



New Covenant Presbyterian Church
May 15, 2022 **10:00am Service**



1125 Jamison Corner Road Middletown, DE
(302) 378-4446 www.newcov-church.org

The Worship of God

May 15, 2022 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Welcome and Announcements

Lay Leader: Jane Adams

Sharing Our Vision

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Musical Prelude ...



When Ira Gillett, a missionary to East Africa, returned home to report on his activities overseas, he related an interesting phenomenon. Repeatedly, Gillett had noticed how groups of Africans would walk past government hospitals and travel many extra miles to receive medical treatment at missionary compounds.

Finally, he asked a particular group why they walked the extra distance when the same treatments were available at the government clinics. And the reply was, "The medicines may be the same, but the hands which provide them are different."

That's the virtue of LOVE INCARNATED. That kind of love makes a difference. Christ has no hands, but our hands; no feet, but our feet. We are his ambassadors, representing him to the world. And when we love as he loved us, it will make all the difference. People will notice. Christian love is indispensable. — Rick Ezell

Preparing to Meet God

Call to Worship

- L: Come, O people, and join with all of creation in praising God.
- P: With the stars and the planets, with the mountains and the waters, we give thanks for the opportunity to praise our God!**
- L: Come and join all people who sing to God's glory.
- P: With the powerful and meek, men and women, old and young joining together, we all praise the Lord!**
- L: Come and praise and speak the most basic language of faith.
- P: For when we truly praise the Lord, we learn what Christian love is all about; we love one another, as God loved us.**

Hymn # 261

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us

*1-God of compassion, in mercy befriend us;
Giver of grace for our needs all availing,
Wisdom and strength for each day do thou send us,
Patience untiring and our courage unfailing.*

*2-Wandering and lost, thou hast sought us and found us,
Stilled our rude hearts with thy word of consoling;
Wrap now thy peace, like a mantle, around us,
Guarding our thoughts and our passions controlling.*

*3-How shall we stray, with thy hand to direct us,
Thou who the stars in their courses art guiding;
What shall we fear, with thy power to protect us,
We who walk forth in thy greatness confiding?*

Prayer of Confession

Lay Leader

God of hope, you promise to make all things new, and you have been patient in your desire to restore your world to its original perfection. We have been stubborn and belligerent, not living as you intended. Forgive our unwillingness to be changed – to be open to you and others – to open the doors of the church to those different from ourselves. Continue your patience with us until we become your new creations, living in love and peace with one another. And now, holy God, we turn to you in silent prayer to share our concerns and to seek your forgiveness.....Amen.



Assurance of Pardon:

L: Hear the Good News: We are not only baptized with water, but with the Holy Spirit.

P: ***God has given us the same gift that was given to the apostles, because we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.***

L: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel -

P: ***In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!***

Meeting God in the Word

Children's Message

First Lesson *Praise for God's Glory*

Psalm 148

Lay Leader

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights! Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created. He established them for ever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

Special Music

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

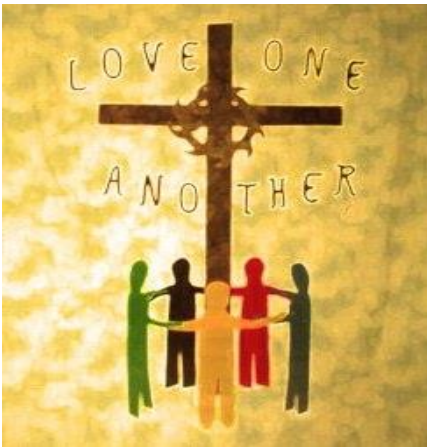
Bell Choir

Second Lesson

The New Commandment

John 13: 31-35

Carol



When he had gone out, Jesus said, ‘Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, “Where I am going, you cannot come.” I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Our Calling to be Generous

Responding to the Word

Hymn

God You Love the World
(Sung to Song of Hope, #765, G2G)

*1-God, you love the world! You sent your only Son,
And you said, “Go share my love with everyone.”
So we seek to serve you in our homes and towns,
And we work to show the world: Your love abounds! **R***

Refrain: *Lead us, as we go this day;
 Guide us as we work and pray.
 Give us, when each day is through,
 True joy, found in serving you.*

*2-By your Spirit, some build houses, safe and strong,
 Some are called to share your Word in prayer and song.
 Some are called to heal the sick and fight disease,
 Some are called to save the land by planting trees. R*

*3-Teach us that in loving, we must listen well.
 Help us hear the stories others have to tell.
 Help us learn from other people and their ways.
 May we be united as we offer praise. R*

Affirmation of Faith

We believe that God never gives up on us.

We believe that Jesus was God in human form, who showed us the astounding steadfastness of God's love for us.

We believe God's Holy Spirit is always with us, even in times of deep suffering and sorrow.

We know that God's love for us continues, and continues, and continues for eternity.

And nothing – not even death – can separate us from this love.

And we are called to LOVE AS JESUS LOVED, and SHARE IT with the world, that the world might come to know God through us.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Cares Chorus

I cast all my cares upon you. I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.

And anytime I don't know what to do, I case all my cares upon you.

The Call to Celebrate Our Gifts

Prayer of Dedication: God of abundance, you have poured out a large measure of earthly blessings on us. Our table is richly furnished, our cup overflows, and we live in safety and security. Teach us to set our hearts on you and not these materials blessings. Keep us from becoming captivated by prosperity, and grant us wisdom to use your blessings to your glory. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Going Out to Serve

Hymn *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*



Refrain:

***And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

*1-We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored: R*

*2-We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: R*

*3-We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
We will work with each other; we will work side by side,
And we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: R*

*4-All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: R*

Blessing

L: Even as Christ, without price, has given us water from the fountain of life,

P: *Let us, without condition, give to all those in need.*

L: By this will the world know that we are Christ's disciples -

P: *If whoever turns to us does not perish, but is given abundant life.*

L: And now, may the blessings of almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit...

Response

*He is Lord – He is Lord,. He has risen from the dead, and he is Lord.
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess, that Jesus Christ is Lord.*