

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from "The Confession of 1967" Section B-9.16 - 9.17

God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God's dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, sublimity and awfulness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator.

God has created human beings for a personal relation with himself that they may respond to the love of the Creator. God has created male and female and given them a life which proceeds from birth to death in a succession of generations and in a wide complex of social relations.

God has endowed humans with capacities to make the world serve their needs and to enjoy its good things. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude, and a task to be pursued with courage.

People are free to seek life within the purpose of God: to develop and protect the resources of nature for the common welfare, to work for justice and peace in society, and in other ways to use their creative powers for the fulfillment of human life.

*THE GREETINGS OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

THE SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 6:9-22; 7:24; 8:14-19

(Pew Bible p. 5)

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord. All: **Thanks be to God!**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Whither Thou Goest

Guy Singer

Darla Peterson, Vocal Soloist

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 3:22b-28

(Pew Bible p. 144)

Liturgist: Here ends the reading of the Epistle. All: **Praise be to you, O Lord.**

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 7:21-29

(Pew Bible p.7)

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord. All: **Glory to You, O Christ.**

*THE CONGREGATIONAL CANTICLE - Hymn 241, vs. 1

CRIMOND

**Behold the goodness of our Lord, How blest it is to be
A company of God's beloved, In holy unity.**

THE SERMON

"YOU CAN'T FOOL GOD"

Dr. Swanson

THE PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER (using "debts" and debtors")

THE PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND GIFTS

SPECIAL OFFERTORY MUSIC

How Great Thou Art

Stuart K. Hine

Darla Peterson, Vocal Soloist

*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.

*THE UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

For your abounding grace and steadfast love, we give thanks, O God. May our gifts provide for those who seek refuge from doubt, respite from sorrow, relief from hunger and calamity. As we cheerfully give and gladly serve in Christ's name, help us to grow in the true Spirit of our Lord and Savior. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN 514 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* LINSTEAD

THE INVITATION

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the whole people of God! Believers will come from east and west, and from north and south, to sit at table in the kingdom of God. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites all those who trust Him to share the feast which He has prepared.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

People: **We lift them to the Lord!**

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

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

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you honor and praise, O God. With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you, to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

People: **Around this table we gather: awed by the example of Christ, remembering His sacrifice, confessing our role in His continuing passion.**

Pastor: Around this table we gather: humbled by God's forgiveness, encouraged to carry the cross of Christ in our own time and culture.

People: **Around this table we gather: mindful of those who have no table; joined to those who suffer from hunger, persecution, and disease; mindful of those whose lives are filled with warfare and violence, loneliness, isolation, imprisonment or fear.**

All: **Around this table we gather as one body of Christ!**

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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

THE CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS

THE COMMUNION (all who are able, come forward)

*THE UNISON PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

O God, who called us from death to life: we give ourselves to You, and with the church through all ages, we praise You for Your saving love in Jesus Christ, who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal.

By the nourishment we have received at this table, help us 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 only, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*THE CLOSING HYMN 538

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing SICILIAN MARINERS

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Hymn #599

Jesus, Remember Me Jacques Berthier

*THE TIME OF SILENCE

*THE CHARGE AND DISMISSAL

Pastor: Now may the blessing of God rest on our heads,
And the Truth of God set us free from all dangers, real and perceived;
So that in our labor and in our leisure,
In our rising up and our sitting down,
In hours of joy or in days of sorrow,
We shall with gladness of heart
Commend our lives wholly unto Him who keeps us from falling.

People: **Through Christ, our Lord! His peace endures!**

THE POSTLUDE *Voluntary* John Stanley

*Those who are able please stand.

THE FLOWERS in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Sue Ellen Reese and Marilyn Ruff & Families in memory of the June 1st birthday of Harold I. Kurtz (Sue Ellen and Marilyn's father).

GREETINGS TO ALL this day who have come to worship.

We want to get to know you, especially if you are a visitor!

Please introduce yourself to others sitting nearby during the passing of the peace. Following the worship, everyone is invited to share a time of coffee, tea and fellowship downstairs in the Assembly Room. (exit at the rear of the sanctuary, go down the stairs and past the Library to the entrance near the Sallman painting of Christ knocking at the door.)

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

YOU WERE GREETED TODAY by Rose and Jim Curry.

SPECIAL MUSIC: We thank Darla Peterson for her vocal performance this morning. Darla is a longtime member of the Covenant Choir.

In The Life of Our Church

Recent Prayer Concerns:

Marian and Fred Curran . . . Recently hospitalized with separate health issues in Denver during a family visit
Vernon Swanson Receiving care from Good Samaritan Hospice at the Swanson home

For Continued Prayer:

Mary Elizabeth Goehring; Bob & Joan Moore; Julie & Bud Bruno; Brenda Keith; Marion Campbell, Dr. Thomas Stover (Mary Lee's brother in Texas); Bill Wilson

With our sincere apologies:

The following birthdays and anniversary were listed on the church web site but unintentionally absent from last week's worship bulletin:

Birthdays: Gladys Strobel - May 26
Andrew Datt - May 31

Anniversary: James & Rosamond Curry - May 28

The Annual Church Rummage & Bake Sale—



THIS Saturday, June 7th
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
(Fellowship Hall)

- ✓ Please bring in your items no later than Wednesday, June 4th to give our volunteers time to display and price all the donations. Please limit clothing to one bag per family unit.
 - ✓ Bring your baked goods to the downstairs kitchen this Friday, June 6th!
 - ✓ To volunteer your help: Please see Nancy Hitchcock following worship today or contact her at 724-355-2486 to let her know what day(s) and time(s) this week you are available to help with the rummage sale.
-

THIS WEEK . . .

