

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT MEDITATION

* CALL TO WORSHIP based on Genesis 1

God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

God's speech spoke light into existence—flaming sun, reflecting moon, the light of our lives.

God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so.

God's speech spoke the waters into motion, calling the waves into their shapes and summoning the earth.

God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind." And it was so.

God's speech spoke the fig into ripeness and the honeysuckle into sweetness.

God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth." And it was so.

God spoke the whale into singing, the dolphin into leaping, and the pelican into plunging.

God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth." And it was so.

God's speech spoke the lion into roaring, the elephant into stomping, and the hyena into laughing.

God spoke and called creation into being.

Let us also speak to bless and build one another up, joining our words to the creative speech of God.

* HYMN 612 "We Praise You, O God"

* CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you have blessed us with the gift of language. Yet, sometimes we use that gift to tear down, rather than to build up.

Our words can wound rather than build up, and our language can be bitter rather than a blessing.

Forgive us, O God.

By the power of your Spirit, heal our inward thoughts, so that our outward speech might be healing to others.

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Pardon

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Hymn 698 (three times) "Take, O Take Me as I Am"

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 29:13-14

ANTHEM *Wade in the Water* by Rob Blackwell

Wade in the water, wade in the water, children.

Wade in the water. God's gonna trouble the water.

Who are the children dressed in red?

Must be the ones that Moses led.

Who are the children dressed in white?

Must be the children of the Israelite.

Who are the children dressed in blue?

Must be the ones who are comin' through.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON James 3:1-12

SERMON "Speaking with Integrity"
Integrity: Fifth in a series on the Book of James

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN 722 "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (10.3)

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Self-Offering

Offertory *Prayer* Morten Lauridsen

* *Doxology* (Hymnal, back page)

* *Prayer of Dedication*

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

GOING OUT TO SERVE

* HYMN 610, vv. 1-4 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE
Hymn 610, v. 5 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

POSTLUDE *Te Deum* Marc-Antoine Charpentier

END OF WORSHIP ... BEGINNING OF SERVICE



Bold font indicates congregational participation.

* You are invited to stand in body or in spirit.

We light two candles in worship. The white candle reminds us of the presence of Christ's spirit in worship. The smaller candle is in a candle holder made by a member of our partner church, Iglesia El Divino Salvador in Guatemala, and it reminds us of our covenant with them.

Today's liturgists: Tom Fife

Today's greeters: Mike & Susan Garrett

Today's ushers: Bill Higgins and Glenn Limbird

Fellowship: Joy Lee Eppes' Care Group

Out-to-Lunch Bunch Conversation Today

The Out-to-Lunch-Bunch will be having a conversation today about some organizational issues before going out to lunch. Everyone is invited to participate. Afterwards we will go to Copper River Grill for lunch. See Mary Jo Limbird for more information.

Men's Brunch Bunch will meet at 10:30 AM this Saturday, September 15 at J.K.'s on Long Shoals. We gather every other Saturday to meet, eat, and enjoy fellowship together! Contact John Riley at 828-575-2894

September New Members Class Starts Next Sunday

Interested in exploring the possibility of membership here at New Hope? There are just three simple steps: (1) attend one class from 12:30-2:00 PM next Sunday, September 16 (lunch provided), (2) have dinner with the Session from 5:30-7:00 PM on Monday, September 17, and (3) be presented in worship on Sunday, September 23. Can't make any of these dates? Make-ups are easy! We are glad to schedule an alternative date for whatever you might need to miss. And, you can attend the class without having decided to join. Contact Pastor Kim.

Fall Sunday Morning Class Begins Today

Last spring, we studied the first three chapters of the Letter to the Ephesians, which laid out a sweeping theological overview of the reconciliation that God has accomplished for all things in Christ. This fall, we will do an in-depth study of the last three chapters of Ephesians, which make up the grand "therefore" of the letter. Given the good news that has been proclaimed to us in the first three chapters, how are we "therefore" called to live out that good news? Join Pastor Kim at 9:30 AM in the downstairs classroom through October 14. You don't need to have attended before—all are welcome.

