

**Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church**  
**Order of Worship**  
**February 28, 2021**

**Liturgist: Albert Leavengood | Sermon: Rev. Dennis Louis | Lead Musician: Scott Finch**

**Meditation: Colossians 3:12-17**

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**Call to Worship: Psalm 95:1-7**

L: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**ALL: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

L: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

**ALL: In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.**

L: The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

**ALL: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

L: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,

**ALL: and the sheep of his hand.**

L: This is the Word of the LORD!

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**Opening Hymn: How Firm a Foundation | 94**

1. How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2. Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed; for I am your God, and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3. When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

4. When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

5. E'en down to old age all my people shall prove my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn, like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

6. The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake!

## **Pastoral Prayer Followed by The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

## **Testimony of Ministry in the Community**

### **Song Preparation: Create in Me a Clean Heart**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence; O Lord, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and renew a right spirit within me. *(whole song twice)*

## **Sermon: "Having a Covenantal Mindset"**

### **Word: James 4:13 - 5:6**

**13** Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— **14** yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. **15** Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." **16** As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. **17** So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

**1** Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. **2** Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. **3** Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. **4** Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. **5** You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. **6** You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

### **Questions for Reflection**

1. Assuming that there is a connection between James 4:1-12 and 4:13 - 5:6, what point is James trying to get across to us?
2. Describe the heart that boasts (4:13-14) and how it differs from the heart of humility (4:15).
3. Read James 4:13 - 5:6 and the words of Jesus in Matt. 6:19-24 carefully and state the difference between how the world views possessions, and how Christians view possessions (cf. Luke 12:13-21 and Mark 10:17-31).
4. Based on this passage in James, write down all the reasons you think a rich person would hoard possessions. Please be sure to think through how the rich obtained their wealth, the lengths to which they go to obtain it, how they maintain it, and the cost of maintaining it.

5. James says that, "whoever knows the right thing to do and doesn't do it for him it is sin." What is he referring to?

6. Examine your own life, what is your attitude toward possessions? Do you construct your life around the accumulation of possessions or do you construct it around your union with Christ?

7. The heart posture of the hedonist is to take from others and give to self. What is the heart posture of a Christian (Hint: have others and self switch places!)?

### **The Gathering of Offerings & Sending Hymn: My Jesus, I Love Thee | 648**

1. My Jesus I love thee, I know thou art mine; for thee all the follies of sin I resign.  
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art thou; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

2. I love thee because thou hast first loved me, and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.  
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

3. I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death; and praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath;  
and say, when the death dew lies cold on my brow; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

4. In mansions of glory and endless delight, I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;  
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus 'tis now.

### **Benediction: 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17**

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word... *so that all the peoples will say...*

**ALL: Amen. Our LORD is faithful. Praise the LORD!**

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