

# The Lord's Day

January 15, 2023 ~ 10:30 AM

Scripture for Meditation: "Death is swallowed up in victory. "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." -1 Corinthians 15:55-58 (ESV)

Prelude Carol Jones, piano

\* Call to Worship (Bible, p. 525) [Psalm 145:18-21](#)

\* Hymn 115 [All Creatures of Our God and King](#) LASST UNS ERFREUEN

\* Invocation

Old Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 484) [Psalm 71:1-6](#)  
(responsive reading)

New Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 945) [Romans 9:1-18](#)  
(continuous reading)

\*\* Silent Prayer of Confession

\* Assurance of Pardon

\* Hymn 30 [Our God, Our Help in Ages Past](#) ST. ANNE

\*\* Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

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

\* Prayer of Dedication

Sermon *The Miraculous Survival* Pastor Will Snyder  
Text: [Daniel 3:19-30](#) (Bible, p. 740)

\* Hymn (insert) *We Will Feast in the House of Zion*  
arr. McCracken/Moore

The Lord's Supper

\* Hymn 252 [When I Survey the Wondrous Cross](#) HAMBURG

\* Benediction

\* Silent Meditation

Announcements and Dismissal

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*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.*

Nursery care is available for infants through age 3 in Rooms 2 and 4.

**Communion Reminder:** The outside rows on each cup tray contain grape juice; all other cups in each tray contain wine. The bread/cracker served is gluten-free.

### Evening Service, 6:00 PM:

It may be a new year, but your identity in Christ remains the same! Come and be reminded of that tonight starting at 6:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Tonight's good news comes from 1 Peter 2:4-10 "The Honor is for You Who Believe."

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\* Congregation Standing

\*\* Congregation Kneeling

## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

January 15, 2023

**Worship Leader:** Elder Brian Wilson  
**Greeters:**  
**Deacon in Charge:** Peter Benedict  
**Ushers:** Jeff Edwards  
**Audio:** Benjamin Bassett  
**Nursery:** 9:30:  
10:30 (*Worship*): Maddie Edwards, Reagan Hilinski  
**Toddler Time:**  
**Coffee Clean-up:** Sundet Shepherding Group  
**Evening Audio:**

January 22, 2023

**Worship Leader:** Elder Armand Chenelle  
**Greeters:**  
**Deacon in Charge:** Jeff Edwards  
**Ushers:** Walter Mayo  
**Audio:** Benjamin Bassett  
**Nursery:** 9:30:  
10:30 (*Worship*): Danielle Bolliger, Kevin Hilinski  
**Toddler Time:**  
**Coffee Clean-up:** Sundet Shepherding Group  
**Evening Audio:**

## This Week at Church

Tuesday	7:00 PM	Session Prayer Meeting
Wednesday	1:00 PM	Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Prayer Gathering
Thursday	7:00 PM	Deacons' Meeting
Saturday	7:00 AM	Men's Covenant Group

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMING EVENTS

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#### EDWARDS/MCKINNON WEDDING

Ian Edwards and Sarah McKinnon would like to invite their church family to attend their wedding ceremony occurring **Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 beginning at 2:30 PM here at PCC.** Refreshments and fellowship will occur after the ceremony from 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM.

#### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called our annual Congregational Meeting for **Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM** (if inclement weather that night, it will be February 10<sup>th</sup>). We will hear reports on various ministries of the church and hear a report on the 2023 budget. Please come and participate in this important part of our church life.

#### MEN'S RETREAT

**March 24 – 26, 2023** (Dinner Friday evening through worship on Sunday)

**Location: Pilgrim Pines Retreat and Conference Center, Swanzey, NH**

Save the date men! Old and young. We will be joining the Pilgrim Pines men's retreat for a weekend of building community. The men who attended last year found it very rewarding. There is always plenty of good food and time for fellowship. Saturday provides for some free time in the afternoon. There are plenty of options. One will be a hike of Mt. Monadnock led by Mark Franson. The lakeshore setting is beautiful and peaceful. Often there are loons and sometimes a bald eagle. Make it a priority. Unplug and prepare for

conversation with other men – about guy-stuff. Plenty of unstructured time. See you there!

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

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### WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday Bible Study takes place at 1:00 PM at the church. If you are interested in joining, please contact Pastor Will at the church office: (860) 742-7222.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

(Every other Monday – next one Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>)

**In-Person** Women's Bible Study led by Debbie Goodale, at 6:30 PM at the church. We will be going through the book of Romans! Please reach out to Debbie Goodale if you have any questions. Cell: 860-455-6579; Email: dlhgoodale@gmail.com.

**Zoom** Women's Bible Study led by Maddie Edwards and Hannah Sung. We will be going through the book of Mark! Please reach out to Hannah Sung for the Zoom link via text/call: 862-334-3839 or via email: hannahmoon93@gmail.com.

