

shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." And the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that God is one, and there is no other but God; and to love God with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to ask him any question.

L: This is the word of the Lord; **P: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "Loving God" Rev. Frank Wyche

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed* Inside front cover of Hymnal

*HYMN OF RESPONSE *Softly and Tenderly* #479

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY #815

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER AND **THE LORD'S PRAYER** (...debts/debtors...)

*HYMN *This Is My Father's World* #143

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing* Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE Alessio Giacobone

*Those who are able may stand.

BOLDFACE TYPE indicates words spoken or sung by the congregation.

HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

423 Hebron Road, Staunton, VA 24401

Telephone (540) 885-1648 Church email: hebronchurch@msn.com

Church website: www.hebronpc.com Office Hours: 9:00-1:00 p.m., Mon-Fri

Pastor: Rev. Frank Wyche
Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 9:00-1:00
Home phone: 540-887-2314
email: pastorfhw@yahoo.com

Music Director: Hannah Bush
Clerk of Session: Robin Moyer
Organist: Alessio Giacobone

The Greatest Commandments:

'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God,
the Lord is one; and you shall love the
Lord your God with all your heart, and
with all your soul, and with all your mind,
and with all your strength' and
'You shall love your neighbor as
yourself'

~Mark 12:29-31

Hebron Presbyterian Church

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Staunton, VA 24401

Telephone: 540-885-1648

Email: hebronchurch@msn.com

September 4, 2016 ~ 23rd Sunday, Ordinary Time

HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 4, 2016

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

Alessio Giacobone

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Sanctuary

Chancel Choir

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP ~ Psalm 1**

L: Blessed are those do not who walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor follow the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers,

P: But their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on God's law they meditate day and night.

L: They are like a tree planted by streams of water, that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

P: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff which the wind drives away.

L: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

P: For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked is destruction.

UNISON OPENING PRAYER ~ Based on the PCUSA *Book of Common Worship

Holy God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – bless us as we gather to worship and praise you. Draw us ever closer to you, and make us mindful of your love, your grace, and your truth, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***HYMN**

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart (vss. 1, 2, 5)

#169

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION from *When We Gather* by Rev. James G. Kirk

God of forgiveness, pour out your mercy as we make our confession. You call us to excellence, but we fall short of your confidence in us. You give us grace, but we abuse your gift. You trust our decisions to match your desires. You expect our love to be genuine, and in obedience to your will. Yet we trust our own appetites rather than relying on your goodness. We look to our comfort instead of our neighbors' needs. In Christ, have mercy on us, and forgive our sins. (*Silent prayer, personal confession*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

***GLORIA PATRI**

#813

ANTHEM

'Til the Storm Passes By

Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S LESSON ~ *Children through 5th grade may go to Junior Church afterward*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM LESSON ~ Psalm 81: 8-16 ~ page 511 in the pew Bible

[The LORD says] "Hear, O my people, while I admonish you! O Israel, if you would but listen to me! There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god. I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it. But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would have none of me. So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts, to follow their own counsels. O that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways! I would soon subdue their enemies, and turn my hand against their foes. Those who hate the LORD would cringe before me, and their fate would last for ever. I would feed you with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ~ Jeremiah 2: 1-13 ~ pages 647-648 in the pew Bible

The word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem, Thus says the LORD, I remember the devotion of your youth, your love as a bride, how you followed me in the wilderness, in a land not sown. Israel was holy to the LORD, the first fruits of his harvest. All who sought to consume her became guilty; evil came upon them, says the LORD." Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the LORD: "What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthlessness, and became worthless? They did not say, 'Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no person dwells?' And I brought you into a plentiful land to enjoy its fruits and its good things. But when you came in you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, 'Where is the LORD?' Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit. Therefore I still contend with you, says the LORD, and with your children's children I will contend. For cross to the coasts of Cyprus and see, or send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has been such a thing. Has a nation ever changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for that which does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the LORD, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and they have hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns, that can hold no water."

GOSPEL LESSON ~ Mark 12: 28-34 ~ page 881 in the pew Bible

And one of the scribes came up and heard them [the Pharisees and Herodians] disputing with one another, and seeing that he [Jesus] had answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You