

Welcome, Announcements, & Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship | Malachi 4; Psalm 136:1

Pastor: For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble.

People: The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.

Pastor: But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings.

People: You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

Pastor: And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

People: Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

Pastor: Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

People: And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.

All: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

*Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn 110 | Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah

God's Covenant Faithfulness | Isaiah 40:1-11

Confession of Faith | Westminster Confession 15.1-6

Prayer for Global Missions

OPC Mission Work | Japan

Country of the World | Dominican Republic

Tithes and Offerings [Venmo: @Cornerstone-OPC]

Hymn 370 | Revive Thy Work, O Lord

Prayer of Dedication

Preaching of the Word

Sermon Text | Matthew 3:1-12

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon Title | Repentance is Not Optional

Prayer of Application

*Hymn 337 | O Spirit of the Living God

*Benediction

*Hymn 731 | Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

REPENTANCE IS NOT OPTIONAL

Matthew 3:1-12

- I. You must turn from sin, grieving and hating it (vv. 1-6).

- II. You must turn to God, purposing and endeavoring after new obedience (vv. 7-9).

- III. You must turn to God, apprehending His blessings and curses (vv. 10-12).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. Who arises in the wilderness preaching God's word? According to Isaiah 40, what is the purpose of John's preaching and baptizing?
2. What does it mean to repent? What reason does John give for why people should repent?
3. What figure does John's strange clothing remind us of? Why is this important?
4. What does John mean when he tells us to "bear fruit in keeping with repentance" (v. 8)? What is the relationship between repentance and living for God?
5. John rebukes the religious leaders for trusting in their blood-relation to Abraham (v. 9). Why is it not enough to be from the physical line of Abraham?
6. How is Jesus's baptism superior to John's? Will it result in salvation or judgment? Or both?
7. Is repentance something we only do one time when we enter into Christ's kingdom? Or is it something we need to do all the time as imperfect citizens of Christ's kingdom?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. Am I convinced that repentance and the preaching of it are non-negotiable and absolutely vital if God's kingdom blessing would be known by sinners?
2. Have I and am I continuing to turn from my sin to God?
3. Am I bearing fruit in keeping with repentance?

Lord's Day Worship

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"...built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone."
– Ephesians 2:20

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