THEHAVEN

A Congregation of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church

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

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 8, 2019 A Service of Covenant Renewal 4:30 p.m.

Welcome

+ A warm welcome to our visitors: If this is your first visit, we invite you to sign the guest register at the welcome table in the foyer. Your name and contact information will be kept strictly confidential, and used only for personal contact with you and your family. 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: What's Ahead for the Haven in 2019?

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: <u>mamashish123@gmail.com</u>

+ 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®). **Copyrighted music** reprinted under CCLI #11435067.

+ **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: <u>www.opc.org</u> For more information about this church, visit our website: <u>www.thehavenli.com</u>

+ **Pastoral Needs:** To contact Pastor Bill, his study phone number is (516) 593-1507, or you can reach him by e mail at <u>WShishko@gmail.com</u>

Worship/Outreach The Lord's Day — Sunday, September 8, 2019 Worship 4:30 PM Preparation for Worship: Psalm 16:1-11

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 16

Pastor: Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

People: I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."

Pastor: As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones in whom is all my delight.

People: The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

Pastor: The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

People: I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

<u>All</u>: You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

+ Opening Psalm: "Preserve Me, O My God" (Psalm 16A, TPH)

(turn to next page)

Psalm 16A



+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: Introduction

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

Corporate Confession: Our Perfectly Holy God: We are so grieved by the many ways that we lessen your call that we be holy as you are holy. Like the Pharisees we think of the demands of your law as only external. Remind us that you require purity of heart, mind, and soul. Like the Sadducees we make our own small and sin-marred minds the standard for what we believe is right or wrong. Remind us that you are God and we are not. We are in absolute need of a perfection - a righteousness - that we do not have in ourselves. Thank you that Jesus Christ is given to us to be our wisdom, our righteousness, our sanctification, and our redemption. We turn from ourselves to Him; and we boast not in ourselves, but in Him alone. Amen!

†Assurance of Pardon: I Corinthians 1:26-31

People: Hallelujah! Thanks be to God!

+Our response of Praise: *"Before the Father's Throne Above"*

Listen: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LULK2nZ6sCc</u>

(turn to next page)

Before the Father's Throne Above

Stanza 1 Before the throne of God above, I have a strong a perfect plea;
A great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me. My name is graven on His hands. My name is written on His heart,
I know that while in <u>heav'n</u> he stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart. No tongue can bid me thence depart.

Refrain:

Hallelujah! My life is found in Jesus Christ! Hallelujah! For I am His and He is mine!

Stanza 2 When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within; Upward I look and see Him there, who made an end to all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free, For God the Just is satisfied, to look on Him and pardon me. To look on Him and pardon me. Refrain

Stanza 3 Behold him there, the risen Lamb; my perfect spotless righteousness. The great unchangeable I Am. The King of glory and of grace.
One with Himself, I cannot die. My soul is purchased with His blood. My life is hid with Christ on high; with Christ my Savior and my God. With Christ my Savior and my God,

Refrain

Stanza 4 I bow before the cross of Christ, and marvel at this love divine.
 God's perfect Son was sacrificed, to make me righteous in God's eyes.
 This river's depths I cannot know, but I can glory in its flood.
 The Lord Most High has bowed down low, and poured on me His glorious love.
 And poured on me His glorious love
 Refrain

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THE LORD OUR GOD <u>CONSECRATES</u> US Scripture Reading: Genesis 2:4-9; 18-25

4 These are the generations

of the heavens and the earth when they were created,

in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens. 5 When no bush of the field[a] was yet in the land[b] and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, 6 and a mist[c] was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground— 7 then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. 8 And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. 9 And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." 19 Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. 20 The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. 21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22 And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

5

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 Apostles' Creed

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

All: The Apostles' Creed sung - next page.

The Apostles' Creed

(Tune of "Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah" - Ripley)

I believe in God the Father, Maker of the heav'n and earth, And in Jesus Christ our Savior, God's own son of matchless worth. By the Holy Ghost conceived, Virgin Mary bore God's Son, He in whom I have believed, God Almighty Three in One.

Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Crucified, enduring hell; Laid within the grave so silent, As the prophets did foretell. But the stone-sealed tomb was emptied -On the third day he arose. Into heaven made his entry; Mighty Conqueror of his foes.

At God's right hand he is seated, 'til his coming as he said. Final judgment will be meted To the living and the dead. I confess the Holy Spirit Has been sent through Christ the Son To apply salvation's merit; God the Spirit Three in One.

I believe the church of Jesus Holy, catholic remains . We are one through all the ages, The communion of the saints. I believe sins are forgiven, That our bodies will be raised. Life with God is never ended. Amen, let his name be praised! *Prayer for Understanding and for Transformation People: Amen!*

Sermon: "Worship: Walking With God"

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!

