

The Lord's Day

December 13, 2020 ~ 10:30 AM

Scripture for Meditation: "He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him."

-Matthew 28:6, 8 (ESV)

Prelude *Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow* arr. L. Larson

* Call to Worship [Psalm 98:1-4](#)

Leader: Oh sing to the LORD a new song,

For he has done marvelous things!

Leader: His right hand and his holy arm

have worked salvation for him.

Leader: The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Leader: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

Leader: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

* [Hymn 195](#) *Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come* ANTIOCH

* Invocation

Old Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 724) [Ezekiel 37:1-14](#)

New Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 1011) [James 1:1-12](#)
(continuous reading)

[Hymn 226](#) *As with Gladness Men of Old* DIX

** Silent Prayer of Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

* Congregation Standing

** Congregation Kneeling

* [Hymn 211](#) *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen* GOD REST YOU MERRY

** Prayers of the People

Offertory *What Child Is This* arr. M. Thompson
[Hymn 213](#)

* [Hymn 731](#) *Doxology* OLD HUNDREDTH

* Prayer of Dedication

Sermon **The Wonder of the Resurrection** Pastor Will Snyder
Text: [Matthew 28:1-10](#) (Bible, p. 835)

* [Hymn 286](#) *Worship Christ, the Risen King!* REGENT SQUARE

* Benediction

* Silent Meditation

Announcements and Dismissal

As you enter the Sanctuary, please be considerate of others who are quietly preparing for worship. Please silence your cell phones before the service begins.

In an effort to be subject to our civil authorities as well as considering the well-being of others before ourselves, facial masks are required at all times while inside the church facility on Sunday mornings, with the exception of the Pastor and those leading in worship during the service.

According to state guidelines you are not required to use a mask or cloth face covering if it is contrary to your health or safety because of a medical condition, a child in a child care setting, anyone under the age of 2 years, or an older child if the parent, guardian or person responsible for the child is unable to place the mask safely on the child's face.

On Sunday mornings, as you use the fellowship hall or sanctuary, please avoid movement between the two facilities as we treat them as separate gatherings in an effort to comply with current regulations.

Shepherding Groups, 12:00 PM:

All Shepherding Groups will meet today after the morning worship service. There will be no evening service tonight.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

December 13, 2020

Worship Leader: Elder Richard Jones
Greeters:
Deacon in Charge: Howard Craig
Ushers: Randy Hershberger
Audio: Chaz Owens
Nursery: 9:30:
10:30 (*Worship*):
Toddler Time:
Coffee Clean-up:
Evening Audio: *Shepherding Groups-*
No Evening Service

December 20, 2020

Worship Leader: Elder Armand Chenelle
Greeters:
Deacon in Charge: Scott Bolliger
Ushers: Walter Mayo
Audio: Chaz Owens
Nursery: 9:30:
10:30 (*Worship*):
Toddler Time:
Coffee Clean-up:
Evening Audio:

This Week at Church

Monday	7:00 PM	Women's Bible Study
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Session Prayer Meeting
Wednesday	1:00 PM	Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Prayer Gathering
Thursday	11:00 AM	Red Cross Blood Drive
	7:00 PM	Deacons' Meeting
Saturday	7:00 AM	Men's Covenant Group
	9:30 AM	Women's Prayer Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be this **Thursday, December 17th** from **11:00 AM to 4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall**. They have added extra safety precautions due to COVID-19 such as temperature checks before entry into the building, social distancing protocol, wearing of face masks, etc. You can visit www.redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment.

YOUTH GROUP @ PCM

Christmas Movie & Silly Gift Exchange – On **Saturday, December 19th, 7-9:30 PM**, we'll watch one of Beth's favorite movies (t.b.a., soonly) and then finish up with our usual crazy gift exchange. Please bring a silly gift (around \$3) suitable for guy or girl and feel free to call Sherry/Beth for ideas about gifts if you can't think of any – they're really good at silly...(860) 803-1138 for Beth or (860) 490-8810 for Sherry).

