

The Lord's Day

March 12, 2023 ~ 10:30 AM

Scripture for Meditation: "O man greatly loved, fear not, peace be with you; be strong and of good courage." And as he spoke to me, I was strengthened and said, "Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me."

-Daniel 10:19 (ESV)

Prelude Carol Jones, piano

Announcements

* Call to Worship (responsive reading) [Psalm 103](#)

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul

**And all that is with me,
Bless his holy name!**

Bless the LORD, O my soul,

And forget not all his benefits,

Who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.

Who redeems your life from the pit,

And crowns you with steadfast love and mercy

Who satisfies you with you good,

So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Bless the LORD, O you his angels,

You mighty ones who do his word,

Obeying the voice of his word!

Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

* Hymn 53 [Praise to the Lord, the Almighty](#) LOBE DEN HERREN

* Invocation

Old Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 748) [Daniel 10:1-14](#)

New Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 948) [Romans 12:3-8](#)
(continuous reading)

Hymn 644 [May the Mind of Christ My Savior](#) ST. LEONARDS

** Silent Prayer of Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

* Congregation Standing

** Congregation Kneeling

* Hymn 334 [Breathe on Me, Breath of God](#) TRENTHAM

** Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

* Hymn 731 [Doxology](#) OLD HUNDREDTH

* Prayer of Dedication

Sermon *Guardian Angel* Pastor Will Snyder
Text: [Daniel 10:15-21](#) (Bible, p. 748)

* Hymn 94 [How Firm a Foundation](#) FOUNDATION

* 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.

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

March 12, 2023

Worship Leader: Elder Doug Fox
Greeters:
Deacon in Charge: Walter Mayo
Ushers: Scott Bolliger
Audio: Benjamin Bassett
Nursery: 9:30:
10:30 (*Worship*): Maddie Edwards, Reagan Hilinski
Toddler Time:
Coffee Clean-up: Wilson Shepherding Group

Evening Audio:

March 19, 2023

Worship Leader: Elder John Sundet
Greeters:
Deacon in Charge: David Embree
Ushers: Peter Benedict
Audio: Benjamin Bassett
Nursery: 9:30:
10:30 (*Worship*): Elizabeth Sundet, Alivia Snyder
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
	6:30 PM	Prayer Shawl Meeting
Thursday	7:00 PM	Deacons' Meeting
Friday		van Eyk Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday	7:00 AM	Men's Covenant Group
	11:00 AM	van Eyk Wedding
Sunday	9:30 AM	Ladies Sunday School Class

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

VAN EYK WEDDING

Victoria Lakes and Nathan van Eyk are new to PCC and they are engaged to be married **March 18th at 11 AM!** They would love to invite the church to celebrate their marriage with them as they vow their lives to one another and become united as one in Christ. Please consider joining them on this joyous occasion!

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!

BRIDAL SHOWER FOR KEARA EDWARDS

The women of PCC are invited to attend a bridal shower in honor of Keara Edwards. We will gather on **Saturday, March 25th from 2:00-5:00 PM at the Presbyterian Church of Coventry**. Please bring a dessert or side dish to share. We hope you can join in celebrating our bride-to-be! Keara is registered at Amazon and The Knot Registry Store. www.theknot.com/us/kearabram

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 – Mar. 13th.

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. 20th.

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 22nd**.

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).

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 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.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

There will be a meeting after worship on April 2nd, in the combined classrooms adjacent to the kitchen, for everyone possibly interested in assisting with VBS this year in any way, or otherwise desirous of seeing VBS happen. The purpose of this meeting is to assess the level of interest and commitment, the roles people might be willing to play, and see how close we are to having a workable group. Please see Scott Warren, Sue Owens, or Anita Hilinski with any questions, and please plan to attend if you have any potential interest, or if you are interested, but unable to attend.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a congregational meeting for March 19th, just after morning worship.

