



# LIBERTY

## CHURCH, PCA

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America



*Sunday, December 30, 2018*

# Worship Service

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Nathan

## Call to Worship

Psalm 96:1-2

## \*Gathering Hymn

Praise Team

### *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above  
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we would render, O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

## Confession of Faith

**The Lord Jesus, in His human nature thus united to the divine, was sanctified, and anointed with the Holy Spirit, above measure, having in Him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge; in whom it pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell; to that end, being holy, harmless, undefiled, and full of grace and truth, He might be thoroughly furnished to execute the office of a Mediator.**

*-Westminster Confession of Faith, XIII.IIIa*

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**Please turn off or silence your cell phone.**

*For small children who need it, we invite you to the room designed for them at the rear of the older sanctuary.*

**\*Those who are able please stand.**

## Confession of Sin

**Merciful God, in Your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sins of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves. We cling to fleeting treasures. We set up idols in our heart. We are a people who are at enmity with one another; neighbor is set against neighbor, and nation against nation. We choose to harbor bitterness rather than forgiveness, gossip instead of glory. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free from the bondage of sin and death that we may serve You with our whole heart, to Your glory and praise. Amen.**

## Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 44:21-23

## Invocation

### \*Hymn of Praise

Praise Team

### *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of His grace!

My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread thro' all the earth abroad  
the honors of your name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,  
That bids our sorrows cease,  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'Tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,  
He sets the prisoner free;  
His blood can make the foulest clean;  
His blood availed for me.

***Cornerstone***

Edward Mote | Eric Liljero | Jonas Myrin | Reuben Morgan | William Bradbury

Verse 1

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!  
*(1<sup>st</sup> time-repeat verse)*  
*(2<sup>nd</sup> time-to chorus)*

Chorus

Christ alone Cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all  
*(2<sup>nd</sup> time-repeat)*

Verse 2

When darkness seems to hide His face  
I rest on His unchanging grace  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil!  
*(to chorus)*

Verse 3

When He shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless I stand before the throne  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless I stand before the throne!  
*(to chorus)*

**\*Reading of Scripture**

Luke 2:21-40

<sup>21</sup> And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

<sup>22</sup> And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord<sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." <sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him

by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup> “Lord, now you are letting your servant<sup>[a]</sup> depart in peace,  
according to your word;  
<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation  
<sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup> And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup> and then as a widow until she was eighty-four.<sup>[b]</sup> She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup> And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

[Children ages 4-2nd grade are dismissed for Wonders of Worship  
(Children’s Church) with Chris & Lisa Byrd]

**Shepherding Prayer**

Elder Michael Anderson

**Offertory**

*Blessed is the Lord (Benedictus)*  
Dan Forrest, words by RC Sproul

Choir

**Receiving of Tithes and Offerings**

**Sermon**

The Glory of Israel

Pastor Nathan

***In Christ Alone***

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease  
My Comforter, my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

**\*Benediction**

**\*Hymn of Glory**

***Doxology***

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

**\*Postlude**

**Worship Leaders**

Reverend Nathan Moretto

Reverend Dr. Barry Cureton

Mr. Ron Smith, Music Director

Mr. David Tracht, Music Director

Mrs. Susan Smith, Choir Director

Mrs. Linda Runkles, Organist

Mr. Chuck Mitchell, Pianist

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**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper** will be administered next Sunday and our mercy needs offering will be received during the regular offering.

**The Elders welcome the opportunity to meet you, talk with you or pray for you after church. They will be stationed by the Communion Table following the service.**

# **SERMON NOTES**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## From the Office

For those who have not turned in your **Year End Reports**, please turn it into the office as soon as possible so the 2018 booklet can be put together. Please keep your report brief (no longer than a couple paragraphs of text) and send pictures if possible.

Pastor Barry will be taking some vacation time through January 5.

## 2019 Envelopes

Envelopes for 2019 are in the back of the church. Please note that **ENVELOPE NUMBERS HAVE CHANGED**. Do not use any old envelopes. Use of your envelopes assists the counters in the accuracy of their job. **If you have been doing online banking, you will need to alert your bank to your new number.** If you want physical envelopes and they aren't on the table in the back, please call the church office or Chris Bohmer at 410-795-4872. If you are a regular visitor and have been giving, you have envelopes assigned to you.

## Small Group

**The Owings Mills/Reisterstown Small Group** is meeting Friday, January 11th, 6PM at the Smith's home (307 Butler Rd, Reisterstown) for a chili dinner. Feel free to join us, but let Lynn know if you are coming and if you will be bringing a side, dip, chips, or desert

## Women's Ministry

**LADIES (of all ages), consider joining us in 2019!**

ALL ARE WELCOME on Thursday evenings as we read and study God's word together. In December, we are finishing a teaching series on the Holy Spirit. Our next study will begin on January 3. Please join us as we read and study the book of Acts ( sequel to the gospel of Luke). We will use a book in the Lifechange Bible Series as our guide.

Save the date: January 3 at 7 pm.

An RSVP to Peggy Walker (410 493 8733)

It will help us plan for number of books needed.

