

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *There is a Balm in Gilead* arr. Jennifer Fink

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT MEDITATION

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you.

**Humble yourselves before the Lord,
and the Lord will exalt you.**

God has called us to do justice, to love mercy,
and to walk humbly with God.

**So let us love our neighbors as ourselves, showing our love
for God by serving our neighbors.**

We are called to love God with all our heart, all our soul,
all our mind, and all our strength.

So let us love God above all things, and set ourselves free.

* **HYMN 12** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

* CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**O God of the humble cross,
you have shown us your servant love in Jesus Christ,
and you have called us to walk humbly with you.**

**Yet, we often take steps, not to humble ourselves,
but to get ourselves ahead.**

**We are quick to judge others, putting others down,
with the deeper goal of lifting ourselves up.**

**We even try to elevate ourselves above you, O God,
desiring to become our own masters.**

Forgive us, O God.

**By your Spirit, help us to humble ourselves,
that we might be freed from slavery to ourselves,
and find joy in serving you and others.**

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Pardon

Bold font indicates congregational participation.

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

* 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 40:3-8

ANTHEM *All Good Gifts* Stephen Schwartz
Hunter Taylor, Soloist

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON James 4:10-17

SERMON “Relating with Integrity”
Integrity: Seventh in a series on the Book of James

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

* **HYMN 282** “Come Down, O Love Divine”

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Philippians 2:5-11

**Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not
regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but
emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in
human likeness. And being found in human form, he
humbled himself and became obedient to the point of
death—even death on a cross.**

**Therefore God highly exalted him and gave him the name
that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under
the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Self-Offering

Offertory *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* arr. M. Wilberg

* *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 70** “What Does the Lord Require of You?”

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* **BENEDICTION RESPONSE**
Hymn 70, reprise “What Does the Lord Require of You?”

POSTLUDE *Water Music* George Frideric Handel

END OF WORSHIP ... BEGINNING OF SERVICE



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: Kim and Jordan Sluder-Owensby

Today’s greeters: Margaret Marsh

Today’s ushers: Jay & Susan Maveety

Fellowship: Joy Lee Eppes’ Care Group

This morning we welcome new members into our community of faith! Ken Meeks, a retired PC (USA) pastor and general presbyter, is joining as an associate member, and Jane Meeks, Elaine and Andy Morse, and Sonia Williams are joining as members. Please see the insert for more information about them, and extend your hand of welcome!

Out-to-Lunch Bunch

Everyone is welcome to join the Out-to-Lunch Bunch for lunch after church today! We will be going to Tupelo Honey. See Annette Sheffield for more information about today’s lunch outing.

Men's Brunch Bunch will meet at 10:30 AM this Saturday, September 29 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

Memorial Service for Sara Dixon

This Saturday, September 29, at 2:00 PM, we will be celebrating Sara Dixon's life and giving thanks for the promise of the resurrection. The service will take place in the Pulliam Chapel at Givens Estates. Please meet in the church parking lot at 1:30 PM to carpool over to Givens. You are invited to bring finger food for the reception following the service. Please contact Terri Carpenter at (704) 400-5409 if you plan on bringing something.

Hurricane Florence Assistance

The best way to help those who have suffered from Hurricane Florence is to make a financial contribution to the relief effort. We invite you to give to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), which enables congregations to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic events. Please write your check to New Hope Presbyterian Church with "Florence" on the memo line. Learn more about PDA's work at www.pcusa.org/pda. Thank you for your care and compassion.

Fall Clothing Drive: 500 Items by November 11!

Following the resounding success of our Summer Spirit food drive, the Outreach Committee is sponsoring a fall clothing drive to benefit the crisis ministry of the Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry (ABCCM). With cooler weather on its way, there is a great need to replenish ABCCM's clothing stock for Asheville's homeless population. New and clean, gently-used clothing and shoes are needed, with a special emphasis on men's clothing. The drive will begin next Sunday, September 30 and conclude on Dedication Sunday, November 11. Help us bring in 500 clothing items! Thank you for your support.

Fall Sunday Morning Class Continues

Join us for an in-depth study of Ephesians chapters 4-6, which make up the grand "therefore" of the letter. Given the good news of reconciliation that has been proclaimed to us in chapters 1-3, how are we "therefore" called to live out this good news in our day-to-day lives? Join Pastor Kim on Sundays through October 14 at 9:30 AM in the downstairs classroom. All are welcome.

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

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

Worship bulletin announcements for Sunday, September 30 are due to Administrator, Erin May, by noon on Wednesday, September 26.

Calendar

Sun	23	11:00 AM	Worship
		12:30 PM	Out-to-Lunch Bunch (See Annette)
Mon	24	2:00 PM	Deacons' Meeting
Wed	26	4:00 PM	Finance Meeting
		7:00 PM	Choir Practice
Thur	27	2:00 PM	Spirituality Circle (Nancy Spann's home)
	27	6:30 PM	Justice & Reconciliation Meeting
Sat	29	10:30 AM	Men's Brunch Bunch
Sun	30	11:00 AM	Worship
		12:30 PM	Out-to-Lunch Bunch (see Annette)

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

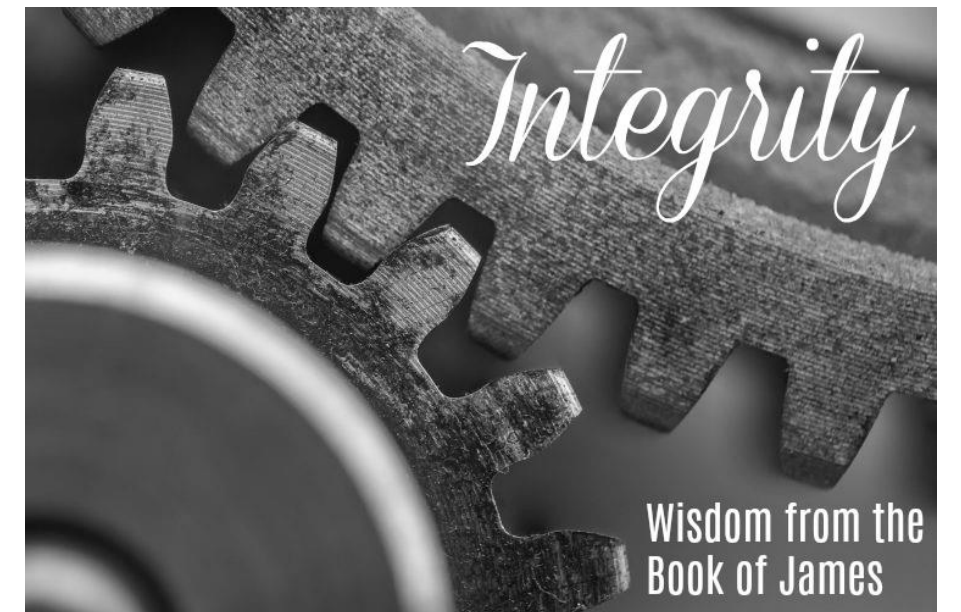
"Including, Renewing, Serving"

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 23, 2018
11 o'clock



"Relating with Integrity"

Seventh in a series on the Book of James:



"So who, then, are you to judge your neighbor?"

James 4:12