

The Order for the Worship of God

The Lord's Day

January 19, 2020

10:15 a.m.

Welcome to St. Petersburg Presbyterian Church

If you are worshiping with us for the first time, we are glad you are here! Please complete the guest card found in one of the chair pockets, and place it in the offering basket at the conclusion of the service. And, please join us for refreshments and conversation afterwards in the fellowship hall. More information about our church can be found on our website at www.stpetepca.org

Reflection

God is wise in himself, so he imparts wisdom to his creatures. He is eager to give wisdom to all who desire the gift and will take the steps necessary to obtain it. The kind of wisdom that God waits to give to those who ask him is a wisdom that will bind us to himself, a wisdom that will find expression in a spirit of faith and a life of faithfulness.

J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

In Jesus Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Colossians 2:2-3

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

Proverbs 9:10

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE WITH THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

The Welcome and Announcements — Pastor David Harding

The Passing of the Peace — The good news in the gospel is that through faith in Jesus Christ, we have peace with God. Therefore, let us welcome one another in the joy of that peace!

The Call to Worship God — from Psalm 46

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

All: **Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.**

Leader: "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

All: **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Walter C. Smith, 1876

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.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the True Life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish—but naught changeth Thee.

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.

The Prayer of Adoration and 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 this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

WE CONFESS TOGETHER WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Heidelberg Catechism

Question 26

Leader: What do you mean when you say, “I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth”?

All: That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is my God and Father because of Christ his Son. I trust him so much that I do not doubt he will provide whatever I need for body and soul, and he will turn to my good whatever adversity he sends me in this sad world. He is able to do this because he is almighty God. He desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.

O Father, You Are Sovereign

Words: Margaret Clarkson, 1980

O Father, you are sovereign in all the worlds you made;
Your mighty Word was spoken, And light and life obeyed.
Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore,
Sets stars within their courses and stills the tempests' roar.

O Father, you are sovereign in all affairs of man;
No powers of death or darkness can thwart your perfect plan.
All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space,
You hold your trusting children secure in your embrace.

O Father, you are sovereign the Lord of human pain,
Transmuting earthly sorrows to gold of heavenly gain,
All evil overruling, as none but Conqueror could,
Your love pursues its purpose — Our souls' eternal good.

O Father, you are sovereign! We see you dimly now,
But soon before your triumph earth's every knee shall bow.
With this glad hope before us our faith springs forth anew:
Our Sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship you!

WE REPENT OF OUR SINS AND RECEIVE GOD'S MERCY

The Call to Confession — from Romans 3 and Isaiah 55

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. So, seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on him. Let him turn to our God, for he will freely pardon.

The Public Confession of Sin

Merciful Father, I confess that I am not worthy of your presence, but I come to you covered in the righteousness of Jesus Christ who makes me worthy in your sight. Please forgive me for the many ways I grumble and murmur against your wise and loving purposes in my life. Make me see and savor your sovereignty, especially in my sufferings. Humble my proud, self-righteous heart and cause your grace to me in Jesus be the joy and power in all my obedience. I ask this with the assurance that you are a generous Father who delights to hear and answer prayer through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

God's Gracious Promise of Forgiveness in Jesus Christ — 1 Corinthians 1:28-31

God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Leader: Hear and believe and rejoice in the gospel: Through faith alone in Jesus Christ all your sins are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God for His great wisdom, mercy and love!

Thy Mercy, My God

Words: John Stocker. Music: Sandra McCracken.

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But, through Thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by Thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
And weep for the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, Thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.
All praise to the Spirit, Whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

Parents are welcome to take their children, infants up to age 4, to the nursery for the remainder of the service.

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK IN HIS WORD

The Sermon

Series: "James: A Faith that Works"

How Faith Responds to the Trials of Life, Part 2

James 1:1-8

(pg. 1011 in the pew Bible)

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion: Greetings. ²Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. ⁵If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. ⁶But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

The Big Idea: Trials often reveal how much we lack wisdom. But, God is a generous giver and promises to supply what we need when we ask him in faith.

