

Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church
Order of Worship
February 14, 2021

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

Meditation: Titus 3:3-7

For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Call to Worship: Proverbs 2:6-11

L: Mark the blameless and behold the upright, for there is a future for the man of peace.

ALL: But transgressors shall be altogether destroyed; the future of the wicked shall be cut off.

L: The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble.

ALL: The Lord helps them and delivers them;

L: He delivers them from the wicked and saves them,

ALL: Because they take refuge in him.

L: This is the Word of the LORD!

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Opening Hymn: All People That on Earth Do Dwell | 1

1. All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with fear, his praise forthtell, come ye before him and rejoice.

2. The Lord ye know is God indeed; without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

3. O enter then his gates with praise, approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.

4. For why? The Lord our God is good, his mercy is forever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

5. Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below,
praise him above ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen!

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 From a CVPC Family

Song of Preparation: Let It Be Said of Us

1. Let it be said of us that the Lord was our passion; that with gladness we bore every cross we were given; that we fought the good fight; that we finished our course knowing within us the power of the risen Lord.

Refrain: Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song.

By mercy made holy, by the Spirit made strong, let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song.

Let the Gospel of Jesus be ever made known. Let the cross be our glory and the Lord be our song.

2. Let it be said of us, we were marked by forgiveness, we were known by our love, and delighted in meekness. We were ruled by his peace; heeding unity's call, joined as one body, that Christ would be seen by all. *Refrain 2x*

Sermon: "Godly Passions"

Word: James 4:1-12

1 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? **2** You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. **3** You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. **4** You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. **5** Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? **6** But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." **7** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. **8** Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. **9** Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. **10** Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. **11** Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. **12** There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

Questions for Reflection

1. What is the connection between chapter 3 and chapter 4?
2. What are some of the similarities and differences between the word desire (James 1:14, 15) and passions (James 4:1)?
3. In a sentence or two, what causes verbal wars and fighting among ourselves, according to James?
4. Why is friendship with the world enmity with God (vs. 4)?
5. How does vs. 7-10 address our sinful passions?
6. Identify in your own life and in the life of those around you, what causes verbal wars and fights?
7. How can the gospel speak to the passions in our heart that want their own way?

The Gathering of Offering

Sending Hymn: Take Time to Be Holy | 537

1. Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord; abide in him always, and feed on his Word.
Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak, forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.
2. Take time to be holy, the world rushes on; spend much time in secret with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, like him thou shalt be; thy friends in thy conduct his likeness shall see.
3. Take time to be holy, let him be thy guide; and run not before him, whatever betide;
in joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord, and, looking to Jesus, still trust in his Word.
4. Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul; each thought and each motive beneath his control;
thus led by his Spirit to fountains of love, thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.

Benediction: Psalm 115:14-15

May the Lord give you increase, you and your children! May you be blessed by the Lord, who made heaven and earth!... *so that all the peoples will say...*

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

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