## **Ladies Sunday School Class**

Beginning January 6th. All ladies are invited to join in the study of Deuteronomy. It's not too late! More books can always be ordered. Deuteronomy is a book about Israel's preparation for a new life. Hardship and the wilderness lie behind; the conquest of the promised land lies ahead. With the end of the Mosaic Age, it's time for a new commitment to God and a fresh understanding of the nature of the community of God's people. From the very beginning to the very end, it is God's Word to Moses and the people of Israel. Interested? Call or text Joyce Klein (410-365-4667) and let her know.

## **For Your Information**

Russ and Donna Sukhia plan to be at Carroll Lutheran Village on New Year's Day. If you have time to stop by, they'd love to see you. They expect to be in the Community room on the 4th floor of 205 St. Mark's Way after 1PM. If you need help to get in the building, call Russ at 443-695-3515.

## **Help Needed**

Christine Muzayine and her daughter Ava are coming back to Baltimore, January 5, 2019 to stay. She is looking for a temporary place to stay near a bus line until she can get a job and then an apartment of her own. If anyone can take her and Ava temporarily let Mary Ellen Gannon (410-655-6397) or Robin Moran (410-549-3923).

## **Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry is pretty bare right now. Any donation of nonperishable goods such as pasta, canned food, cereal or also things like paper towels, toilet papers, and laundry detergent are greatly appreciated.

## **Youth Group**

Our Youth Directors are Phill and Kelly Thomas. Please contact them for more information at [office@libertychurchpca.org](mailto:office@libertychurchpca.org) or if you would like to be added to the email list to find out about Youth Group activities.

Youth Group meets every Sunday from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Block House.

**FOCUS ON MISSIONS**  
**Native Alaskan Prison Ministry - The Bevan**  
**Family**

This week's Missions Focus moves to the Prison Ministry of the Bevan Family to Native Alaskans. Russ has been working in the mission field for over 45 years, twenty of which has been in Alaska, ministering to the native population who are or have been incarcerated. He was trained at Moody Bible Institute and began prison ministry in Baltimore City, before being called to Alaska. His wife, Laurie, graduated from Covenant College and is raising four older kids and working full-time as an elementary school music teacher.

Russ is involved in preaching and teaching the Word of God to prisoners, as well as meeting personally with prisoners and formerly-incarcerated, and even non-prisoners (often family members). He is especially involved in distributing Bible study material (like Emmaus, Third Millennium Ministries, and Good News Correspondence School courses) around the state to prisoners, including video series. The responses have been very encouraging, helping prisoners to rebuild their lives.

**Russ's prayer and praise requests include:**

- Praise for the ongoing response to the Bible correspondence program and prayer for the funds to continue the program.
- Prayer for John, a former inmate, as he checks out different churches and reconnects further with his family.
- Pray for their oldest daughter, Shelby, for success and good health as she starts college at Cairn University (formerly Philadelphia School of the Bible).



## THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

No Sunday School

Worship Service 10:45 am - 12:15 pm SAN

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

Men's Bible Study/Denny's (Isaiah) 6:00 am OC

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 1

NEW YEAR'S DAY OFFICE CLOSED

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

Prayer Meeting 6:30 pm-7:00 pm P  
Stockade 6:30 pm—8:00 pm LCS  
Pioneer Girls 6:30 pm—8:00 pm FH  
Choir Practice 7:00 pm– 9:00 pm SAN  
Men's Bible Study (Acts) 7:00 pm—8:00 pm P

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm– 8:30 pm FH

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

Sunday School for all ages 9:30 am– 10:30 am VP  
Coffee Fellowship 10:30 am - 10:45 am FH  
Worship Service 10:45 am - 12:15 pm SAN  
Youth Group 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm BH

FH-Fellowship Hall • P-Parlor • LCS-School • VP-Various Places

SAN-Sanctuary • OS-Old Sanctuary • OC- Off Campus • BH- Block House

## SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEERS

	<b>December 30</b>	<b>January 6</b>
Nursery 9:30 a.m.	No Nursery	Dianna Cote
Combined Nursery 10:30 a.m. Noah's Ark Room	Carol & Katie Byrd	Lisa Byrd, Hannah Watkins
Lock-up	Fred Walker, Ben Weinreich	Brian Moran, Don Wheatley
Sound	Daniel Hancock	Zach Dugan
Greeters	Jeff & Cindy Watkins	Jeff & Cindy Watkins
Usher Team Leader	Geof Smith	Kurt Reiblich

<b>Adult Sunday School Classes</b>		
<i>Hebrews (Continued)</i>	Charles Cate	Fellowship Hall
<i>Westminster Confession of Faith</i>	Barry Cureton	Parlor
<i>The Life of Elijah</i>	Howard Hill	Fellowship Hall
<i>Ladies Class Deuteronomy</i>	Joyce Klein	Fellowship Hall



### **Small Group Information**

<b>Group</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>
Sykesville	Wheatley	410-549-0730	1st & 3rd Mondays
Reisterstown	Charlotte Crone	410-356-3189	2nd Friday
Randallstown	Cureton	443-756-9777	3rd Sunday after Church
Woodstock	Klein	410-655-3753	3rd Friday
Acts 2:42	Harlan	443-854-5519	4th Sunday



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