

# Service for the Public Worship of God

World Communion Sunday ~ October 4, 2009  
Eleven O'clock, A.M.



## Peacemaking Sunday

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. William A. Jamieson

Pastor: Rev. Dr. James E. Swanson

Choir Director/Organist: Beverly Antis

Liturgist: Dr. John Prichard

**OUR SERVICE OF WORSHIP BEGINS WITH THE MUSIC OF THE ORGAN**

**\* PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE DURING WORSHIP \***

THE PRELUDE

THE CHORAL INTROIT

*Surely the Lord is in This Place*

Robert Lau

\*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 423

*Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

DUKE STREET

\*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE INVITATION TO CONFESSION

## THE PRAYER OF PUBLIC CONFESSION

**O God, we come to you today confessing that we have not followed in the ways of your Son, Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. We have not loved and trusted in you. We have seen those who are treated without justice and have not offered to help. We hear and witness conflicts and disagreements that have led to acts of violence, but have chosen to remain in the comfort of our own surroundings. Even when we find ourselves in difficult circumstances, our faith wavers, and we rely on ourselves instead of waiting for you to come. Forgive us, Merciful God. Create in us a clean heart and a desire to follow your ways so we may know and do what is right and pleasing to you. In the name of Christ we pray.**

## A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

### THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: ...Hear and believe the Good News of the gospel!

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

### \*THE GLORIA PATRI 579

GLORIA PATRI

### \*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *PC (USA) Study Catechism, Questions 11-13*

Leader: [Question 11.] When the creed speaks of "God the Father," does it mean that God is male?

People: **No. Only creatures having bodies can be either male or female. But God has no body, since by nature God is Spirit. Holy Scripture reveals God as a living God beyond all sexual distinctions. Scripture uses diverse images for God, female as well as male. We read, for example, that God will no more forget us than a woman can forget her nursing child. "'As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you,' says the Lord."**

Leader: [Question 12.] ] Why then does the creed speak of God the Father?

People: **First, because God is identified in the New Testament as the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Second, because Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of this Father. Third, because when we are joined to Christ through faith, we are adopted as sons and daughters into the relationship he enjoys with his Father.**

Leader: [Question 13.] When you confess the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, are you elevating men over women and endorsing male domination?

People: **No. Human power and authority are trustworthy only as they reflect God's mercy and kindness, not abusive patterns of domination. As Jesus taught his disciples, "The greatest among you will be your servant." God the Father sets the standard by which all misuses of power are exposed and condemned. "Call no one your father on earth," said Jesus, "for**

**you have one Father — the one in heaven." In fact God calls both women and men to all ministries of the church.**

\*THE GREETINGS OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

THE SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CHORAL PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

*Abide, O Dear Redeemer*

Melchoir Vulpius

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 116: 5-19 (*Pew Bible p. 541*)

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God**

THE EPISTLE READING Ephesians 4: 7-16 (*Pew Bible p. 182*)

Liturgist: Here ends the reading of the Epistle.

All: **Praise be to you, O Lord.**

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 3: 13-17 (*Pew Bible p. 3*)

Pastor: The gospel of our Lord.

All: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

THE CONGREGATIONAL CANTICLE (Hymn Tune # 310, ST. AGNES)

**Lord, let Thy Word illumine us, with truth and love divine,  
And make us faithful to the Christ, 'til we are wholly Thine. Amen.**

THE SERMON "*CHRIST'S GREATEST HUMILIATION*" Rev. J.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE TWO-FOLD AMEN

Dresden

THE PRESENTATION OF REGULAR TITHES, OFFERINGS & GIFTS  
WITH THE PEACEMAKING OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

\*THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him all creatures here below,  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*THE UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Loving God, for all of the many blessings that we enjoy,  
we give you thanks. You have called us to serve others in  
your name and to work for peace in our day. We pray that  
through our weekly offerings and these special gifts, your  
love, your healing presence, your grace and your peace  
will be made known in the lives of people throughout this**

**world because of what you have done, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE COMMUNION HYMN 510

*Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts* QUEBEC

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using *debts* and *debtors*)

THE COMMUNION (seated)

THE LITANY FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

**People: And all that is within me, bless His Holy Name!**

Pastor: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

**People: And forget not all His benefits.**

Pastor: Let us pray together:

