

word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. ²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Sermon Rev. Sharon Carter

Responding in Faith

Affirmation of Faith *Apostles' Creed*

The Service of Giving

Prayer of Dedication Offering Music

Notes

+Song *Glory Be to the Father* #577
Celebration of Holy Communion
Sharing of Joys and Concerns
Invitation to the Table
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts (2x)

The whole world is full of God's glory (3x)

Holy is the Lord!

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Breaking of the Bread
Communion of the People
Prayer After Communion

Going into the World

+Hymn *I'm Gonna Live So...* #369

+Charge and Benediction

+Postlude

MISSION



FELLOWSHIP

WORSHIP



THE BODY OF CHRIST



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church

September 2, 2018

+Stand as you are able

Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold

Preparing Ourselves

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ candle

+Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

L: Today is a new day, one we have never had before and will never have again.

P: God made today for us, just as God made yesterday for us and will make tomorrow for us.

L: Every day is a blessing from God, every generous act is a gift

P: A gift from God who gave birth to all of creation through the word.

Let us pray: **O God, author and giver of all good things, plant in our hearts the love of your name; increase in us true discipleship; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together: *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as 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.

+Hymn *Morning Has Broken* #469

Call and Confession

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weakness, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. Let us pray:

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.

Is there a difference between being a church member and a disciple of Jesus? According to James, what is the difference?

We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. (moment of silence.)

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life is gone, a new one has begun. Friends, know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Song *Spirit of the Living God* #322

The Peace

L: As God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another: the Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

Special Music

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God, and prepare our hearts to accept your word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel Mark 7:1-8,14-15 Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled

hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' ⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." ¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

Hymn *Together We Serve*
STF2175

Epistle James 1:17-27 ¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the