Closing Hymn of Celebration: "Sing Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!" (Psalm 150) (turn to next page)

The Lord Our God Commissions Us

PSALM TO LEARN: "*THE LORD IS MY REFUGE"* (*PSALM 11B, TPH*) *LAST PRINTED PAGE OF THIS BULLETIN*



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May the Mind of Christ My Savior

5. May I run the race before me, strong and brave to face the foe, looking only unto Jesus as I onward go.

6. May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win, and may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

Announcements

+ **Haven Hope Givers**: That's our ministry of reaching out by cards and notes to a couple of inmates who are regular listeners to *A Visit to the Pastor's Study*. Send a message of Gospel hope to: <u>Mr. Darren Emanuel</u>, #03A2176, Fishkill Correctional Facility, POB 1245, Beacon, NY 12508 & <u>Mr. Arthur F. Tomlinson</u> #12B1623, Eastern New York Correctional Facility, PO Box 338, Napanoch, NY 12458

+ **The Haven Young Adult Disciples (age 13 and up):** We're taking a break for the summer, but we'll resume our meetings in October. Stay tuned for the date!

+ **Sing!** Our monthly "choir practice" is at the home of John & Mary Vaeth (46 Monell Ave., Islip) 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 is this <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>October 1.</u> (Send hymns you'd like to sing at these meetings to Pastor Bill at <u>WShishko@gmail.com</u> and Mary Vaeth at <u>maryscoop714@gmail.com</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 Programs for September - Education Month:

| Date: | <u>Topic</u> : | Guest |
|---------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| September 14: | Teaching Science God's Way | Pastor Ned Suffern |
| September 21: | Rerun: Financial Planning | Fran Caraco |
| September 28: | Foster Parenting, pt. 2 | Pastor Drew Eenigenburg |

+ **Haven Food and Fellowship:** This is a way for you to show hospitality following our worship each Lord's Day. At our Haven Food and Fellowship time this afternoon we'll begin signing up volunteers to provide refreshments in the weeks ahead. Pastor Shishko, or Margaret Shishko are happy to answer any questions, and also to encourage you in this ministry to others.

+ **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>

+ **Your Tithes and Offerings:** Make your checks payable to "The Haven, OPC" Your gifts provide so that we can pay our weekly rent and other ministry expenses.

The Haven Heart to Heart

Pastor Bill answers your questions about The Haven, OPC

and its ministry

<u>Question</u>: 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. 2):

Last week I addressed the first part of your good question, i.e. why we put so much emphasis on singing the Psalms (not *exclusively*, but *frequently*). Let's consider the second part of your question this week, i.e. "Aren't some of the Psalms out of place in this New Testament period?"

What most people are referring to when they ask this question is the so-called "Imprecatory Psalms", i.e. Psalms that call down judgments on the enemies of God and His people, e.g. Psalms 35, 58, 79, 82, 83, 109, 140.

We must admit that language like this sounds almost contrary to the great Gospel statement that Jesus did not come into the world to condemn it, but to save it, cf. Jn. 3:17:

- Let destruction come upon him when he does not know it! And let the net that he hid ensnare him; let him fall into it to his destruction. Psalm 35:8
- Let them be like the snail that dissolves into slime, like the stillborn child who never sees the sun." Psalm 58:8
- Pour out your anger on the nations that do not know you, and on the kingdoms that do not call upon your name. Psalm 79:6

How can we sing things like this in the glorious age of the good news of the Gospel?

First, let's keep in mind that there are also "imprecations", i.e calls for God's judgment, in the New Testament as well as the Old. See, for example the "woes" (calls for divine judgment) in places like Matthew 23:13, 15, 16, 23, 24, 27 (where Jesus Himself is pronouncing the judgment of God), I Cor. 16:21, 22, Gal. 5:12, and lengthy portions of the book of Revelation. In places like Matthew 26:23,24, the New Testament directly refers to the imprecations of the Psalms, cf. Psalm 41:8-10. So let's not be too quick to say that the calls for judgment in the Psalms are our of place in this Gospel age.

Second, remember that God is a God of *justice* as well as *mercy*. The Gospel is a call to all nations (and people on every level of society in every nation) to throw down the weapons of the warfare of their hearts and surrender in repentance and faith to Jesus Christ, the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. In Him there is a refuge from the wrath of God against the sin of humankind. BUT: Outside of Christ there is the very real promise of the kinds of just judgments we read of in both the Psalms and the New Testament. *On account of these things the wrath of God comes on the sons of disobedience*, Colossians 3:6. The Psalms help us to preserve this all-important (and rightly very sobering) biblical teaching).

And, finally, remember that there will be a judgment of all wickedness at the last day, e.g. II Thessalonians 1:5-10. That is far too little emphasized in modern evangelical preaching (unlike the preaching of previous ages). The Psalms will not let us forget that our God is perfectly just, and a God of judgment as well as salvation.

Next week we'll look at the key to bringing these things together.

More on that next week. But keep in mind, as you sing the Psalms, that t<u>hey are first of all about Jesus and His Kingdom, cf. Luke 24:44ff</u>. That fascinating theme will be part three in this *Haven Heart to Heart* series.

My Notes on Today's Sermon:

"Worship: Walking With God"

