

Order of Service for the Public Worship of God

July 15, 2007

Ten O'clock, A.M.

Pastor: Dr. James E. Swanson

Liturgist: Mary Lee Marten

Organist: Miss Beverly Antis

THE PRELUDE

*Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray
Come Down, O Love Divine*

Harald Rohlig
Wilbur Held

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Enter with me the sacred space. Bring with you what is yours –

People: **A burdened heart, a joyous song,
a wearied spirit, a seeking mind.**

Leader: Bring the gift of yourself to worship this day. It is an honorable gift.

People: **I was glad when they said unto me,
Let us go into the house of the LORD.**

*THE OPENING HYMN 155

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

DARWALL'S 148TH

*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

THE CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God: our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. We have not always loved with the love of Christ; we have not been working for justice nor battling evil in our day; we have gone along with evil and warfare, prejudice and greed.

Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be transformed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image each day; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Even before we could know it or earn it, we were surrounded by grace.

People: **God, in Christ, will never fail us. His mercy is certain.**

Pastor: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

*THE GLORIA PATRI 579

GLORIA PATRI

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From "A Brief Statement of Faith" PC(USA),
adopted by the 202nd General Assembly

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

THE INSTALLATION of Elder Nancy Hitchcock (Class of 2009)

*THE GREETINGS OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

THE SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE READING OF THE PSALM Psalm 103: 1-2, 8-22 (*Pew Bible p. 531*)

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

SPECIAL MUSIC *Rejoice, Sing Praise!* Elliot E. Roth

Amy Bole, Vocal Soloist

THE EPISTLE LESSON Colossians 1: 1-14 (*Pew Bible p. 187*)

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

*THE GOSPEL LESSON Luke 10: 25-37 (*Pew Bible p. 68*)

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 “ DOING LIKEWISE ” Dr. Swanson

THE PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER (using “debts”)

THE PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, & GIFTS

SPECIAL MUSIC *In This Very Room* Ron and Carol Harris

Amy Bole, 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

Use us, O God of miracles, and the offerings we have brought, to bring life and health and hope to your world. Make us generous and faithful stewards of your mysteries, as we share the bounty which you have granted unto us. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

*THE CLOSING HYMN 332

Live Into Hope

TRURO

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Go with Us, Lord TALLIS' CANON

*Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
Through this and every coming day,
That in Your Spirit strong and true
Our lives may be our gift to You.*

*THE TIME OF SILENCE

*THE CHARGE AND DISMISSAL

Pastor: Remember this week to take time to enjoy life's rich blessings of beauty and joy. Claim God's time for your own, a time not measured in hours and minutes and seconds alone, but by the ebb and flow of seasons and by the hunger of the soul.

People: **So may it be 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.**

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE POSTLUDE *Toccata in A Minor* Jan Pieter Sweelinck

* Where indicated, those who are able, please stand.

GREETINGS to all this day who worship the God of past, present and future. We want to get to know you. Please introduce yourself to others sitting nearby during the passing of the peace.

THE FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are provided by Grace Sechler in loving memory of her husband, J. Philip Sechler, whose birthday is July 17.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR immediately follows this worship service downstairs in the Assembly Room. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Hosting today's Fellowship Hour are Joe and Eileen Davidson.

YOU WERE GREETED TODAY by Ann Morrison.

SPECIAL MUSIC - The first piece, sung by Amy Bole, and written by Elliot Roth, was commissioned by the Faith U.P.C. Choir for Rev. James Campbell on the occasion of his retirement.

WE THANK OUR GUEST SOLOIST - We are pleased to welcome Amy Bole back. She has been a friend of Covenant for a number of years and served as the Soprano section leader in choir.

THE SESSION will meet this Tuesday, July 17th at 7:00 pm in the Assembly Room.

In The Life of Our Church

Prayer Concerns: Herb Enyeart, Ellie Walchesky, Dorothy Hitchcock,
Mary Ann Zeigler, LaRose Black, Muriel Thompson,
Brenda Keith

Pastor Jim will be having out-patient surgery on
Wednesday, July 18th at St. Elizabeth Hospital.

Please pray for Frankfort Presbyterian Church (USA) in Hookstown PA, one
of our sister congregations in Beaver-Butler Presbytery. Their church
steeple was struck by lightning on Wednesday, July 12. (We can certainly
identify with that, can we not?) Firefighters were able to get the fire under
control before too much damage occurred. Pray for the Session and Rev.
Allison Bauer, as damage is assessed and plans for repair are considered.

No birthdays to report this week.

Celebrating anniversaries this week. . .

Lowell & Janie Wetzel - July 16

Robert L. & Virginia Thompson - July 17

*If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please accept our apology. If you
would like us to publish the date in the Chronicle and bulletin, please call the
church office at 724-287-7731.*



*Eleanor Ritts
"Happy 100th Birthday!"*

You Are Invited to a Very Special

'Open House'

*Congratulations to Eleanor Ritts who will be
turning 100 years old on August 2nd!*

*To celebrate this milestone birthday, Eleanor's
family is having an*

**Open House for family and friends
on Friday, August 3rd from 4 – 7 p.m.
at Eleanor's home, 223 W. Fulton St.**

*Everyone is cordially invited to attend and to share memories and to convey
their best wishes to Eleanor on her 100th birthday!*

No gifts please - cards and well-wishes welcomed!



MEETING TIMES ARE CHANGING FOR

Our Covenant Prayer Cordon

Beginning this Tuesday, July 17th, the Prayer Cordon will meet on **Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.** (instead of 10:30 a.m.) in the church library for intercessory prayer, for personal and world concerns.