The meeting's purpose is to provide opportunity for the congregation in the first step of acquiring an associate pastor. The decision to hire an associate pastor was announced and explained last month at the congregational meeting of February 10th. An *associate* pastor serves at the behest of the congregation, whereas an *assistant* pastor is hired by, and serves at the will of the Session specifically—refer to Pastor Clark's change in office to assist in transition after Pastor Will arrived at PCC. As an associate pastor's relation to the congregation is of a more enduring and intimate nature, the congregation oversees an associate's selection. Our Book of Church Order provides instructions for the process of selection, and the first step is the electing of a *search committee* that will seek-out and offer-up a suitable candidate to the congregation at large.

The action entailed in the meeting of March 19th is itself a precursor to the formation of such a committee: based on the carried motion of the Session to seek an associate, the Book of Church Order (20-2) instructs the congregation to first choose either to elect a search committee, or to designate the Session to function as the search committee. If the former is chosen, a subsequent congregational meeting will be called to facilitate the election of that committee from the congregation at large. The Session has a detailed job description to offer for that committee's guidance.

Please plan to remain at church for a few minutes after worship on March 19th for this meeting. Voting members of the congregation are all communicant members in good standing.

Notes for the Preaching of God's Word

Guardian Angel

Daniel 10:15-21

Main Preaching Point: Since the Lord has opened the eyes of our hearts to the reality of his world, live faith-filled lives without fear, knowing that as we engage in spiritual warfare we do so as victors in Jesus Christ.

- Encountering supernatural things
- The cost of involvement
- The communion of heaven and earth amidst cosmic conflict
- The crucial heavenly war

Questions for Individuals, families, or small groups

Text: Daniel 10:15-21

Title: Guardian Angel

Questions:

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

Encountering supernatural things

2. Read Daniel 10:1-4. According to the sermon, what is the overall context? And what is the "word/vision" about that Daniel receives?

3. Daniel is mourning and fasting (v.2-4), and in the midst of this an angel of the Lord appears to him. Read v.2-9. How should the appearance of this angelic being shape the way we think about reality? Read Colossians 1:15-17 and Ephesians 6:12. How might these verses shape our view of the way the world is, though fallen, yet designed by God?

- Read Hebrews 1:14. Though angels exist for more than one reason, what does Hebrews say about their purpose? How might this serve as an encouragement to God's people?

4. The angel that is revealed to Daniel, and who calls him to "fear not" (V.12) makes known that Daniel's prayer has been heard but that he was delayed by "the prince of

the kingdom of Persia" (v.13). However, he also makes clear that Michael (a chief angel) helped him. We are brought "behind the scenes", if you will, of what we see in this world, to a spiritual reality and battle. How might this *heavenly, spiritual reality*, help shape our living as followers of Christ?

The cost of involvement

5. Read v.12. The angel reveals that Daniel "set his heart to understand and humbled himself." Daniel has been through a lot, including 70 years of exile. Yet, he continues to humble himself and seek understanding. How does this reveal the cost involved in being a follower of the Lord?

- Jesus said, "if anyone would come after me, he must deny himself, pick up his cross, and follow me" (Lk.9:23). In what way(s) have you been counting the cost of following Christ and the Word of God? Discuss.

The communion of heaven and earth amidst cosmic conflict

6. Read v.18-21. The battle against Persia and Greece is both an earthly and heavenly/spiritual one. Daniel's most intense agony while fasting and praying with conflict of soul, took place during the period of a great struggle in heaven between Michael and the prince of Persia (v.3,12). There is a sense in which heavenly and earthly realities commune together. How should we think about the relationship between things invisible and the world we see? The Kingdom of heaven and that of earth? Read Jesus' words in Matthew 6:9-10. Discuss.

The crucial heavenly war

7. The decisive heavenly battle which affects and is affected by what takes place on earth is taken up in Revelation 12. There we read of Satan fighting with Michael and that Satan is thrown down to the earth; and we hear the words, "Now the salvation and power and kingdom of our God and authority of Christ have come...and the brethren have overcome [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb." The decisive battle centers on the cross of Christ. How does Daniel point us to the gospel and cross as our ultimate victory over the evil one? Discuss.

- Though scholars vary in the precise timing and fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy, how should his words bring assurance to the people of God? Explain.