



Protestant Fellowship Community Newsletter

December 2020

Be Ready to Listen

¹³ Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, “Are you for us or for our enemies?” ¹⁴ “Neither,” the man replied, “but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.” Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, “What message does my Lord have for his servant?” ¹⁵ The commander of the LORD’s army replied, “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.

Joshua 5:13-15

This passage comes just before the Israelites start their conquest of the Promised Land. They have crossed the Jordan and soon will attack Jericho. The commander of the army of the LORD meets with Joshua to tell him what the plans are. However, notice that when Joshua falls facedown to the ground in reverence that he is not chastised and told to get up. Does this mean that the commander is God? Or perhaps, God Incarnate?

During the 40 years in the wilderness, the men of Israel had not been circumcised; prior to this passage they have been. The Israelites have also celebrated the Passover after crossing the Jordan and have for the first time eaten a meal which is manna-less. Now Joshua’s first question for the angel (or was He just an angel?) is “What is the plan?”

Joshua is not told the plan yet. Instead, he is told to get ready – to get his mind and spirit ready by taking off his shoes, “for the place where you are standing is holy.”

(“Be Ready to Listen” continued on page 4)

Weekly Worship Services for November 29 and
for December 2020
each Sunday at 2:00 pm from the chapel **
via live Broadcast on ACTV channel 976 / 980 (HD)

Nov. 29	First Sunday of Advent Advent Service of Lessons and Carols (This service has already been recorded for broadcast) Organist: Bud Williams; Pianist: Betty Kingston	
Dec. 6	Second Sunday of Advent and Communion Rev. Joshua Plohocky, Bucks County Seventh Day Adventist Church, Warminster, PA Organist: Jane Smith; Pianist: Joan Baranyi	
Dec. 13	Third Sunday of Advent Rev. Mindy Campbell, Warminster Presbyterian Church, Warminster, PA Organist: Bud Williams; Pianist: Betty Kingston	
Dec. 20	Fourth Sunday of Advent Rev. Susan Sciarratta, Chaplain-Counselor, Insight Christian Counseling Organist: Joan Kirk; Pianist: Betty Kingston	
Dec. 27	First Sunday After Christmas Rev. Dr. Roy Lewis, retired pastor at Lahaska United Methodist Church, Lahaska, PA Organist: Jane Smith; Pianist: Joan Baranyi	

**** Worship services are 'broadcast' only.**
Please do not attend in person until restrictions are fully lifted.

Quiet Reflections and Prayers:

The Chapel at Ann's Choice is open daily from 8:00am – 2:00pm.

Supporting Our Ministry and Mission:

During this time where Chapel services are broadcast, you can still help support the mission projects and ministries of the Protestant Fellowship. Donations may be enclosed in an envelope addressed to Rev. Sutton and taken to any clubhouse front desk. Donations by check are preferred; please make the check payable to "Ann's Choice, Inc. – Protestant Fund". On the memo line, please write "Donation."

To receive this newsletter by E-Mail:

Please send an email to Rev. Jim Sutton at James.Sutton@erickson.com . Make sure to include your preferred email address for receipt of this newsletter.

Save the Date for the Annual Meeting – December 7:

The Annual General Meeting of the Protestant Fellowship will be held on Monday, December 7 at 10:00 am in the Ann's Choice Chapel. Come and hear how the Protestant Fellowship Council has been working during this very unusual year.

Also, the Fellowship at the meeting will elect four new Council members to serve three-year terms and two new Council members to serve the remaining two years of vacant positions. These individuals will be nominated for three-year terms: Mary Lee Friesz, John Hodges, Lynn Swan and Janet Wentz. These individuals will be nominated to fill the remaining two years of two positions: Dolores Ehrenfeld and Harry Shuster. Nominations may also be submitted at the meeting.

You are a member of our Protestant Fellowship if you attend or watch chapel services or participate to any degree in our activities and ministries.

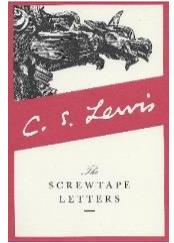
Pray about this wonderful opportunity to help steer our Fellowship!

**Rose Gardens and Chestnut Pointe:**

Large group activities are suspended until further notice.

Pastoral Visits and Home Communion are still available. Contact Pastoral Ministries at (215) 443-3831.

Virtual “Zoom” Bible Study:



Note: There is no Bible study on Wednesday, November 25. Weekly Bible study will resume on Wednesday December 2 at 10:00 am via Zoom and will through December 16. Barry Yoder is leading a study of *The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis. Contact Barry at (215) 420-7660, cubby DT-511 or rbyoder@gmail.com for a free copy of the book.

The apostle Paul assures us in Romans 8:38 that "Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ, neither death, life, angels, demons or any powers". What do you know about demons and satan's powers? Contact Fred Keill (kfsder@verizon.net, (215)442-5650, or leave a note in his cubby at MT-418 in Keystone) to receive the connection information for using Zoom on your laptop, computer or smartphone, or for using Zoom in audio mode only by telephone.

Protestant Fellowship Council

*Our purpose is to bring glory to God in all that we pursue
in and through the Protestant Faith Community*

Our Mission is to

- Provide meaningful worship opportunities;
- Provide opportunities for Bible study;
- Provide Christian fellowship and prayer;
- Help fellow residents with spiritual needs; and
- Participate with other faith groups in ecumenical and inter-faith services.

“Be Ready to Listen”, *continued*

How many times have I, have each of us, needed to pause, to wait, to be patient, and listen for God’s voice in the silence. It is not always my first response, sad to say. We have to get ready to hear God’s voice and feel God’s touch. Figuratively, we need to take off our shoes because we have entered Holy Ground. God’s voice may not come right away; so we need to pray and to listen and to wait for His Voice.

Our God, Our Father, Our Mother – In this Advent Season, guide us to the holy place to receive your instructions. Help us to wait reverently and patiently for your voice. Help us to hear and to obey. Amen.