All: **Thanks be to You, O God, for this sacrament of bread and cup; for the joy of pardon, the birth of new hope, the cleansing of Your Holy Spirit, and the peace that passes all understanding.**

**Keep us in Your love, we pray, that we may walk before You all our days in the gladness of the redeemed and in the power of the children of light.**

**By your Living Spirit, empower us to work for peace; to have courage; to hold on to what is good; to return no one evil for evil; to strengthen the fainthearted and support the weak; to aid the suffering; to honor all persons; and to love and serve You, and You alone. Amen.**

\*THE RECESSIONAL HYMN 438 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* DENNIS

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE CHORAL RESPONSE *A Clare Benediction* John Rutter

\*THE TIME OF SILENCE

**\*THE CHARGE AND DISMISSAL**

Pastor: In Christ we have been forgiven, freed, and made whole. Go now, giving witness to God's peace by sharing it with others, as we wait for, work for, and witness to salvation.

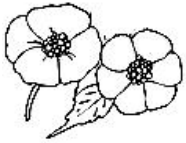
Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**\*THE POSTLUDE**

\* THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

**YOU WERE GREETED TODAY** by Donna Hobaugh.



**THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY**  
are placed this morning by Betty Anderson  
In Loving Memory of My Husband,  
James "Jim" O. Anderson

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR** immediately follows this worship service downstairs in the Assembly Room. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Hosting today's Fellowship Hour is Connie Brown.

**WELCOME! GRACE AND PEACE TO ALL!**

*We are delighted to have you with us if you are visiting today!  
Please indicate your attendance by signing one of the cards in  
the pew rack, and kindly place it in the offering plate when  
passed.*

*Then following worship, linger a bit longer and join us for  
Fellowship Time in the Assembly Room downstairs.*

*Exit at the rear of the Sanctuary to take the stairways or at the  
front to take the elevator to the lower level.*



**We are pleased to welcome to our pulpit  
this morning -- Rev. J.**

The Reverend Dr. William A. Jamieson (aka "Rev. J"), served as pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Evans City for 28 years. He was also Moderator of Beaver-Butler Presbytery in 1999, former Chairman of the Presbytery's Coordinating Team, and served for 25 years as a Pastoral Counselor on the staff of the Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute. Rev. J.'s experience, integrity and intellectual fair-mindedness have been much appreciated and we are thankful that he continues to use these gifts to help other area churches and our presbytery.

We are blessed to count the Jamiesons—Bill and his lovely wife Jennie—as family. Thank you Jamiesons for all you have done for us!

**TODAY WE CELEBRATE:  
WORLD COMMUNION & PEACEMAKING SUNDAY**



*“Justice and peace shall kiss each other” ~ Ps. 85:10*

***The Peacemaking Offering  
will be Received Today***  
*(25% is retained for local peacemaking)*

An envelope has been included with this bulletin if you have forgotten yours. Please make checks payable to Covenant Presbyterian Church, marked “Peacemaking” in the memo portion.

On World Communion Sunday, Christians from around the world gather in worship to partake of the elements of bread and wine in remembrance and celebration of the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is also the time to bear witness to the unity of Christians everywhere as we seek to live out Christ’s command to work for justice and peace in a world that is deeply divided in conflict and war. As we gather on this Lord’s Day, let us remember and pray for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)’s 165 partner communions and other organizations worldwide who will be receiving Communion.

**TODAY @ 2:00 p.m. “ BLESSING OF THE PETS ”**

*Church Yard at the Entrance  
to the Sanctuary*

Nancy Jo Moorhead, Worship Leader

**Snack - Lunch follows  
in the Assembly Room**  
(Special treats for people & pets !)



**~ Open to the Butler Community ~**

**In case of rain:** The service will be held inside in the Board Room at the Handicap Entrance on the west side.



**This Tuesday,  
October 6, 2009 ~ 11 am**

***Cobbie Palm & Joel Tenderso,  
Int’l Peacemakers from the  
Philippines***

Our presbytery will be hosting two men from the Philippines who are part of a pilot program that pairs an International Peacemaker with a PC(USA) mission co-worker. Cobbie and Joel will be here in Butler on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. and Covenant Church will host a gathering of interested persons for *Lunch* and an *Informational Program* beginning at 11:00 am in the Assembly Room. Please join us!

