

December 31, 2017

Wesley Covenant Service

*“I am no longer my own, but Thine.
Put me to what Thou wilt, rank me with whom Thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed by Thee or laid aside for Thee,
exalted for Thee or brought low for Thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things
to Thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.”* (John Wesley, 1755)

Like the Christmas carols that linger in our minds, this passage from Isaiah celebrates God’s desire to be with God’s people in a new way. The promise of reconciliation gives Israel hope. The promise of God’s steadfast love gives Israel reason to sing again. From age to age, our congregations repeat the sounding joy: “I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God” (Isaiah 61:10) (Andrew Nagy-Benson, 2008).

Next week: *Missionary Heidi Bowes, potluck following*

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SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

Today: *Galatians 4:4-7, Psalm 111(What is God saying to you?)*

Monday: *Isaiah 43:1-13*

Tuesday: *Galatians 3:23-4:7*

Wednesday: *2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

Thursday: *Ephesians 4:17-32*

Friday: *John 3:1-8*

Saturday: *Revelation 21:1-7*

And now Oh God, may the Spirit which was in Jesus Christ
reside in me, enabling me to know Your perfect will and
empowering me to do it faithfully. Amen.

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