

The Lord's Day

February 26, 2023 ~ 10:30 AM

Scripture for Meditation: "And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent."

-Colossians 1:17-18 (ESV)

Prelude Carol Jones, piano

Announcements

* Call to Worship (responsive reading) [Psalm 89:1-5](#)

Leader: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to
all generations.

For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever;
in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."

You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:

"I will establish your offspring forever,
and build your throne for all generations."

Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

* Hymn 302 [Come, Christians, Join to Sing](#) MADRID

* Invocation

Old Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 745) [Daniel 8:1-14](#)

New Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 947) [Romans 11:11-36](#)
(continuous reading)

Hymn 468 [My Faith Has Found a Resting Place](#) LANDAS

** Silent Prayer of Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

* Hymn (insert) *Before the Throne of God Above* arr. V. Cook

** Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

* Congregation Standing

** Congregation Kneeling

* Hymn 731 [Doxology](#) OLD HUNDREDTH

* Prayer of Dedication

Sermon *The Battle for Power* Pastor Will Snyder

Text: [Daniel 8:15-27](#) (Bible, p. 746)

* Hymn 92 [A Mighty Fortress Is Our God](#) EIN' FESTE BURG

* Benediction

Postlude

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.

There will be no evening service tonight. We will plan to pick back up next Sunday, March 5th.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

February 26, 2023

Worship Leader: Elder Scott Warren
Greeters:
Deacon in Charge: Peter Benedict
Ushers: Walter Mayo
Audio: Zeb Sinnamon
Nursery: 9:30:
10:30 (*Worship*): Anthony Lazzaro, Sue Owens
Toddler Time:
Coffee Clean-up: Warren Shepherding Group
Evening Audio:

March 5, 2023

Worship Leader: Elder Brian Wilson
Greeters:
Deacon in Charge: Jeff Edwards
Ushers: David Embree
Audio: Benjamin Bassett
Nursery: 9:30:
10:30 (*Worship*): Anita Hilinski, Sierra Hilinski
Toddler Time:
Coffee Clean-up: Wilson Shepherding Group
Evening Audio:

This Week at Church

Monday	6:30 PM	Women's In-Person Bible Study
Wednesday	1:00 PM	Bible Study
Saturday	7:00 AM	Men's Covenant Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

LADIES' TEA & TESTIMONY

On Saturday, March 11th at 11 AM, we're having a Tea & Testimony at the church. If you plan to attend, please sign up on the clipboard on the back table in the Fellowship Hall. Consider bringing a dish to share. If you need a babysitter, please let me (Patricia Ohlund) know so we can plan accordingly. This tea will be open to teens in high school.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

Daylight savings time begins on March 12th at 2:00 AM. Don't forget to turn your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night!

LADIES' SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

A Sunday School Class for ladies will be starting on March 12th. Laurie Warren will lead an inductive study of the book of Ephesians. Homework will be assigned but it is not a requirement for attendance. Let Laurie know if you are interested in attending or have any questions. Text 860-759-4085 or email LaurieWarren86@gmail.com

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!

DISCOVERY CLASS

Beginning **Sunday, April 23rd**, a Discovery Class will begin for those interested in learning more about the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Coventry. This class runs for 8 weeks and takes place during the Sunday school hour (9:30-10:15). It focuses on understanding the gospel message, the doctrinal distinctives within PCC, and the ministries of our church. It is a time to grow in fellowship and understanding and provides a helpful avenue for those considering church membership. For those interested please contact Pastor Will (pastorjws@gmail.com) or the church office.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

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

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. Next one – Feb. 27th.

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. Next one – Mar. 6th.

MIDWEEK RECHARGE

We believe it is important to provide a mid-week avenue for all believers to come together to grow in friendship and to seek the Lord in prayer. Additionally, there have been some in the church that

expressed a desire for more opportunities to fellowship with one another and we desire to help cultivate that.

Schedule

This ministry will take place twice a month on the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 6:00-8:00 PM**. From 6:00-7:00 PM food will be provided and individuals and families may come at any time during that hour to eat and spend time together. Beginning at 7:00 PM the focus will shift to a time of prayer, facilitated by an Elder, Pastor, or other servant-leader in the church. This is an opportunity for prayer, fellowship, and to invite others outside of PCC to come and enjoy a meal and spend time together. The next Mid-Week Recharge will be **March 8th**.

Kids Bible Club

Along with food, fellowship, and prayer, a kids bible club led by Mark Popovitch will also be available for children grades k-5th. Kids club will begin at **7:00 PM** and is a ministry that provides opportunity for young people to grow in friendship with other children, receive instruction and lessons from God's Word, and enjoy singing praise to the Lord.

If you have any questions regarding this ministry, please contact Pastor Will (860.742.7222).

HELP FOR EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

Please be praying for those in Turkey and Syria impacted by the severe earthquake. Samaritan's Purse is providing disaster relief services and is deploying a 52-bed Emergency Field Hospital and approximately 75 staff. For more information or to donate to their work, visit their website: www.samaritanspurse.org.

