

A Congregation of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church

Meeting at Ascension Lutheran Church, 33 Bayshore Rd., Deer Park, NY 11729 www.thehavenli.com

Then they were glad that the waters were quiet and He brought them to their desired haven.

Psalm 107:30

The Lord's Day,
September 29, 2019
A Service of Covenant Renewal
4:30 p.m.

Welcome!

- + A warm welcome to our visitors: If this is your first visit, please sign the guest register at the welcome table in the foyer. Please also accept our *Welcome Pack* for first time guests. Learn more about The Haven, OPC and why we want you to come back and be part of this growing community of people learning about Jesus Christ as the Great Haven. Also, please join us in the gymnasium for Haven Food and Fellowship after this afternoon's worship service.
- + Today's Sunday Schedule:

4:30 p.m. Worship/Outreach

6:00 p.m. Open Forum & Haven Updates Today: We continue discussing your answers to the questionnaire given out a couple of weeks ago. This is to help develop the stewardship plan to present to our presbytery Missions Committee and to the OPC Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension.

6:20 p.m. The Haven Food and Fellowship in the gymnasium.

- + **Nursery** is available during worship for children ages 2 and under. Please speak to one of the greeters if you wish to use the nursery for your child. If you'd like to volunteer for nursery duty, e mail Margaret Shishko: mamashish123@gmail.com
- + The concept of **"covenant renewal"** is beautifully introduced in our Directory for Public Worship: "The triune God assembles his covenant people for public worship in order to manifest and renew their covenant bond with him and one another. The Holy Spirit engages them and draws them into the Father's presence as a living sacrifice in Christ. God himself has fellowship with them, strengthening and guiding them for life in his presence and service in his kingdom."
- + We celebrate the Lord's Supper every Sunday as the climax of our covenant renewal worship. If you are visiting with us, we invite to the Table those who have received Christian baptism, have publicly professed faith in Jesus Christ, and are members in good standing of a church in which the Gospel of Jesus Christ is faithfully taught and practiced. By eating the bread and drinking the wine with us you are publicly acknowledging that you are seeking to walk in godliness before the Lord,. If you have any questions about whether you should partake of the Supper, please speak to the pastor either before or after the service.
- + Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®).

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- + **The Haven, OPC** is a home mission work of the Presbytery of Connecticut and Southern New York, Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC). For more information on the Orthodox Presbyterian Church: www.opc.org For more information about this church, visit our website: www.thehavenli.com

Worship/Outreach The Lord's Day — Sunday, September 29, 2019 Worship 4:30 PM

Preparation for Worship: Psalm 18:25-50

THE LORD OUR GOD CALLS US

Salutation:

Pastor: Congregation of the People of God: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and

the Lord Jesus Christ!

People: Amen!

†Call to Worship: From Psalm 84

Pastor: How lovely are your dwelling places, O Lord of Hosts!

People: My soul longs, yes faints, for the courts of the Lord!

Pastor: My heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God!.

People: Blessed are those who dwell in your house.

Pastor: They will always be praising you.

People: A day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Pastor: I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God that dwell in the tents of wickedness.

People: For the Lord God is a sun and shield. The Lord bestows grace and glory. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly

<u>All</u>: O Lord of hosts: (Eternally) blessed is the one who trusts in you!

† **Opening Psalm:** "O Lord of Hosts, How Lovely" (Psalm 84B, TPH) (turn to next page)

Psalm 84B



Associate Reformed Presbyterian Psalter, 1931; alt 1961; (revised and expanded, 2004, 2016)

LLANGLOFFAN 7.6.7.6.D.
Welsh hymn melody
David Evans' *Hymnau a Thonau*, 1865

†Greeting

Pastor: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: Who made heaven and earth!

†Opening Prayer *People: Amen!*

THE LORD OUR GOD CLEANSES US

Meditation on The Sermon on the Mount: The Beatitudes

Confession of Sin (kneeling if able) - Begin with personal confession before God.

