

THE LORD’S DAY WORSHIP

The Twenty-Seventh Day of November, Two Thousand Eleven

MORNING WORSHIP

Ten O’Clock

Interim Minister — Dr. Guy L. Richardson

Minister to Youth and Families — The Reverend Mr. Richard E. Owens, III

The Bible is the means by which God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, reveals Himself to His people. We respond to His grace by praising Him through praying, singing, reading, and preaching the Bible.

The Greetings and Announcements

The Preparation for Worship and Instrumental Prelude

The Call to Worship

‡The Hymn No. 195 — “Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”

‡The Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

The Introduction of New members.....Rev. Richard Owens

Derek Hinckley, Reid and Lindsey Kelly, Alicia Morse, and Elizabeth Myers

The Scripture Reading and Pastoral Prayer

Matthew 12:9-21.....Gene Stansel

The Sacrament of Baptism.....Nelson Ayers Kelly
Son of Reid and Lindsey Kelly

The Prayer.....Dr. Paul Kosko

The Sacrament of Baptism.....Derek Hinckley
Alicia Morse

The Prayer.....Trey O’Brien

‡The Hymn — “Speak, O Lord”

The Presentation of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

*Anthem — “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

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How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss, the Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One, bring many sons to glory
Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice, call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that left Him there until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life I know that it is finished
I will not boast in anything no gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart His wounds have paid my ransom.

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Isaiah 42:1-9 (Pew Bible 602)

The Sermon — “The Coming of the Lord”.....Rev. Richard Owens

‡The Hymn No. 194 — “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

‡Benediction

*Children depart for Little Worship at the conclusion of the Anthem.

‡Congregation standing.

Speak, O Lord

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You,
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail;
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

8:45 a.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal
9:15 a.m. Prayer in the Fireside Room
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship: Rev. Richard Owens
Little Worship: Stephen and Kim Pillow
11:20 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study group at the church

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
Youth Ministry – Jr. High & Sr. High
Children’s Ministry
Nursery available

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

8:45 a.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal
9:15 a.m. Prayer in the Fireside Room
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship: Dr. Guy L. Richardson
Little Worship: Neil and Allison Pillow
11:20 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
4:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN’S CHOIR REHEARSAL. Andrew would like to meet with the children, grades Kindergarten – 5th Grades, in the Sanctuary during the Sunday school hour this Sunday to work on the Christmas program.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING. All Youth and Children will meet at the church on Wednesday, December 14 from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. for Christmas Caroling and supper.

RECEPTION FOLLOWING LESSONS AND CAROLS - SUNDAY, DEC. 4 AT 6:00. There will be a reception in the fellowship hall immediately following the Choir program next Sunday evening. Please bring your favorite pickup/finger holiday food on a glass, silver, or crystal dish. A nursery will be provided.

JOINING WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. We would love to have you join our church family. If you would like to become a member of Westminster, please check the “Wish to Join This Church” box on the registration pad or call or email us at the church. To find out more about us go to www.wpcgreenwood.org. Click the new member form link at the bottom left hand corner of the website.

LITTLE WORSHIP. This morning children ages 4-5 may remain in the sanctuary or be dismissed to attend Little Worship at the conclusion of the Anthem. Those who are scheduled to teach Little Worship for November are: November 27 – Stephen and Kim Pillow and for December are: December 4 – Neil and Allison Pillow; December 11 – Johnny and Georgeanne Smith; and December 18 – Walter and Stevie Pillow and December 25 – Ellen Hey. The Lesson Book is in the church office on the top shelf of the book case. Please return it to the office each Sunday.

CALL TO WORSHIP
(FROM PSALM 30 AND PSALM 32)

Pastor: Sing praises to the Lord, O you saints, and give thanks to his holy name.

People: *The Lord has turned my mourning into dancing; You have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness.*

Pastor: Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our shield.

People: *For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name.*

Pastor and People: **Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in You.**

The Scripture Reading: Matthew 12:9-21

⁹ He went on from there and entered their synagogue. ¹⁰ And a man was there with a withered hand. And they asked him, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?" - so that they might accuse him. ¹¹ He said to them, "Which one of you who has a sheep, if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not take hold of it and lift it out? ¹² Of how much more value is a man than a sheep! So it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." ¹³ Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And the man stretched it out, and it was restored, healthy like the other. ¹⁴ But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him. ¹⁵ Jesus, aware of this, withdrew from there. And many followed him, and he healed them all ¹⁶ and ordered them not to make him known. ¹⁷ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: ¹⁸ "Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ He will not quarrel or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets; ²⁰ a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory; ²¹ and in his name the Gentiles will hope."

WILL BAPTISM SAVE THIS CHILD?

Will baptism save this child? No, salvation comes through trusting in Jesus Christ as one's Savior and Lord. Then why do we baptize this child? Not for sentiment, though he/she is sweet. Not for tradition, though it is dear. We baptize this child because we believe the Bible commands us to do so.

Throughout biblical history, God has promised to bless through a covenant relationship with his people. He said to Abraham, "I will be a God to you and to your children after you." Abraham believed God's covenant promise and devoted all that he had to the Lord, including the members of his household. In obedience to God, Abraham showed his devotion through practicing the rite of circumcision in his household. This rite demonstrated that God's covenant would pass to future generations but would necessitate the shedding of blood for sin.

The shed blood did not create the covenant but rather acted as a seal, a pledge given by God, that he would honor his promise to all who, like Abraham, put their faith in him.

In the New Testament the Apostle Peter, preaching on the day of Pentecost, assured all that covenant promises of God would continue for the children of believers. He said, "Repent and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven. The promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off for all whom the Lord our God will call."

The promise to bless through faith in God's grace continued, but the Apostle Paul told Colossian believers that the sign of this covenant has changed. No longer foreshadowing the shedding of Christ's blood, the New Testament sacrament of baptism is a sign of what Christ's blood accomplishes, the washing away of sin and, thus, our union with him.

This water does not itself wash away sin but rather, according to the Apostle Paul, this sacrament acts as a seal, a visible pledge of God given to the church, whereby Heaven assures us that when such children as this one express faith in Christ, all the promises of his covenant of grace will apply to them.

The Bible gives us good reason to express our covenant privileges through such a baptism. In the New Testament accounts of baptism, every person identified as having a household present at his or her conversion also had the household baptized.

Yes, it is sweet to savor God's goodness to this family, but sentiment is not what leads this church or these parents to this holy ordinance. We baptize this child in obedience to biblical teaching, in keeping with the precedent of centuries of faithful families, and in expectation of God's presence and blessing. God now uses this sacrament to pledge to us his faithfulness as we, in faith, devote this child of the covenant to him.

~ Dr. Bryan Chapell



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