MEAL MINISTRY FREEZER

The deacons have purchased a small freezer dedicated solely to the meal ministry. Currently there are four meals in the freezer. There is a list on the outside of the meals and their ingredients as well as side items that go with them. Please take a meal for yourself or to give one to someone that can use one and mark off the meal that you have taken. We are also looking for individuals or groups that would be willing to make meals as they are needed going forward. Please contact Pete or Jill Benedict with questions or to sign up.

REPORT ON PCC STAFFING FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

One of the items that was addressed at the Annual Congregational Meeting on Friday, February 10 related to the area of staffing at PCC. Below is a summary of what was communicated at the meeting:

As a result of a growing need in the church for equipping and supporting lay leaders, planning and overseeing church ministries and events, and helping with pastoral counsel, the Session has determined that an Associate Pastor is desirable. This also comes in light of other changes in our staff. First, Hannah Sung plans to continue her seminary education at Covenant Seminary and is expecting to depart from PCC in the summer. In addition, Mark Popovitch has taken a position as Stated Supply at Covenant Church (PCA) in Millers Falls, MA. Though Mark and his family are continuing at PCC, he will be away for most weeks for a temporary period of time giving his attention to the people at Covenant Church. As a result, there is no longer a Ministry Assistant position at PCC and we are directing our attention toward the pursuit of an Associate Pastor. Though we have not yet called a congregational meeting in order to elect a Pastor Search Committee, the Session will be communicating with the congregation next week (March 5th) with direction as to the next steps.

Please be in prayer as we all seek the Lord's will, provision, and grace. And if you have any questions, please contact your Shepherding Elder or Pastor Will (860.742.7222).

May the Lord grant you his grace and peace.

In Christ,

Church Session

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is in need of a director or co-directors for this year. Duties include ordering materials, recruiting staff volunteers, handling registration, setting the schedule, and other tasks in this important ministry for the next generation to hear the Gospel during a week of Bible lessons, singing, snacks, games, crafts, and fellowship. If you are interested in learning more, please speak with the pastor, one of the elders, Sue Owens or Anita Hilinski.

Before the Throne of God Above

1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove, I have a strong, a per - fect
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair, and tells me of the guilt with
3. Be - hold him there! the ris - en Lamb, my per - fect, spot - less, right - eous

3
plea, a great high priest, whose name is love, who ev - er
in, I look to heav'n and see him there, who has a -
ness, the great un - change - a - ble I AM, the King of

6
lives and pleads for me. My name is writ - ten on his
toned for all my sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sav - ior
glo - ry and of grace! One with him - self, I can - not

9
hands, my name is hid - den in his heart; I know that
died my sin - ful soul is count - ed free; for God, the
die, my soul is pur - chased by his blood; my life is

12
while in heav'n he stands no pow'r can force me to de -
just, is sat - is - fied to look on him and par - don
safe with Christ on high; with Christ, my Sav - ior and my

15
part, no pow'r can force me to de - part.
me, to look on him and par - don
God, with Christ my Sav - ior and my God.

Words and music by Vikki Cook
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Notes for the Preaching of God's Word

The Battle for Power

Daniel 8:15-27

Main Preaching Point: Though the world battles for power, yield to the Lord's will and persevere amidst suffering, knowing that it is the LORD who rules over heaven and earth and he does all he pleases.

- The Pursuit for Power: A Call to Meekness
 - The Suffering of the Saints: A Temporary Necessity
 - The Place of Perseverance: Pressing toward the Prize
-

Questions for Individuals, families, or small groups

Text: Daniel 8:15-27

Title: The Battle for Power

Questions:

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

The Pursuit for Power: A Call to Meekness

2. According to the sermon, what does the Ram and Goat represent? What about the conspicuous horn in v.5, and the little horn in v.9? How does this passage overall have to do with the battle for power in the world?

- Though the bible is not a history book (per se), it does contain much history. How does the story of God's people relate to the history of the world? How would you describe the relationship between God's redemptive story and the history of the world? Why is that relationship important? Discuss.

3. According to the sermon, the goat and conspicuous horn represent the king of Greece, Alexander the Great. What can we learn about his whole-hearted effort in military success and yet, his quick fall and failure to enjoy his "success"? How can we devote ourselves to something to such a degree that in the end we've either hurt people in the process or failed to have any energy left to enjoy it?

4. How do Jesus' words in Matthew 5:5 relate to the overall text and the fight for power in the world? Discuss.

The Suffering of the Saints: A Temporary Necessity

5. Read Daniel 8:10-14, 24. What role does suffering play in the lives of God's people? What is its purpose? Read James 1:2-4 and discuss.

- Why is suffering necessary in the life of the believer?

6. How should the fact that suffering is temporary shape the believer's faith and outlook? Explain.

The Place of Perseverance: Pressing toward the Prize

7. How does Daniel's environment of exile demand perseverance, and how is your Christian situation and experience similar? How is it different?

- Is perseverance necessary for salvation? What causes perseverance?

8. How does the gospel shine forth here in Daniel 8? Explain.