**Invite your friends and neighbors. (No reservations needed)**

## SEEKERS' ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

*always provocative speakers, interesting  
topics & lively discussions*

**Sundays at 9:30 a.m. ~ Assembly Room**



**Next Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Rabbi Walter Boninger**

(Retired) former Rabbi of  
Congregation B'nai Abraham Synagogue

*Topic:*

**"My Spiritual Journey"**

(autobiographical account)

Rabbi Boninger will return to Seekers November 15 and 22.

*Coffee, tea, juice and a snack are available before class—  
served from the small kitchen beginning at 9 a.m.*

## *In The Life of Our Church*

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### Prayer Concerns:

Chuck Schlicht . . . . . Hospitalized for surgery at Butler  
Memorial. He suffered a fall at his home  
last week which resulted in a broken hip.

Gladys Strobel . . . . . Hospitalized briefly last week at Butler  
Memorial (heart problems)

### Joys:

Pastor Jim . . . . . Doing remarkably well following recent  
successful surgery. No complications!!

Ellie Walchesky . . . . . Released from Concordia, now at home &  
doing wonderfully well

### For Continued Prayer:

Minnie Anderson; Julie & Bud Bruno; Marion Campbell; Marian  
Curran; Eleanor Ritts; Gladys Strobel; John Towns; Bill and  
MaryLou Wilson

### Birthdays this Week:

James Curry (October 4), Melissa Reese McAnallen (October 6),  
Leah Swanson (October 8)



**MOVIE NIGHT...**

**Friday, October 16**

**6:30 p.m** (Assembly Room)



***Faith Like Potatoes*** -- the moving journey of a man who, like his potatoes, grows his faith, unseen until the harvest. This 2006 South African drama film is based on a book written by Angus Buchan of the same title which was published in 1988 and tells the true story of Angus Buchan and the Buchan family.

This film is about a Zambian farmer who leaves his farm in the midst of political unrest and travels south with his family to start a better life in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. Faced with ever mounting challenges, hardships and personal turmoil, Angus struggles with his faith in God and his trust in God's providence.

**Invite Friends & Bring Snacks to Share!**



**FALL BIBLE STUDY**

*Led by Pastor Jim &  
Rev. Merry Meloy*



**BEGINS Wednesday,  
October 21 at 1:00 p.m.**

*(Every other Wednesday—same time, here at Covenant)*

**October 21, November 4, November 18, December 2**

**We will be studying materials by John J. Pilch entitled  
“Introducing the Cultural Context of the Old Testament”**

Our next Joint Bible Study (with Saint Andrews and Faith Presbyterian churches) is an invitation to learn the Mediterranean culture of our ancestors in the faith as a means of better understanding and appreciating the Bible. The lessons will concentrate on Wisdom literature and guide the participants through a cross-cultural comparison of middle-class U.S. cultural values with those of the Mediterranean world.

There is no charge for study materials... and no “prerequisite” of Bible knowledge required. Come, join us as we explore God’s Word together!

## TWO UPCOMING DISCOVERY TRIPS !

### # 1 ~ Sunday, October 18

We will depart immediately following worship for an afternoon outing to Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center (Villa Maria, Pa.) On the way there, we'll stop for lunch. Then at the Villa we will "Walk The Labyrinth: The Path of Gratefulness." Walking the labyrinth is an experience in quiet prayer with musical accompaniment including harp, cello and flute. (Villa Donation: \$7 ea.) We'll return to Butler by 6:00 pm. Car pooling/rides provided. Please call the church office if you want to go.

### # 2 ~ Wednesday, October 28

Here's a mid-week opportunity to re-visit one of our favorite sacred spaces in Pittsburgh – Temple Rodef Shalom in Oakland. We will depart Butler at 9:00 am to arrive in time for the 75th Annual Freehof Book Review Series (beginning at 10:30 am). Rabbi Aaron B. Bisno will review *The Evolution of God* by Robert Wright. Following the program, depending upon the interests of the group, we may decide to stop by East Liberty Presbyterian Church or Pittsburgh Seminary... and of course "do lunch" before heading home. Car pooling/rides provided. Please call the church office if you want to go.

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### *The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

*It is available to all who believe in God and trust in the Son, Jesus Christ. So come—*

*Those who are faithful and of little faith,  
Those who are weak and strong,  
Those who are hungry and satisfied,  
Those who are lions and lambs,  
Those who are doves and sword bearers,  
Those who are afflicted and comfortable...*

*Come! Partake of the meal that God has prepared for you!*



World Communion Sunday