Love Your Mother Earth! Hard2Recycle-East.

The next opportunity to unload televisions, electronics, cardboard, block styrofoam, batteries, and more will be Saturday, September 15 at 2319 US HWY 70 in Swannanoa. Please check the website at ashevillegreenworks.org for more about what they do and don't accept.

Sandwiches and Salads on September 16

September 16 is our monthly fellowship luncheon. The church will provide sandwich fixings and drinks. Please bring a salad or dessert. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Hope to see you there!

Integrity: Sermon Series on the Book of James

One of the biggest complaints about the church is that Christians don't always "walk their talk." As Christians, we ourselves demonstrate that we don't always believe what we say we believe. When times are difficult, our actions reveal that we'd rather take our lives into our own hands than trust God. When our faith is tested, our doubts make us vulnerable to the allure of self-sufficiency and material security, and our neighbor becomes our competitor rather than the one we're called to love. Yet, the Book of James challenges to live with real integrity, such that our actions reflect the faith we profess. Next up in the series:

September 16: "Friendships with Integrity" (James 1:5-8, 3:13-4:8a)

September 23: "Relating with Integrity" (James 4:10-17)

September 30: "Economic Integrity" (James 1:9-11, 5:1-6)

October 7: "Praying with Integrity" (James 5:7-20)

Memory Verse for the Week

"Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle." (James 3:2)

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, September 16 are due to Administrator, Erin May, by noon on Wednesday, September 12.

Calendar

Sun	9	11:00 AM	Worship
		12:30 PM	Out-to-Lunch Bunch (see Mary Jo)
Tue	11	2:00 PM	Faith Formation
Wed	12	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Sat	15	10:30 AM	Men's Brunch Bunch
Sun	16	11:00 AM	Worship
		12:30 PM	Out-to-Lunch Bunch (see Mary Jo)

New Hope Presbyterian Church

We are a welcoming, inclusive faith community, seeking to respond to Christ's call to love and serve, through ministries of compassion and social justice.

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Kim Wells, Pastor | Erin May, Church Administrator

Rob Blackwell, Director of Music Ministry/Pianist

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New Hope

Presbyterian Church

"Including, Renewing, Serving"

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

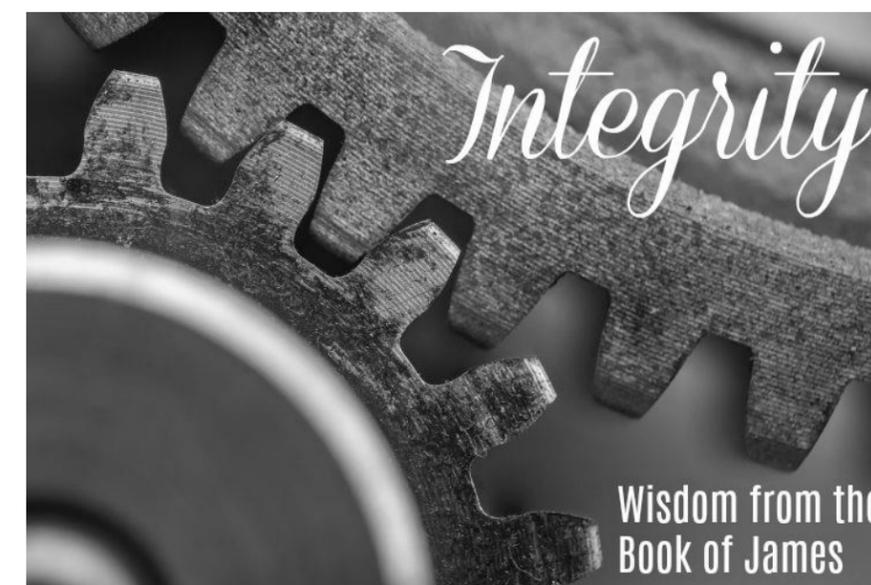
September 9, 2018

11 o'clock



"Speaking with Integrity"

Fifth in a series on the Book of James:



"How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire!

And the tongue is a fire."

James 3:5-6