

Our mission is to learn the way of Jesus together as we invite others to join us at His Table.

Our Common Practices

We Gather

We gather for worship more often than not.
We gather in smaller groups to connect, learn, and grow.
We create hospitable space for one another.

We Grow

We attend the means of grace daily. (i.e. We attend to the presence of God through Scripture reading and meditation, prayer on behalf of others and myself, breath prayer, spiritual reading and study...).
We nurture our faith.
We attend to relationships that promote growth.
We develop and learn as human beings made in the image of God.

We Give

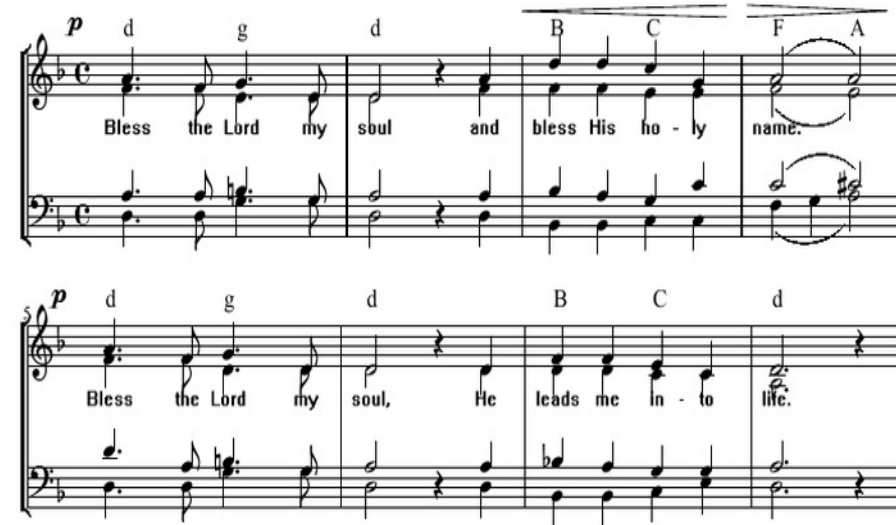
We are a generous people who give our time and resources to the mission of God and the world.
We tithe as the means through which our community enjoys fiscal health so as to minister generously.

We Go

We follow Jesus into the world as His healing presence.
We help the vulnerable among us.
We go into the world offering Jesus' invitation to gather at His Table.

Bless the Lord my soul

m.: J.Berthier, Taizé



CHURCH STAFF

Rob Kazee, Pastor
rpkazee@gmail.com ~ 202-997-1222

Jeff Wolfe, Pastor of Christian Formation
jeffwolfe125@gmail.com ~ 717-261-6173

Becky Wolfe, Pastor of Children's Ministry
rwolfenaz@gmail.com ~ 717-514-6275

Barb Long, Director of Care and Community
barbaralong2016@yahoo.com ~ 717-736-6110

Bekah Kratzsch, Office Administrator
office@tablelifechurch.org ~ 717-592-0299

617 16th St. New Cumberland, PA 17070
717-744-6444

web: www.tablelifechurch.org

www.facebook.com/tablelifechurch

A Breath Prayer for the coming week:

"I put my trust in Your unfailing Love."

CHURCH OF
 THE NAZARENE

TABLELIFE
CHURCH



Order of Worship
20 September 2020

The Season after Pentecost

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music

Welcome

Call to Worship

Worship Reading from the Te Deum Laudamus

We Listen to the Scriptures

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon Series: Prophetic Imagination: They Teach Us To See

Sermon: "William Wilberforce"

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 7.1-7; 21-26

We Come to the Table

Prayers of the People

Song of Preparation

The Peace

Prayer of Confession and Consecration

We Eat and Drink Together

The Lord's Prayer

We Celebrate the Eucharist in Song

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life

Gossiping the Good Stuff

Doxology

Blessing and Sending

Sermon Reflection Guide

Jeremiah 7.1-7; 21-26

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: Stand in the gate of the LORD's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the LORD, all you people of Judah, you that enter these gates to worship the LORD. Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your doings, and let me dwell with you in this place. Do not trust in these deceptive words: "This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD." For if you truly amend your ways and your doings, if you truly act justly one with another, if you do not oppress the alien, the orphan, and the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do

not go after other gods to your own hurt, then I will dwell with you in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your ancestors forever and ever.

Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices, and eat the flesh. For in the day that I brought your ancestors out of the land of Egypt, I did not speak to them or command them concerning burnt offerings and sacrifices. But this command I gave them, "Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people; and walk only in the way that I command you, so that it may be well with you." Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but, in the stubbornness of their evil will, they walked in their own counsels, and looked backward rather than forward. From the day that your ancestors came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have persistently sent all my servants the prophets to them, day after day; yet they did not listen to me, or pay attention, but they stiffened their necks. They did worse than their ancestors did.

Question for Everyone

(1) I am gifted with tenacious persistence. I simply will not give up. (10) If it ain't quick and easy, I won't get it done. Where are you on this range?

Exodus Liberation

In the sacrament of baptism, Christians are reminded that in Christ, they become part of God's liberating work in the world revealed in the Exodus. Why is it so important that Christians remember the Exodus? What do we learn about the God of Jesus in the Exodus?

Prophetic Ministry: Mediators of Covenant

According to Dr. Dennis Bratcher, "the prophets' primary task was to call the people of God to accountability and responsibility in their relationship with God. The prophets were, therefore, mediators of the covenant between God and God's people." Covenant is the God-initiated binding contract between God and God's people, summed up in the statement: "I will be your God and you will be my people." The Hebrew Prophets helped the people of God understand what was expected of them in relationship to their God through fidelity to their covenant with God. The Exodus provided the Israelites the most basic understanding of the nature of their God. Yahweh was the kind of God who heard the cries of His enslaved children and entered human history to bring deliverance and freedom. "I will be your God" was an idea defined by the Exodus (Exod 6:7, Lev 26:12-13). What is the prophetic function of the Church?

Becoming Like the God You Worship

If you worship the God revealed in Jesus, your life will be shaped by sacrificial love and mercy, an empathy for the outcast, and a willingness to share your table with the other. If you worship gods revealed in other competing narratives, political gods, national gods, monetary gods, then you become shaped by these idolatrous gods. Response? The bottom line is you can't worship the God of liberating grace and oppress the lowly. You can't worship God and embrace politics or practices of oppression. God hears the cries of the oppressed. God liberates the enslaved. God heals the broken. God loves the outcast. God cares for the lowly. God's people do the same. Response? Is syncretism a temptation for you? How so?

William Wilberforce

According to Richard Gathro: "Wilberforce's life was filled with one moral and religious project after another. His was a life of unrelenting activity that included tireless organizing, research, persuasion, confrontation, persistence and pressure upon the British system. In addition to his abolition work, he was consistently involved in church work that included the Church Missionary Society and the sending of missionaries to India and Africa, the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Proclamation Society Against Vice and Immorality His public philanthropic efforts were many, including relieving the suffering of the manufacturing poor, and French refugees and foreigners in distress. He was active in numerous reform movements, which included reform in hospital care, asylums, infirmaries, refugees and penitentiaries." What do we learn about the God Wilberforce served from his life's work? What do people know about the God you serve through your life's work?

In His Own Words

"It is the true duty of every man to promote the happiness of his fellow creatures to the utmost of his power. . . . Surely the principles of Christianity leads to action as well as meditation. . . . I am disturbed when I see the majority of so-called Christians having such little understanding of the real nature of the faith they profess. Faith is a subject of such importance that we should not ignore it because of the distractions or the hectic pace of our lives." Wilberforce's prescription for life: "Be an advocate for truth; be a counsellor of peace; be an example of candor; and do all you can to reconcile the hearts of men, especially good men, to each other however they may differ in their opinion about matters which it is impossible for good men to dispute." How does the life and words of Wilberforce inspire you? Convict you?