WANTED: New prayer members, women and men!

The meeting time has been changed to the afternoons in the hope that a greater number who are not "morning people" will be available. It requires only an hour—or at the most, an hour and a half—of your time, once a week but its efficacy lasts far longer. Please consider taking part in this prayer ministry. Please see either Phyllis Thoma, Virginia Lokovich or Betty Anderson.

**Note: If you are unable to commit weekly, you can still be part of the group by committing once or twice a month or for a seasonal period of time.*



Extending
a Hand in Friendship

Luncheon With the Taiwan Delegation Thursday, July 26 at 11:030 am

Dee Demby and others at the Butler YMCA are hosting a visiting foreign delegation of 2 adults and five young women (ages 21-24) from Tai Chung, Taiwan this month. Covenant Church will host one of the lunches for the young visitors on Thursday, July 26 at 11:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room.

AN INVITATION TO OUR MEMBERS: We invite you to attend the lunch as ambassadors of goodwill, extending a cordial welcome to the young women and making them feel comfortable in our country. Here is an opportunity for both cultures to move closer toward understanding one another with the objective that "let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me", are not just words we sing, but a philosophy we practice everyday.



HOWDY FRIENDS!

"it's vbs time at trinity"

Don't forget Vacation Bible School coming up the week of July 16-20 at Trinity Presbyterian Church from 6 pm to 8:30 pm each evening.

Call 724-287-7464 for more information!

GOLF EVENT TO BENEFIT THE LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION

HOLE IN ONE CONTEST!!

Pittsburgh North Driving Range any time from July 21 - August 10th, Tuesday and Thursday evenings 7:30 - 8:45 p.m. or Saturday mornings before noon.

Purchase a chance for \$2. Be one of the first 20 people to qualify for a chance to shoot a hole in one and receive a brand new car!

To qualify the ball will need to be hit into a ring from 100 yards. The first 20 to meet the 100-yard target will then show up on August 11 at 4:30 p.m. to try to make a hole in one from 200 yards. (Order of shooting will go in order of qualification.) The person, or first person, who gets a hole in one will win a brand new 2007 Chevy Trailblazer! There will be alternate prizes for those coming closest to the hole in one.

For more information contact:

The Lighthouse @ 724-898-4673 *or* The Range @ 724-443-0499

JEHOVAH

יהוה

LORD in our English Bibles (all capitals)
Yahweh, YHWH

These are various representations of the original covenant name of God. We can find 6,823 instances in the Old Testament of this name of God. Its first use can be traced to Genesis 2:4

Jehovah Elohim : From the verb "to be", *havah*, similar to *chavah* (to live), "The Self-Existent One," "I AM WHO I AM" or "I WILL BE WHO I WILL BE"; as revealed to Moses at the burning bush (see Exodus, chap. 3).

Since the name of God was too holy and sacred to be uttered or even written, it was customarily abbreviated or written "YHWH" without vowel points (referred to as "the tetragrammaton"). Joshua, Judges, Samuel and the books of Kings use *Jehovah* almost exclusively, and in our English Bible the translation of Yahweh as "LORD" is always spelled with CAPITAL LETTERS (not "Lord"). The Hebrew text of Deuteronomy 6:4, 5 (known to Jews as the *Sh'ma*) uses both *Jehovah* and *Elohim* to name the one true God.

**"Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!
You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."**



The Compassionate Samaritan

by Walter Wink

This tired parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-27) is the wet noodle with which Christians flagellate themselves into acts of mercy. We thus become as deeply mired in works-righteousness as the lawyer who put the question. As if there were anything one could do to inherit eternal life!

Two fiendish Princeton sociologists exposed the whole game. They put a group of seminary students in a room, read them this parable, then asked them to go at varying intervals, one at a time, to a building next door, where half would give extemporaneous sermonettes on the parable and the other half would talk about ministry as a vocation. An actor was planted beside the sidewalk who feigned distress. The real test was to see how many of these Christians, their heads full of this parable of compassion, would actually stop. Only 40 percent did!

Ingenious. This study proves that people are not compassionate because ordered to be so by religious law. They are, on the contrary, compassionate most often when they see themselves as the victim beside the road. Compassion—"to suffer with." The Samaritan was not a better person than the priest or levite or lawyer. We call him "good" though we know nothing about his life. He may have been a shyster. He simply knew what it was like to be unable to get decent accommodations as a hated half-breed. He knew that if he had been the one mugged, no one would stop for him either. He identified with the victim.

Jesus invites the lawyer to do the same—to see himself in the ditch, to watch his own religious leaders pass him by, to see a Samaritan approach, to undergo the choice. "Do I let this accursed person contaminate me and render me unclean, or do I let him save my life?" was the thinking, no doubt, of the injured man. Then Jesus makes the Samaritan his role model: Go and do likewise... Not to inherit eternal life, but because the listener identifies with the sufferer.

It is as we consider and find healing for our own wounds that we are able to become "wounded healers" for others. As we openly share our woundedness, others are enabled to bring their hurts into the open for healing.

Walter Wink was professor of biblical interpretation at Auburn Theological Seminary in New York City when this article first appeared in *Sojourners* magazine.

July 15, 2007

When we would neighbor be,
We cannot choose the place:
For God will call when needs arise
And bid us to embrace.
But pious duty tempts us
To forsake God's call.
To show our faithfulness, we must
Do justice first of all.

Words to the first verse of a hymn
by F. Richard Garland, © 2007
to be sung to the tune DIADEMATA

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