### MIDWEEK RECHARGE

We are heading into Year 2 of the revamped Midweek Recharge ministry! It has been an exciting twelve months of food and fellowship as we have met on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month to share a provided meal as a congregation, be encouraged in God's Word, and join together at His throne of grace for the needs of His people, His praise, and glory. Additionally, the teens of the church and the younger kids have benefitted from a time to gather to hear from God's Word and fellowship in their own small groups.

We would love for this ministry to continue in 2023, but there is a need for servant-leaders in the area of the meal planning and preparation. This task would be best handled by more than one person, as there are several aspects that need to be covered: planning the meals, purchasing of food, preparing the meal, set-up, and clean up. We have tried to simplify the planning of the meals by picking

four dinners to rotate through, but the handling of those meals still might be best with multiple people dividing the labor.

Many of you have helped in the past in this area, and we are very grateful for your service. Moving forward, if anyone is able and willing to take more of a leadership role, please contact Mark Popovitch (860-690-2470) or Pastor Will. We are happy to answer any questions you may have in this regard as well.

### THANK YOU'S!

Dear Congregation,

We are grateful to the Lord for your kind gift to us and to all the staff. Your generosity warms our hearts and it is a joy to serve with you our precious Savior, Jesus Christ. May your kindness be multiplied throughout the church of our Lord.

Sincerely,  
The Snyder Family

Thank you so much for your generosity, PCC! It has been an honor to serve alongside you as your sister in Christ. I look forward to continuing to walk alongside you this new year as your Women's Discipleship Coordinator.

In Christ,  
Hannah Sung

Thank you everyone very much for your generous gift this Christmas. I have enjoyed worshipping our Savior and serving Him alongside you all. Your gift is a picture of the love the Church has for one another. Thank you again for thinking of me and my family this Christmas.

Mark Popovitch

To my church family,

My sincerest thanks and gratitude to you for your generous Christmas gift. It is a blessing to be able to serve my church as I do. I pray for God's blessings to be upon all of you throughout the year ahead.

-Danielle Bolliger

## *Notes for the Preaching of God's Word*

### *The Miraculous Survival*

Daniel 3:19-30

**Main Preaching Point:** Since the sovereign Lord has called you to live with boldness and faithfulness after him, demonstrate the sincerity of your faith with fearless action, knowing He will not only provide for you but that He is the one who delivers from death.

- The Necessity of Resistance—faith in a fallen world
- Faith Works—when words are no longer sufficient
- The Miracle of Survival—victory over death through God's presence

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Questions for Individuals, families, or small groups

Text: Daniel 3:19-30

Title: The Miraculous Survival

**Questions:**

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

#### The Necessity of Resistance—faith in a fallen world

2. Read Daniel 3:19-23. Why was Nebuchadnezzar so furious? What happened prior to this to turn the king against Daniel and friends?

3. According to the sermon and Daniel 1-2, things looked up. What had Daniel and his friends been able to do (up to the point of our text) without being the subject of persecution?

- There is a sense in which believers are called to live quiet and godly lives without causing disruption and uproar in the world. Read 1 Timothy 2:1-2. Discuss.  
In a way, Daniel and his friends had been able to worship the true God and be devoted to him without compromising and giving into Babylonian culture and godless practices. But what was the

turning point that brought persecution and the threat of death? Discuss the relevance of this.

#### Faith Works—when words are no longer sufficient

4. When Nebuchadnezzar threatened Daniel's friends with death, how did they respond in 3:16-18? At that point, words were enough to communicate their commitment and resolve to trust in the Lord. However, once Nebuchadnezzar throws them into the fiery furnace, words were no longer sufficient. Discuss the place of words in our Christian faith/living, and when words are no longer sufficient—when faith must simply act in silence.

- Think of Jesus' ministry. So much of his ministry centered around words—he taught and instructed people in the truth. However, as he neared the cross he was more often silent (see Mk.14:60ff; Jn.19:9ff). Reflect on this.

5. We know from passages such as Galatians 2 that we are not justified by works but by faith in Christ. Or as Ephesians 2 puts it, "for it is by grace you have been saved and this not of yourselves, it is the grace of God; not by works..." However, read on Ephesians 2:10. Though we are not saved *by* works, we are saved *for* good works. How, do Daniel's companions reflect the true faith that brings about works? Discuss.

#### The Miracle of Survival—victory over death through God's presence

6. Read Daniel 3:21-25. Though Daniel's three friends are thrown into the furnace, the king sees four men, and that walking amidst the fire, unharmed. Who is the fourth man?

7. How does this whole scene reveal death as man's greatest threat and fear? How does our society view death, in general? How should the Christian view death and should we have fear of it? And how should the gospel of Christ and God's presence shape our beliefs and attitudes surrounding death? Discuss.