Corporate Confession: Our long-suffering God: We marvel at your patience with us. And that makes us grieve more for our lack of true meekness. Forgive us when we seek private vengeance rather than give place to your work on our behalf. Forgive us when we give in to personal anger rather than to be patient when we are wronged. Lord, always bring us to Christ and the cross to learn of true meekness. And forgive us when, in the name of meekness, we become cowardly in the face of evil and fearful in upholding your honor. Grant us more of meekness as a fruit of the Spirt - as part of the character of the meekest man ever to walk the earth, Jesus Christ. In whose blessed name we pray. Amen!

†Assurance of Pardon: I Corinthians 3:21-23

People: Hallelujah! Thanks be to God!

Reception of New Members

†Our Response of Praise: "Arise, My Soul, Arise!" (turn to next page)

Listen & learn the tune: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V0qZ3h_dMGs



THE LORD OUR GOD CONSECRATES US

OLD COVENANT READING: ISAIAH 55:1-13

1 "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. 2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. 3 Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. 4 Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. 5 Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

6 "SEEK THE LORD WHILE HE MAY BE FOUND; CALL UPON HIM WHILE HE IS NEAR; 7 LET THE WICKED FORSAKE HIS WAY, AND THE UNRIGHTEOUS MAN HIS THOUGHTS; LET HIM RETURN TO THE LORD, THAT HE MAY HAVE COMPASSION ON HIM, AND TO OUR GOD, FOR HE WILL ABUNDANTLY PARDON. 8 FOR MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR THOUGHTS, NEITHER ARE YOUR WAYS MY WAYS, DECLARES THE LORD. 9 FOR AS THE HEAVENS ARE HIGHER THAN THE EARTH, SO ARE MY WAYS HIGHER THAN YOUR WAYS AND MY THOUGHTS THAN YOUR THOUGHTS. 10 "FOR AS THE RAIN AND THE SNOW COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN AND DO NOT RETURN THERE BUT WATER THE EARTH, MAKING IT BRING FORTH AND SPROUT, GIVING SEED TO THE SOWER AND BREAD TO THE EATER, 11 SO SHALL MY WORD BE THAT GOES OUT FROM MY MOUTH; IT SHALL NOT RETURN TO ME EMPTY, BUT IT SHALL ACCOMPLISH THAT WHICH I PURPOSE, AND SHALL SUCCEED IN THE THING FOR WHICH I SENT IT. 12 "FOR YOU SHALL GO OUT IN JOY AND BE LED FORTH IN PEACE; THE MOUNTAINS AND THE HILLS BEFORE YOU SHALL BREAK FORTH INTO SINGING, AND ALL THE TREES OF THE FIELD SHALL CLAP THEIR HANDS. 13 INSTEAD OF THE THORN SHALL COME UP THE CYPRESS; INSTEAD OF THE BRIER SHALL COME UP THE MYRTLE; AND IT SHALL MAKE A NAME FOR THE LORD, AN EVERLASTING SIGN THAT SHALL NOT BE CUT OFF."

NEW COVENANT READING: ACTS 8:1-4

AND THERE AROSE ON THAT DAY A GREAT PERSECUTION AGAINST THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM, AND THEY WERE ALL SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE REGIONS OF JUDEA AND SAMARIA, EXCEPT THE APOSTLES. 2 DEVOUT MEN BURIED STEPHEN AND MADE GREAT LAMENTATION OVER HIM. 3 BUT SAUL WAS RAVAGING THE CHURCH, AND ENTERING HOUSE AFTER HOUSE, HE DRAGGED OFF MEN AND WOMEN AND COMMITTED THEM TO PRISON. NOW THOSE WHO WERE SCATTERED WENT ABOUT EVERYWHERE EVANGELIZING THE WORD.

Pastor: The grass withers, and the flowers fade away; but the word of our God will stand forever!

People: Thanks be to God!

†Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed

Pastor: Christians, what do you believe, and in whom do you trust?

All: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

<u>I believe in the Holy Spirit</u>, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

<u>I believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic church.</u> I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins, and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*t*We Prepare Our Hearts for the Word of God Preached:

Hymn: "How Deep the Father's Love for Us" (turn to next page)
Listen & learn the tune: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzQj7XvKFmA



Prayer for Blessing on the Word of God Preached

People: Amen!