What we often lack, especially in trials (5)

What God promises to give, and how (5)

What we should do, and why (5-8)

Questions for personal reflection and family/community group discussion

- What was at least one take-away God gave you from the worship service? What did he teach you from the sermon?
- Why do you think James brings up wisdom after he mentions trials/suffering? How important is wisdom in the Christian life? What are some Biblical passages about wisdom that have been particularly helpful to you?
- What do you find hopeful in the promise of v5? Why?
- According to v6, how should we ask God for wisdom, or for anything else?
- What does it mean to be double-minded? Can you think of examples? How can we change?
- Why do you think we find prayer so hard/challenging? Does this passage mean that our trust in God must be perfect?
- What is something in your life about which you will start asking God for wisdom? Pray for those in your family/church family/community group, that God would give them wisdom.
- How does this passage lead you to trust and treasure Jesus Christ?

The Prayers of God's People

WE FEAST ON JESUS CHRIST BY FAITH IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Invitation to the Lord's Table

The elders of St. Petersburg Presbyterian Church welcome to the Lord's Table all baptized Christians who are members in good standing of a church where the gospel is loved and proclaimed. Come joyfully and thankfully to the Lord's Table, recognizing that your standing before the Father is completely dependent upon the grace and righteousness of Jesus Christ, the Reality behind this meal, and not your own merits.

The Words of Institution

The Giving and Receiving of the Bread

Please wait until all have been served, so we may eat together.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Isaac Watts, 1707

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

The Giving and Receiving of the Cup

Please wait until all have been served, so we may drink together.

The cup trays contain wine on the inner rings and grape juice on the outer ring.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down:
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

WE RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL WITH SACRIFICIAL GENEROSITY

Worshiping God through Our Financial Giving — We respond to God's lavish grace in Jesus Christ by giving our money joyfully and sacrificially for the spread of the gospel in our city and around the world.

Be Thou My Vision

Dallan Forgaill, 8th century

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD TO MAKE DISCIPLES

The Benediction — Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

The Dismissal — Having been renewed and equipped by the grace of God in the gospel of His Son, let us go from here to walk in His wisdom for His glory.

All: Thanks be to God!

Please remain for refreshments and conversation in the fellowship hall.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Missionary of the Month

Please pray for our missionaries for the month of January, Marcelo and Claudia Carvalho. They serve with WEC (World Evangelization for Christ) in Amazon, Brazil. Their work involves church planting, Bible translation work, and training indigenous believers to share the gospel in their communities. The Carvalho's have three children: Timotheo, Laura and Edmar.

“Membership Matters” Seminar, January 24-25

If you are interested in becoming a member of SPPC, or want to learn more about the Christian faith and the ministries of our church, then join us for “Membership Matters”, a Friday evening (dinner included) and Saturday morning (continental breakfast) seminar. Please register online at the church website, [www.stpetepca.org/nurture/membership matters](http://www.stpetepca.org/nurture/membership-matters), or contact Michele Hurm at stpetepres.pca@gmail.com or 727-329-6346.

Women’s Bible Study

Join us for our Women’s Bible Study, Tuesday’s, at 9:30 a.m. at the church. All women are welcome. We will be studying Paul’s letter to the Galatians using Tim Keller’s book, *Galatians for You*, and a workbook. Both are available in the fellowship hall for \$20. Contact Clare Jones or Lynn Harding for more information.

Men’s Friday Morning Bible

All SPPC men are encouraged to be part of the Friday morning Bible study at 7:00 in the fellowship hall. This is a great opportunity to get to know other men and grow in your walk with Christ. We are currently studying the book of Exodus.

Women’s Ministry Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for these upcoming special events for all SPPC women and girls, friends and neighbors.

Friday, February 7 at 7 p.m.: Game Night at the Harding’s – sign up in the fellowship hall

Saturday, April 4 at 9 a.m.: Bring-a-Friend Breakfast at Panera on 4th Street

Saturday, May 2 at 10 a.m.: Women’s Tea at the church

Friday-Saturday, October 30-31: Women’s Retreat at Dayspring Retreat Center.