SYNOD OF THE TRINITY SUMER CONFERENCE

JUNE 4-6, 2008 at Westminster College, New Wilmington, PA

Of special interest: Thursday, June 5th



Guest Speakers

Explore Luke 10:1-12 and Luke 10:25-37 with Dr. Kenneth Bailey and The Rev. Dr. Kang-Yup-Na, New Testament Scholars, who will be leading the Bible studies on Thursday, June 5th in the Witherspoon Room, McKelvey Campus Center.

Dr. Kenneth Bailey is an author and lecturer in Middle Eastern New Testament studies. He spent 40 years as a Presbyterian Church (USA) missionary, teaching at seminaries and institutes in Egypt, Lebanon, Jerusalem and Cyprus. Dr. Bailey's lecture is scheduled 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

The Rev. Dr. Kang-Yup-Na, a frequent speaker and favorite of the Seekers Class, is an Associate Professor of Religion at Westminster College in New Wilmington. Professor Na's area of specialty is the New Testament, especially Paul's letters. Dr. Na's lecture is scheduled 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Brochures with conference schedules are available in the narthex. For more information, contact the church office at 724-287-7731.



Covenant Cupboard Community Food Bank

June: dried beans or rice

(Baskets for your donations are located at the front entrance on E. Jefferson St.)

***MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR MODERATOR
of the 218th GENERAL ASSEMBLY***

Three ministers and an elder are standing for election as moderator of the 218th General Assembly to be held June 21-28 in San Jose, California. The election will take place on the first day of the Assembly. The moderator presides over the biennial legislative gathering of the 2.3 million-member denomination and then serves as a roving good-will abassador for two years.

The four candidates standing for election are:

- Elder Roger Shoemaker, an elder in Lincoln, Nebraska
- the Rev. Carl Mazza of New Castle Presbytery, Newark, DE
- the Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow of San Francisco Presbytery
- the Rev. Bill Teng of National Capital Presbytery, Washington, DC

The Rev. Peter C. deVries, pastor of Old Union Presbyterian Church in Mars PA has accepted an invitation from Roger Shoemaker to stand as a candidate for Vice-Moderator alongside him; Peter was endorsed by Beaver-Butler Presbytery at its May meeting last week in Monaca PA. Mr. Shoemaker is a member of Southern Heights Presbyterian Church in Lincoln, NE and has been endorsed by Homestead Presbytery.

A native of Wyoming, IL, Shoemaker, 74, graduated from Fresno State College in California with a degree in industrial engineering. He is both an elder, ordained in 1966, and deacon. He has served in a variety of capacities in PC(USA) congregations in California and Nebraska. As convenor of the denomination's Czech Mission Network, Shoemaker has been instrumental in establishing partner church relationships between PC(USA) Czech congregations and is the PC(USA) representative to the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren Synodical.

Quotable quote: "Our call, as was Abraham's is to live into the discomfort of our faith, to be a people willing to love one another, warts and all. In John 10 Jesus talks about his sheep knowing his voice, yet we seem to be unwilling to listen to one another and to debate as necessary in order to find the love into which we are called: to hear the voice of Jesus amidst the din and roar of each other's rhetoric."

The Rev. D. Carl Mazza is pastor/director of Meeting Ground, a ministry with the homeless and other marginalized persons in Cecil County, MD. He has been endorsed by New Castle Presbytery. A native of Philadelphia, Mazza, 61, graduated from Nyack (NY) College and Princeton Theological Seminary. He pastored churches in Maryland, Massachusetts and Delaware before founding Meeting Ground with his late wife, Marsha, in 1982. Mazza has been an ordained minister in the PC(USA) since 1978.

The Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow is pastor of Mission Bay Presbyterian Church a new church development in San Francisco. He has been endorsed by San Francisco Presbytery. A Northern California native and the grandson of Filipino and Chinese immigrants, Reyes-Chow, 38, graduated from San Francisco State University and San Francisco Theological Seminary. His first pastorate was at Covenant Presbyterian Church (no...not in Butler, but in San Francisco.) He's been an ordained PC(USA) minister since 1995.

The Rev. William "Bill" Teng is pastor of Heritage Presbyterian Church in Alexandria, VA. He has been endorsed by National Capital Presbytery. Teng, 54, is a native of Hong Kong. He graduated from the City College of New York, Nyack (NY) College and Alliance Theological Seminary. After six years as a minister in the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, he was ordained in the PC(USA) in 1985 and served pastorates in Hong Kong, Florida, and Washington, DC, before going to Heritage Church in 1999. Rev. Teng has served on several ecumenical boards in the Washington area and in 2007 was president of *Presbyterians for Renewal*.

June 1, 2008

**Third Sunday After Pentecost
Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.
On Christ the solid Rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

Words: Edward Mote, circa 1834;
first appeared in Mote's Hymns of Praise, 1836.

Music: SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1863

The Reverend Dr. James E. Swanson, Pastor

Home Phone: (724) 752-8383

Church Office: (724) 287-7731

Website: <http://covenantbutler.org>