

# The Lord's Day

August 6, 2023 ~ 10:30 AM

Scripture for Meditation: "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourself therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you."  
-James 4:6-8 (ESV)

Prelude Carol Jones, piano

Announcements

\* Call to Worship (responsive reading) [Psalm 145:8-9](#)

Leader: The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
The LORD is good to all,  
And his mercy is over all that he has made.

\* Hymn 529 [Love Divine, All Loves Excelling](#) BEECHER

\* Invocation

Old Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 471) [Psalm 45:1-17](#)  
(continuous reading)

New Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 1018) [2 Peter 1:3-11](#)

\*\* Silent Prayer of Confession

\* Assurance of Pardon

\* Hymn 98 [Now Thank We All Our God](#) NUN DANKET

\*\* Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

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

\* Prayer of Dedication

Sermon *Greater Grace* Pastor Will Snyder  
Text: [James 4:1-10](#) (Bible, p. 1012)

\* Hymn 460 [Amazing Grace!](#) AMAZING GRACE

The Lord's Supper

Deacon's Offering

\* Hymn (insert) *Christ Is Mine Forevermore*  
arr. J. Robinson & R. Thompson

\* 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.*

**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.

### Backyard Fellowship, 5:30 PM:

We will meet for a Backyard Fellowship today at 5:30 PM at David & Rachel Embree's home, 120 Mullen Hill Road, in Windham. Please plan to come for a time of food, fellowship, and prayer. Each individual or family should bring chairs or blankets, meat to grill for their own family, and a side dish and/or dessert to share. All plates, utensils, and drinks will be provided. (For future fellowships, the rain location is the church.) Please plan to make these gatherings part of your summer routine! It is a great way to get to know each other better in an informal setting.

---

\* Congregation Standing

\*\* Congregation Kneeling

## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

August 6, 2023

**Worship Leader:** Elder Doug Fox  
**Greeters:**  
**Deacon in Charge:** Peter Benedict  
**Ushers:** Walter Mayo  
**Audio:** Benjamin Bassett  
**Nursery:** 9:30:  
10:30 (*Worship*):  
**Toddler Time:**  
**Coffee Clean-up:** Sundet Shepherding Group  
**Evening Audio:** *Backyard Fellowship at  
David & Rachel Embree's home*

August 13, 2023

**Worship Leader:** Elder John Sundet  
**Greeters:**  
**Deacon in Charge:** Jeff Edwards  
**Ushers:** Scott Bolliger  
**Audio:** Benjamin Bassett  
**Nursery:** 9:30:  
10:30 (*Worship*):  
**Toddler Time:**  
**Coffee Clean-up:** Sundet Shepherding Group  
**Evening Audio:** *Backyard Fellowship at  
Collin & Julia Robinson's home*

## This Week at Church

Tuesday	6:00 PM	Session Meeting
Wednesday	6:00 PM	Midweek Recharge
Saturday	7:00 AM	Men's Covenant Group
Sunday	5:30 PM	Backyard Fellowship at Collin & Julia Robinson's home

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMING EVENTS

---

#### BACKYARD SHAKESPEARE

Backyard Shakespeare will be presenting *The Merchant of Venice* this year. Eleanor Georges coordinates this program, and many young people from our church are involved in the production. All are invited to come to the performances:

Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM

Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM

Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM

The performances will be held rain or shine at 19 Shoddy Mill Road in Bolton. Remember to bring hats, lawn chairs, blankets, sunscreen, insect repellent, etc., as the performances will be outdoors.

Admission is free, but donations will be taken after each performance. All proceeds will go directly to the Women's Center of Eastern Connecticut. They are in the business of saving babies, saving lives, and saving families. Thank you for your generosity.

#### PCC PLAYGROUND INSTALLATION!

Hello church,

Thank you to everyone who reached out and signed up for the playground surfacing work day!

Unfortunately, our mulch delivery is delayed, so we will change our work day to **Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**.

We need:

4 people at **11:00am** (laying down landscape fabric, staking the border)

20 people at **1:00pm** (spreading 3 tons of mulch)

Please let Colleen know if you can help. Contact her to sign up for a time frame on Aug. 19th. 860-458-8129. Thanks!

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be on **Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.** You can visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) to schedule an appointment.

### BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER GATHERING FOR ALL WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

As much as we want summer to last, the reality is that school is approaching. Back to school means different things for each mom at PCC. Some will be teaching their children, some will be sending their children to school, and some may be teaching children belonging to other parents. Though we may have different situations, you are wholeheartedly invited to gather for fellowship and a focused time of prayer for our children and their education. Let us unite in prayer and be women who love and encourage one another regardless of our educational choices. The prayer gathering is scheduled for **Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup> from 10-11:30 at PCC.** Please contact Debbie Goodale if you have any questions 860-455-6579.

### PCC 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

**Save the date: Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 – 9:00 PM, at A Villa Louisa in Bolton, CT.** A celebration of God's faithfulness to our church body, past, present, and future. Details to follow!

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

---

### THANK YOU!

Dear PCC-

*We are so appreciative of the caring cards, texts, and verbal condolences received in memory of my late father Raymond. It was also very lovely to see the beautiful flower arrangement from PCC at the funeral home in north NJ. My Dad's soul is now at peace, enjoying the splendor and love of our Christ Jesus.*

*Jeff & Pamela Hofmann*

### BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

The Caring Families' Baby Bottle campaign has begun! Fill a baby bottle with coins (bills, even checks!) and you can help them provide ultrasounds, diapers, wipes, educational and spiritual support to women facing pregnancy decisions. The bottles are on the back table in the Fellowship Hall. You can return the bottles at church any time before September 4<sup>th</sup>. If you would prefer an online option, please visit [www.carefamilies.com](http://www.carefamilies.com). Contact Danielle Bolliger if you have any questions. PCC has been very supportive in the past, and for that they thank you sincerely!

### MIDWEEK RECHARGE

The next Midweek Recharge will be on **August 9<sup>th</sup>.** Please come and enjoy food and fellowship. For those who would like to contribute meals, there is a sign-up sheet in the back of the Fellowship Hall with a list of needs for the upcoming meeting. Please contact Collin Robinson (334.464.0142) or Pastor Will (860.742.7222) for any questions or if you have a desire to serve meals to others.

### 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.

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

### *Greater Grace*

James 4:1-10

**Main Preaching Point:** In the midst of our conflict with the devil, the world, and the internal warfare of the flesh, be humbled before the Lord and know that God's grace is greater than our battles.

- Our Three-fold Enemy
  - Flesh
  - World
  - Devil
  
- God's Remedy
  - God's jealousy
  - God's grace
  
- Our Response

---

Questions for Individuals, families, or small groups

Text: James 4:1-10

Title: Greater Grace

**Questions:**

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

#### **Our Three-fold Enemy**

2. Read v.1, 4-5, & 7. Identify the three enemies that James mentions. What does James' warfare imagery (see v.1) reveal about the nature of the Christian life? How does the devil seek to oppose and wage war against believers? Read Ephesians 6:10-11. Discuss.

3. How does v.4-5 reveal the presence of worldliness creeping into the lives of James' hearers? What does James mean by "adulterous people"?

- How do we reconcile our calling to love our neighbor (even our enemies!), and yet heed James' words that "friendship with the world is enmity with God"? Explain.

4. Focus on v.1-3. In addition to the world and devil, what enemy do these verses reveal? What does this passage teach us about human nature and the Christian faith? The word "passions" could also be translated "pleasures." Is pleasure something evil or ungodly? Should Christian's pursue pleasure?

- What's the problem that James is pointing in terms of one's passions within? Read Psalm 37:4. How might this verse provide insight?

#### **God's Remedy**

5. Though the Christian faces some powerful enemies, what is God's remedy? Read v.5-6. Why is God jealous for his people, and what does that mean? Is God somehow not complete or satisfied apart from his people? Discuss.

- Think about God's desire to be in fellowship and communion with you and his church. How should that shape our countenance and the affections of our heart?

6. According to the sermon, what does it mean that God "gives more grace" (v.6). Where in your life do you need more of God's grace and ministry of mercy?

#### **Our Response**

7. Read v.7-10. Amidst our divided hearts and the opposition of the world and devil, how should we respond? How do these verses provide a direction for Christian living?

8. How do these verses point us in the direction of the gospel of Christ? How is it "good news"?