

⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Pe 2:5.

Today I want to talk about the subject of covenant renewal worship. You may ask what that is. Well it is what we do every Sunday morning when we come into church. The most fundamental question we must ask ourselves at the end of the day is – what are we doing in worship, and what is happening? The answer is, the covenant is being renewed. What covenant? The covenant that God has made with us through Jesus Christ in his blood. In the old covenant the people of God drew near through sacrifice, and those animal sacrifices were always to represent people (Lev. 16:21; Ps. 40:6). The process that the animal went through at the hands of the priest symbolically represented the way that the worshiper was cleansed, consecrated and brought into communion with God. As we see, in the New Testament, Peter says that we are to offer up spiritual sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ. So how do we do this? When we praise God, when we pray to God, when we confess the faith, when we engage our minds in the preaching of the word, when we sit down to eat at the Lord's table, and when we go back out into the world to serve God, we are doing this very thing. We are now the priests, and the once for all sacrifice has been offered up in Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:21). The process of our worship is very similar to the pattern that we see God going through with his people throughout Scripture. First, God calls us, he invites us into his presence. Then when we come into the presence of God, we realize that we are in the presence of a holy God, and that we are sinners, so we immediately fall to our knees and confess our sin. Afterwards, God calls us to our feet and assures us that our sins are forgiven, in the assurance of pardon. We then offer our tithes and offerings...

Church Events

- March 1st
 Communion
- March 5&19th –
 Food Pantry
- March 7th&21st –
 Men of Iron
- March 21st –
 WOW Brunch @
 Sherry Bardell's
- March 15th New
 Members Class @
 5pm
- March 22nd –
 Congregation
 Meeting

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and our confession to God. We make our contribution, as it were. Worship is a divine service in which. God serves us and we serve him. Next, God cleanses us through the preaching of his word, where we are washed and sanctified. Afterwards, once we are cleansed, God invites us to sit down at his table with him, where he renews covenant with us through the breaking of bread and the pouring of wine. As we eat and drink with God, he is showing us that we are now at peace with him and he with us, we are having fellowship. We are then sent back out into the world to wrestle with devils and to make war on sin and evil. And the following week, he calls us back on the Lord's day to do it all over again. Every week we track stuff into worship with us because we are sinners living in a sinful world. Therefore, we go through this process week in and week out and God is faithful to meet with us and renew his covenant with his people, for he has indeed made promises to us in Jesus Christ. This is covenant renewal worship.

Session Recap:

At the session meeting in February all of the elders were present. We discussed the upcoming new members class and set a start date for March 15. We're looking forward to some new members coming on board. The class will be six weeks long and will cover the gamut of what we believe in the EPC church. We also are excited about our new Sunday school class for the youth which will begin on March 1. The kids will be going through the book of Philippians in the "So What," Bible study series from Great Commission Publications. We also discussed, among other things, updating our website, which is in process. Finally, we set a date for our annual meeting, which will take place on March 22nd. A lunch will be provided. Look forward to seeing you all there! Our next meeting is March 10th, as always, all are welcome.

WOW UPDATE

There will be a lady's brunch on March 21st,10 am @ Sherry Bardell's home! All ladies are welcome to join! Please bring a dish to share if able.

We are still meeting every Tuesday @ 6pm for studies. If you would like to join, there is still room! Feel free to join anytime!!

March

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-------------------------------|-----|--------------------|-------|-------------|-----|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Communion | | wow | AWANA | Food Pantry | | Men of Iron |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| | | Session Meeting | AWANA | | | |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| New Members Class @ 5pm | | wow | AWANA | Food Pantry | , | Men of Iron WOW Brunch @ Sherry's |
| 22 Congregation Meeting | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| New Members Class @ 5pm | | wow | AWANA | | | |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | 1 |
| New Members Class @ 5pm | | wow | | 7 | | |

Birthday's & Anniversaries

5th Tom & Michaele Webber

11th Bob Elwell

12th Janice Gardner

14th Cathy Beckett

20th Jerry & Kelli Dwyer

22nd Bob Powers

25th Greta Dwyer

28th Tom Webber

Prayer Warriors

Carpenter Family, Church Elders & Deacons, WOW, AWANA, Fellowship Team, Men of Iron

Our Missionaries

Jeff & Marylin German