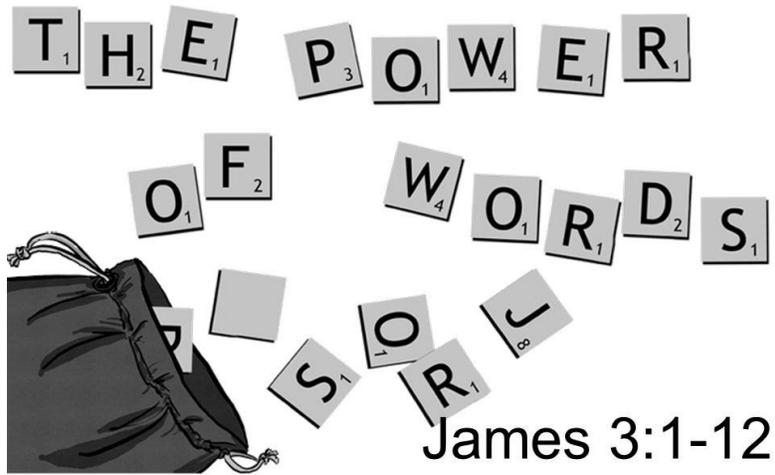


# Covenant Community Church



James 3:1-12

# 16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021

## We Gather

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship

Leader: Look at the heavens!

**People: They are shouting the glory of God.**

Leader: The days and nights declare the magnificence of God's creative works.

**People: Their voice goes through all the earth and their words reach the ends of the world.**

Leader: Let our words of praise be acceptable to you.

**People: Our Lord, our rock, our redeemer!**

\*Confession

Call to Confession (Leader)

The Lord listens to the cries of the people who turn with full hearts to the One who has mercy. Let our tongues now make confession in the presence of God and of this body.

Prayer of Confession (People)

**You have called us, O God, and we have refused to listen; you have stretched out your hand and we have taken what you have given us and used those gifts to hurt others and defy you. We have failed to be tamed by your wisdom.**

**Forgive our inability to recognize you and live out the reality of your gospel. Give us the insight we need to understand you place in our lives so that our words and actions reflect the glory of God in the lives of others. In the name of the Messiah we pray. Amen.**

## Declaration of Forgiveness (Leader)

God, who is gracious and merciful, knows the human desire to save our lives by avoiding Jesus' call to carry the cross. God, who is full of compassion, also knows that those who repent have set their minds and hearts on what endures for all time.

Your sin is forgiven you. The Lord God is a very present help to those who seek to follow in the way of divine things. Go with God in joy as you take up your cross, in Jesus' name.

\*Opening Hymn #467

‘Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know’

\*Opening Prayer

## **We Hear the Word**

\*Scripture

James 3:1-12

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

Sermon

‘Toxic Talk’

## **We Respond**

Interlude

\*Hymn #62

‘Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him’

Prayers of the People

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

## We Are Sent into the World

\*Closing Hymn #496

‘Rejoice, O Pure in Heart’

\*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!**

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\*Denotes all who are able, please stand

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## Helping Us Worship

Minister to the Congregation:

Rev. Jeannette Conver

Music Leader:

Lynn Conver

Scripture Reader:

Julie Smith

Greeter:

Jamie Wimble

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## **James 3:1-12** New Living Translation

Dear brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers in the church, for we who teach will be judged more strictly. <sup>2</sup> Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way.

<sup>3</sup> We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. <sup>4</sup> And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. <sup>5</sup> In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches.

But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. <sup>6</sup> And among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.

<sup>7</sup> People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, <sup>8</sup> but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. <sup>10</sup> And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! <sup>11</sup> Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water? <sup>12</sup> Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring.

## Contact Information

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