

The Lord's Day

August 13, 2023 - 10:30 AM

Scripture for Meditation: "Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."

-James 4:13-15 (ESV)

Prelude Carol Jones, piano

Announcements

* Call to Worship (responsive reading) [Psalm 149:1-2](#)

Leader: Praise the LORD!

**Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the godly!**

Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

Let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

* Hymn 700 *Come, We That Love the Lord* ST. THOMAS

* Invocation

Old Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 471) [Psalm 46:1-11](#)
(responsive & continuous reading)

New Testament Lesson (Bible, p. 811) [Matthew 6:25-34](#)

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

** Silent Prayer of Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

* Hymn 188 [Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting](#) TRANQUILLITY

Reception of New Members

** Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

* Hymn 731 [Doxology](#) OLD HUNDREDDTH

* Prayer of Dedication

* Congregation Standing

** Congregation Kneeling

Sermon

God's Greatness Amidst Our Weakness

Text: [James 4:11-17](#) (Bible, p. 1013)

Pastor Will Snyder

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

* 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.

We rejoice in publicly receiving the following new members this morning: **Nathan & Victoria van Eyk.**

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given by **Pete & Jill Benedict.**

Backyard Fellowship, 5:30 PM:

We will meet for a Backyard Fellowship today at 5:30 PM at **Collin & Julia Robinson's home, 38 Deepwood Drive in Manchester.** (The rain location is the church.) 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. 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.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

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*

August 20, 2023

Worship Leader: Elder Sterling Harmon
Greeters:
Deacon in Charge: Scott Bolliger
Ushers: Peter Benedict
Audio: Benjamin Bassett
Nursery: 9:30:
10:30 (*Worship*):
Toddler Time:
Coffee Clean-up: Sundet Shepherding Group
Evening Audio: *Backyard Fellowship at
Jonathan & Sarah Dumas' home*

This Week at Church

| | | |
|----------|----------|--|
| Thursday | 7:00 PM | Deacons' Meeting |
| Friday | 12:00 PM | PCC Newsletter Deadline |
| Saturday | 7:00 AM | Men's Covenant Group |
| | 11:00 AM | PCC Playground Installation |
| Sunday | 5:30 PM | Backyard Fellowship at Jonathan & Sarah Dumas' home |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

PCC PLAYGROUND INSTALLATION!

Hello church,

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

Unfortunately, our mulch delivery is delayed, so we will change our workday to **Saturday, August 19th**.

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 24th from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall**. You can visit www.redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment.

PCC 50TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

Save the date: Saturday, September 30th, 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 Family,

It has been humbling to have received so many phone calls, texts, and emails sending good thoughts and prayers to support us during this trial we are going through. Thank you for the beautiful flowers we received on Tuesday. We are very grateful to be a part of this loving church family.

Scott & Danielle Bolliger

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 4th**. If you would prefer an online option, please visit www.carefamies.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 23rd**. 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

There are currently no freezer meals available for the meal ministry. We are in need of individuals or groups that are interested in making some meals for the freezer, making meals on request, and/or organizing meals. Please see, call, or text Pete or Jill Benedict to serve the church family in this way.

Pete 860-803-2159

Jill 860-803-1998

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

For those interested in attending the Wednesday afternoon bible study at PCC, we will resume our gatherings on **September 6th** at **1:00 PM at the church**. Along with our fellowship, Pastor Will will be facilitating a study using the book by J. Gresham Machen called *Christianity and Liberalism*. Attendees are encouraged to obtain the book but if you need help or assistance please contact Pastor Will (pastorjws@gmail.com).

Notes for the Preaching of God's Word

God's Greatness Amidst Our Weakness

James 4:11-17

Main Preaching Point: Though you may face your own weakness and sin of wanting control over others and feeling insecure about tomorrow, humble yourself and trust in the Lord that you would know more of his divine greatness and Lordship in your life.

- The Root Issue—Self-interest
- The Weakness of Man
 - Control: Lording-over others (v.11-12)
 - Frailty: Insecurity about tomorrow (v.13-17)
- The Sin of Defamation/denigration
- The Sin of Presumptuousness
- Trust in God's Divine Greatness (v.12, 15)

Questions for Individuals, families, or small groups

Text: James 4:11-17

Title: God's Greatness Amidst Our Weakness

Questions:

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

The Root Issue—Self-interest

2. Consider the larger passage of verses 11-17 in light of what James has already mentioned earlier in chapter 4:1-3. According to the text and sermon what is the root issue? As a result of the new birth in Christ (ch.1:18), the believer has a new nature and heart that animates his soul. Nevertheless, he continues to battle the old nature within (4:1) and so James calls for an

attitude and posture of humility (4:10). How might that humility manifest itself in the two subjects in v.11-12 and v.13-17? Discuss.

The Weakness of Man

3. According to the passage and sermon what two weaknesses of man are revealed?

- One weakness is that of control—man's proclivity to stand over & against others in a way to control them. Read v.11-12. Give examples of the ways that a person will try to control and manipulate others.
- Another weakness that James identifies is the frailty of man. Read v.13-17 and identify how man is frail. How does this passage surface man's sense of insecurity about life and the future? Is this a problem today? Explain.

The Sin of Defamation/denigration

4. Let's focus on v.11-12. This is the sin of defamation, or denigration. James says, "do not speak evil against your brother...or judge your brother." Read Matthew 7:1-2 and 1 Corinthians 5:12. Jesus says, "do not judge...", while Paul says, "is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge?" What form of judging do the Scriptures call believers to apply and what form of judgment does it forbid? Discuss.

- How is speaking evil or judging others a standing in the place of God's law and of God himself? How is ultimately a form of distrust in the Lord? Discuss.

The Sin of Presumptuousness

5. Focus on v.13-17. How do these verses reveal one's insecurity? How do we wisely plan for the future (e.g. Prov.15:22), while yielding to God's will and being content whatever that will might be? Discuss.

Trust in God's Divine Greatness (v.12, 15)

6. How does the larger passage reveal God's divine greatness? Focus on v.12 and v.15. Discuss specific applications. How might living out these truths be a form of freedom in the Lord Jesus?