

Covenant Community Church



'My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others?'

James 2:1

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021

We Gather

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Leader: Here at the feast of God's holy word and holy meal,

People: Eyes and ears are opened

Leader: So that we may all be made glad and filled with hope.

*Confession

Call to Confession (Leader)

Let us confess our sins to the Lord who surrounds us with favor forevermore.

Prayer of Confession (People)

God of favor, we have not been true to you. You have chosen the poor in the world but we have dishonored them. You plead the cause of the afflicted, but we crush them. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have favored the rich and despised the poor. We have dismissed the needy with empty words. Soften our hearts and make straight our ways. Heal our unbelief and turn us back to you. Amen

Declaration of Forgiveness (Leader)

The mercy of our God triumphs over judgment through our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, who has pleaded our cause, forgiven our sin, healed our sickness, and delivered us from evil.

*Opening Hymn #10

‘Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise’

*Opening Prayer

We Hear the Word

*Scripture

James 2:1-13

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

We Respond

Interlude

*Hymn #412

‘Be Thou My Vision’

*Pastoral Prayer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*Offering Response

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
And his righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you,
Allelu, alleluia.*

Prayer of Dedication

Communion Hymn #570

‘One Bread, One Body’

Communion

We Are Sent into the World

*Closing Hymn #345

‘Lord, I Want to Be a Christian’

*Benediction

***Benediction Response**

*The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious, gracious, gracious to you,
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
And give you, give you, give you peace.*

Leader: Go in Peace. Love and serve the Lord!

People: Praise be to God!

*Denotes all who are able, please stand

Helping Us Worship

Minister to the Congregation:

Rev. Jeannette Conver

Music Leader:

Peter Olson

Scripture Reader:

Billie Hall

Greeters:

Doug and Marcia Morrell

James 2:1-13 New Living Translation

My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others?

² For example, suppose someone comes into your meeting dressed in fancy clothes and expensive jewelry, and another comes in who is poor and dressed in dirty clothes. ³ If you give special attention and a good seat to the rich person, but you say to the poor one, “You can stand over there, or else sit on the floor”—well, ⁴ doesn’t this discrimination show that your judgments are guided by evil motives?

⁵ Listen to me, dear brothers and sisters. Hasn’t God chosen the poor in this world to be rich in faith? Aren’t they the ones who will inherit the Kingdom he promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you dishonor the poor! Isn’t it the rich who oppress you and drag you into court? ⁷ Aren’t they the ones who slander Jesus Christ, whose noble name you bear?

⁸ Yes indeed, it is good when you obey the royal law as found in the Scriptures: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ⁹ But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin. You are guilty of breaking the law.

¹⁰ For the person who keeps all of the laws except one is as guilty as a person who has broken all of God’s laws. ¹¹ For the same God who said, “You must not commit adultery,” also said, “You must not murder.” So if you murder someone but do not commit adultery, you have still broken the law.

¹² So whatever you say or whatever you do, remember that you will be judged by the law that sets you free. ¹³ There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you.

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