For more information, please talk with one of the Women’s Ministry Council members: Mary Velenga, Cheryl Massey, Debbie Wade, Donna Henderson, Patricia Curtiss and Lynn Harding

The James Club

The James Club is a Christ-centered outreach ministry for those struggling with alcohol and drug addictions. It meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 in the fellowship hall, with a prayer meeting from 6:45-7:15 in the high school room. For more information, contact Kyle Krueger at kkrueger@bloomberg.net.

Deacon’s Fund Offering Next Sunday

On the last Sunday of each month our cash offering is given to the Deacon’s Fund for the purpose of providing financial assistance to members, as well as others, in times of need. Please consider making a generous contribution next week, either by cash or check. If by check, please note “Deacon’s Fund” on the memo line.

THIS WEEK AT SPPC

Sunday (January 19)

- 8:30 a.m.** Congregational Prayer (meet in adult classroom off fellowship hall)
9:00 a.m. Bible Classes for all ages
10:15 a.m. Corporate Worship

- Monday** (Office closed)

Tuesday

- 7:00 p.m.** James Club Prayer — meets in the senior high classroom.
7:30 p.m. James Club — a gospel-centered ministry for those struggling with alcohol and drug addictions. Meets in the fellowship hall.

Wednesday

- 6:30 p.m.** Curtiss Community Group — Seminole/Largo (727) 644-3839
7:00 p.m. Tanner Community Group — Northeast St. Pete (727) 482-4855
Burkham Community Group — North St. Pete/Gandy (727) 798-4506

Thursday

- 7:00 p.m.** Massey/Jenkins Community Group — Northwest St. Pete (727) 452-8715

Friday

- 7:00 a.m.** Men's Bible Study — fellowship hall
6:30 p.m. "Membership Matters" — meets at the Harding's.

Saturday

- 8:30 a.m.** "Membership Matters" — meets at the church

One-Year Community Bible Reading Calendar

Monday, Jan 20	Genesis 40-42	Matthew 14
Tuesday, Jan 21	Genesis 43-45	Matthew 15
Wednesday, Jan 22	Genesis 46-48	Matthew 16
Thursday, Jan 23	Genesis 49-50; Exodus 1	Matthew 17
Friday, Jan 24	Exodus 2-4	Matthew 18
Saturday, Jan 25	Psalm 10-12	

MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Elders (The Session)	Phil Boddie Steve Curtiss David Harding Derik Jenkins Chad Martin	727-392-2913 727-644-3839 727-434-9048 727-452-8715 727-744-8704
Deacons (The Diaconate)	Bob Berry Bob Burkham Mike Eldridge Dave Shadle	407-920-7412 727-579-4220 727-515-9560 610-217-8718
Administrative Assistant	Michele Hurm	727-329-6346
Children and Youth	Derik Jenkins	727-452-8715
Christian Education	Steve Curtiss	727-644-3839
Community Groups	David Massey	727-644-8679
Facilities	Bob Burkham	727-579-4220
Homeless Outreach	Kyle Krueger	727-364-7355
Hospitality	Barbara Burkham	727-579-4220
Men's Ministry	David Harding	727-434-9048
Mercy Ministry	Dave Shadle	610-217-8718
Missions	Bob Berry	407-920-7412
Security	Mike Eldridge	727-515-9560
Ushers/Greeters	Paul Stonecipher	727-515-3551
Women's Ministry	Mary Vellenga	727-482-6435

SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES & AGENCIES

Esaie and Natacha Etienne	Mission to the World	Port-au-Prince, Haiti
Susan Newkirk	Mission to the World	Cape Town, S. Africa
David and Erin Pervis	Mission to the World	Athens, Greece
Bill and Pam Schweitzer	Mission to the World	Gateshead, England
Marcelo and Claudia Carvalho	WEC Brazil	Amazon, Brazil
Ravi and Renuka Chary	Presbyterian Church India (PCI)	Telangana, India
Christina Schrader	Wycliffe Bible Translators	Benin/Togo, Africa
Andrew and Meghan Newman	Reformed University Fellowship	USF, Tampa
New Hearts Outreach		Tampa
New Life Solutions Pregnancy Center		St. Petersburg
Next STEPP		St. Petersburg