Sermon: "The Evangelizing Church"

Prayer for Blessing on the Word of God Preached

People: Amen!

Worship through Tithes and Offerings

†Pastoral Prayer (followed by the Lord's Prayer with hands raised)

All: Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in 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 the Evil One. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen!

The Lord Our God Communes With Us

Meditation; Lord's Supper Celebration

(Heads of households, please come forward to receive the elements for your household. Enjoy communion with one another while the elements are being distributed.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

People: Amen!

Deacon's Offering: To assist in the relief of Bahamians ravaged by Hurricane Dorian.

Closing Hymn of Celebration: 'Facing a Task Unfinished'' (Turn to Next Page)
Listen & learn the tune: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOpt_bulJxY

The Lord Our God Commissions Us

†[Hands Raised] *Pastor*: Benediction

People: Amen!

Go forth in peace to love and serve those around you - in Jesus' Name!

PSALM TO LEARN: "THE LORD IS MY REFUGE" (PSALM 11B, TPH)

LAST PRINTED PAGE OF THIS BULLETIN

Facing a Task Unfinished

(To tune of "The Church's One Foundation")

Verse 1

Facing a task unfinished
That drives us to our knees
A need that undiminished
Rebukes our slothful ease
We who rejoice to know You
Renew before Your throne
The solemn pledge we owe You
To go and make You known

Verse 2

When other lords beside You
Hold their unhindered sway
Where forces that defied You
Defy You still today
With none to heed their crying
For life and love and light
Unnumbered souls are dying
And pass into the night. Chorus

Verse 3

We bear the torch that flaming
Fell from the hands of those
Who gave their lives proclaiming
That Jesus died and rose.
Ours is the same commission
The same glad message ours
Fired by the same ambition
To You we yield our powers. Chorus

Verse 4

O Father who sustained them
O Spirit who inspired
Savior whose love constrained them
To toil with zeal untired
From cowardice defend us
From lethargy awake
Forth on Your errand send us
To labor for Your sake Chorus (2X)

Chorus

We go to all the world With Kingdom hopes unfurled No other name has power to save But Jesus Christ the Lord

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- + **Deacon's Offering Today:** We take this added offering on the last Sunday of a month. This month's deacon's offering will go to Mission to the World (PCA) to assist those in the Bahamas who were devastated by Hurricane Dorian. Please give generously!
- + **Haven Hope Givers**: That's our ministry of reaching out by cards and notes to inmates who are regular listeners to *A Visit to the Pastor's Study*. Send a message of Gospel hope to: Mr. Darren Emanuel, #03A2176, Fishkill Correctional Facility, POB 1245, Beacon, NY 12508 & Mr. Arthur F. Tomlinson #12B1623, Eastern New York Correctional Facility, PO Box 338, Napanoch, NY 12458
- + The Haven Young Adult Disciples (age 13 and up): We ordinarily meet on the first Sunday of the month from 7:30 9:00 p.m. at the Brewer's (66 East 2d St., Deer Park) Our first meeting of the new school year is next Sunday, October 6. Pizza, singing, and discussion. We'll start the conversation about gender issues and sexuality. What does the Word of God say? Invite your friends to join us!
- + **Sing!** Our monthly "choir practice" is at the home of John & Mary Vaeth (46 Monell Ave., Islip) usually on the first <u>Tuesday</u> of the month from 7:30 9:00 p.m. This is a time to build our repertoire of "Haven Hymns. Our next *Sing!* meeting, though, will be on <u>Wednesday, October 9.</u> For these meetings we continue to learn new Psalms and Hymns from the Trinity Psalter Hymnal, and doctrinally rich contemporary hymns as well. Come to be enriched in the Word!
- + "A Visit to the Pastor's Study," the weekly radio program hosted by Pastor Bill Shishko is broadcast at 8:00 a.m. on Sundays on WBWD, 540 AM. You can also to listen to the podcasts on <u>sermonaudio.com</u> (Search *A Visit to the Pastor's Study*) or <u>visitthepastorsstudy.org</u> Upcoming Program for September Biblical Counseling Month:

<u>Date</u> :	lopic:	<u>Guest</u>
October 6:	Counseling Women	Wes & Jacklyn Tubal
October 13:	Counseling Parents of Sp. Needs Children	Christina Miller
October 20:	Domestic Abuse	Jimmy Brewer
October 27:	Rerun: Financial Planning, part 2	Francis Caraco

- + Haven Food and Fellowship: This is a way for you to show hospitality following our worship each Lord's Day. See our administrative assistant, Mary Vaeth and give her some dates that you can provide refreshments and be host and hostess for this outreach.
- + Today's Sermon will be available by tomorrow evening on <u>sermonaudio.com</u> at "The Haven, OPC" site (Search *The Haven, OPC*) You'll also be able to access the sermon from our own website <u>www.thehavenli.com</u>

The Haven Heart to Heart

Pastor Bill answers your questions about The Haven, OPC and its ministry *Question*: I notice that you put a lot of emphasis on singing the Old Testament Psalms. Why? And aren't some of these Psalms out of place in this New Testament period?

Pastor Bill responds (pt. 5):

When people ask if "some of the Psalms are out of place for the New Testament period", in most cases I think they are wondering about the "Imprecatory Psalms" - the Psalms that call for judgment on God's enemies. For example:

- Let their own table before them become a snare; and when they are at peace, let it become a trap...Pour out your indignation upon them, and let your burning anger overtake them. (Psalm 69:22,24)
- He loved to curse, let curses come upon him. He did not delight in blessing. May it be far from him. (Psalm 109:17)
- O daughter of Babylon, doomed to be destroyed, blessed shall he be who repays you with what you have done to us. Blessed shall he be who takes your little ones and dashes them against the rock. (Psalm 137:8,9).

Are these, in fact, suitable for the New Testament period? Didn't Jesus himself say that he did not come into the world to condemn it, but to save it (John 3:17)? Isn't this Gospel age a time of the grace of God rather than the wrath of God?

The first thing to keep in mind is that God is a God of justice as well as mercy. So many New Testament texts speak of God's wrath that comes on those who disobey the Gospel, e.g. Romans 1:18-32; Colossians 3:6, II Thessalonians 1:5-12, 2:8-12, much of the book of Revelation. And Jesus himself pronounced serious woes, i.e God's judgments, on religious hypocrites, e.g. Matthew 23. One of the reasons people take the Gospel so lightly in our day is because God's holiness and justice are barely spoken of. The Psalms (and singing them) helps correct that.

Second, note carefully that most of the Imprecatory Psalms include specific references to Christ, to his ministry, and to his Kingdom. For example, Psalm 69:1-21 are specific references to Christ's sufferings. Psalm 69:21 is quoted in all four of the Gospels. Psalm 109:8 is a reference to Judas (Acts 1:20). Psalm 137:8 is developed in Revelation 18. And the the very hard words of Psalm 137:9 are in view in Luke 19:44 and 20:18. It is arbitrary to say that some of these things apply to Christ, His Kingdom, and the Gospel age, and that others do not.

Third, there is something that I call "the dark side of the cross." While it is very true that in running to Christ and his cross we find mercy because Jesus satisfied the justice of God as a substitute for all of his people (that's the very meaning of Christ's sacrifice on the cross), it is likewise very true that those who do NOT run to Christ (or actually run AWAY from Him) are exposing themselves moment by moment to the wrath of God because of their sins. Colossians 3:6, for example, says that "the wrath of God comes on the children of disobedience", and Jesus himself says that those who do not believe in him are "condemned already" (John 3:18).

If we do not run to the bomb shelter of Christ we are exposing ourselves then and there and moment by moment to the radioactive destruction of God's just wrath against sin and sinners. Jonathan Edwards had it right when he spoke of "sinners in the hands of an angry God." That is not a popular message; but the fact that it is unpopular does not make it untrue.

I suggest that we don't feel this as we should in no small measure because we sing the Psalms of God's justice so little. We are called to "sing of justice and of mercy." (Psalm 101:1), and the Psalms help us to do both - using the very words God has given us.

My Notes on Today's Sermon:

"The Evangelizing Church"

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Psalm 11B



John Goris, 2004, alt. ©RCNZ Hymnal Committee, 2004

FOUNDATION 11.11.11.11.

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