P.S. Still with masks and social distancing; please continue to bring your own water bottles and if you want to be comfortable, you might want to also bring your own camp chair; otherwise, it'll be folding chairs or floor sitting...

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

We will have our annual Christmas Eve service, a traditional service of lessons and carols, on **Thursday, December 24th at 5:30 PM**.



CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday afternoon Bible study, led by Pastor Will, meets at 1:00 PM and will be studying Hebrews 10:19-39, if you're interested please contact Pastor Will (pastorjws@gmail.com). We will be holding the study on-site at church and for those unable to attend in person, we will provide Zoom.

MEN'S COVENANT GROUP

The Men's Covenant Group, which meets on **Saturday mornings from 7:00-8:50 AM**, is well-underway in studying the Luke-Acts pairing of the New Testament. The group is observing the parallels of the two books, and enjoying fellowship in the Scriptures. It's never too late to join in.

We gather at 7:00 Saturday morning at the church with coffee and food, but there's also the option of attending through an online meeting. Please contact Pastor Will or the church office for the online option.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2021

Dated offering envelopes for 2021 are now available on the back table in the Fellowship Hall. For those who have had envelopes in the past please look for your name on the box. It will have the same number envelopes you had this year. There are un-labeled boxes for anyone who hasn't used the offering envelopes but would like to start. For those new to using the envelopes please put your name on the envelope for the first few weeks of the new year. Thanks! Statements for 2020 will be mailed out in January.

STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFTS

It has been our custom to give a cash Christmas bonus to our PCC staff as an extra "thank you" for the hard work they do throughout the year. You may place a gift in the offering basket on Sunday or in the black wall safe by the church office door by **Sunday, December 20th**. If you've been worshipping from home via the live-stream, you can mail your gift into the church. Please clearly mark your envelope "Staff Christmas Gift." **These donations are not tax-deductible, and must be in the form of cash or a check made out to 'Cash'.**

THANK YOU!

Ellen Bowlin and the Bowlin Family would like to extend their thanks to everyone at PCC for the beautiful flowers they received following the passing of Ellen's father.

Notes for the Preaching of God's Word

The Wonder of the Resurrection

Matthew 28:1-10

Main Preaching Point: Since Jesus Christ is risen from the dead, consider how surprising, personal, and wonderful the resurrection is, so that you may worship him and be filled with great joy

- The Resurrection is Surprising
- The Resurrection is Personal
- The Resurrection is Wonderful

Questions for Individuals, families, or small groups

Text: Matthew 28:1-10

Title: The Wonder of the Resurrection

Questions:

1. What was most important or applicable in today's preaching? Can you summarize the main message?

The Resurrection is Surprising

2. The resurrection of Christ is surprising, but in some surprising ways. What are they?

- Read v.1. What might it reflect that Jesus rose on the first day of the week, rather than on the Sabbath?
- All four gospels give attention to Mary Magdalene (and other women) as the first eyewitnesses of the resurrection. Why is this surprising, and how does it demonstrate evidence for the resurrection?

3. Throughout verses 1-10, there are several times that the verb ("seeing") is used. Identify them. What does this stress?

4. Read John 20:24-29. Is evidence and reason important in addressing the resurrection? Explain. What role does reason & evidence have with biblical belief in the resurrection?

5. Read v.9. The text says, "they worshipped him." Why was worship of a man such a paradigm-shattering reality for Jews? How does it give weight to the truth of the resurrection?

The Resurrection is Personal

6. Though there is evidence and reasons for the truth of the resurrection, one must encounter the living Christ for themselves. In v.9, Jesus encounters the women (and disciples) in a real and personal way. How does that encounter happen today?

The Resurrection is Wonderful

7. Read v.8-9. How do the women respond to the angel's words? What is "fear" and "great joy", and how should they define the Christian life?

8. V.9 says, "they worshipped him." To be filled with joy and amazement would be a natural response to someone being raised from the dead. But worship? What moved these women to worship Jesus?

9. Matthew's gospel does not end with the resurrection narrative. How does his gospel end? What is the relationship between Jesus' resurrection and the mission of the church? Explain.