the earth in praise to the Lord.

Rev. Neal D. Presa, Pastor, Middlesex Presbyterian Church in Middlesex, New Jersey. Chair of the Caribbean and North American Area Council of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held 1/31 immediately following worship. Copies of the Annual Report are available in the narthex. Please pick one up, *but remember to bring it with you to the meeting!*

*In 2010, a year of growth and change, you can count on mid-week fellowship every Wednesday at FPCJ. **Starting in January, bible study will be held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday nights in the FLC.*** If you are strapped for time, bring a sandwich to munch. Not to worry, the third Wednesday of each month will continue to be our wonderful Wednesday Supper nights, also at 6 p.m. Bring your bible and bring a friend!

Beginning in January, the choir will rehearse on Wednesday night at 7 pm. Come for bible Study, stay for choir! *All are welcome.*

The Church at Prayer meets at 1:30 PM every Tuesday, in the parlor, to intercede on behalf of the church and community. Please join us. If you would like more information, contact Ruby White.

The Juanita Hambrick Circle meets at 10:00 AM the second Tuesday of each month. All are invited to attend.

The Breakfast Bunch meets the first Wednesday of every month at 9:00 AM at the Dwarf House on Tara Boulevard. *Everyone is welcome!* For additional information contact Eloise Belle Isle.

Good Shepherd Clinic prayer requests are located in the pink box in the narthex. Please be sure to check the box, and pray daily for the concerns listed.

Please make your prayer requests by using the card found in the friendship pad or you may call the church office (770-478-8118) during the week. All names will be printed in the bulletin and included in prayers during the week and the following Sunday. Please keep the prayer list current; advise the pastor or church office of changes as soon as possible.

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Items we save to benefit various organizations:

Campbell Soup UPC codes and cancelled postage stamps (with ¼ inch border) for the PCUSA's Duvall Home in Florida.

Presbyterian Women save brown money (pennies).

Used print cartridges benefit Clayton Family Care.

Acknowledgements:

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Thanks to God, Whose Word Was Written, text by R.T. Brooks, c. 1954 by Hope Publishing Company.