

FAITHFUL CHARACTER IN CRISIS  
THE TONGUE  
JAMES 3:1-12



TRINITY  
Presbyterian Church

## ORDER OF WORSHIP | Sunday, October 18, 2020

*Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired.*

*Please speak with a greeter or visit the sound booth upstairs for a listening device.*

### SONG OF GATHERING & PREPARATION

The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (see Psalms 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds, and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.

Come As You Are

### CALL TO WORSHIP | Psalm 37:27-31 (ESV)

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reveals to us who God is and what He expects of us.

Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever. For the LORD loves justice; he will not forsake his saints. They are preserved forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off. The righteous shall inherit the land and dwell upon it forever. The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks justice. The law of his God is in his heart; his steps do not slip.

### PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

We pray together praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON | 1 Peter 2:9-10, 22-24 (ESV)

We read God's Word together and are reminded that mercy and grace are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. ... He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

### WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of His church and the kingdom of God.

At The Foot Of The Cross

### PRAISE & CELEBRATION

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done for us.

Great Are You Lord

Who You Say I Am

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.

From the New City Catechism:

Q. 43. What are the sacraments or ordinances?

A. The sacraments or ordinances given by God and instituted by Christ, namely baptism and the Lord's Supper, are visible signs and seals that we are bound together as a community of faith by his death and resurrection. By our use of them the Holy Spirit more fully declares and seals the promises of the gospel to us.

## RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS | 10:45a Service Only

We are called to publicly confess our faith in the grace of God, to participate in the rituals of entrance into the people of God and to acknowledge our membership with His people.

Steve Bissonnette & Kim Schell

Dallas Kowalski (Non-Communing)

Stephanie Kowalski

Garrett Jones

Colton Pierce

## KIDS' WORSHIP & COMMUNITY KIDS DISMISSAL | 9a Service Only

*Infants - Fifth Grade are dismissed. Please see your child's check-in name tag for class assignment.*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

We express in prayer our gratitude to God for what He has done and ask Him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and world.

## PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD | Tim Rice, Lead Pastor & Director of Church Planting

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our lives and circumstances.

## SONG OF RESPONSE

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

King of Kings

## BENEDICTION

Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,  
both now and forevermore. Amen.

# SCRIPTURE PASSAGE & SERMON OUTLINE

## Proclamation of God's Word

**Text:** James 3:1-12 (ESV)

**Title:** Faithful Character In Crisis: The Tongue

**Teacher:** Tim Rice

<sup>1</sup> Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup> For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. <sup>3</sup> If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. <sup>4</sup> Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup> So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! <sup>6</sup> And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup> For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup> but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup> From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup> Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? <sup>12</sup> Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

**Intro:** When have you been corrected for something you said?

## WORDS THAT ECHO ETERNALLY

Why do words matter? *Because God has shaped all existence by His Words.*

## WORDS CANNOT DESCRIBE

Have you ever heard a more disastrous description?

## WORDS THAT CHANGE ETERNITY

If we trust Jesus, what does He promise *and how can that change us?*

## YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD for His good words – His truthfulness and the goodness of all He has said. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for how He holds everything together by the word of His power.
2. How have you lived ignoring God's words and hoping that He would ignore yours? Confess your lies, slander and cursing to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and seal in you His truth, His promises and His blessing.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for being God's True Word and for His fulfillment of every promise He has made to redeem people like us. Thank Him that He took our place *to turn our curse into a blessing!*
4. Who do you know that is reckless with their words? Pray for them, asking the Lord to convey to them His good words and that He would work in them so that their words would be transformed.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you His fruit of love and goodness. Pray that He would help you grow in how you encourage others (*rather than critique them*), listen (*rather than speaking too much*) and confess your sins.

