

Love must be sincere.
Hate what is evil;
cling to what is good.

*Be devoted to one
another in love.*



Honor one
another above
yourselves.

-Romans 12:9-10

New Covenant Presbyterian Church
August 30, 2020 10:00am Service



1125 Jamison Corner Road Middletown, DE
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The Worship of God

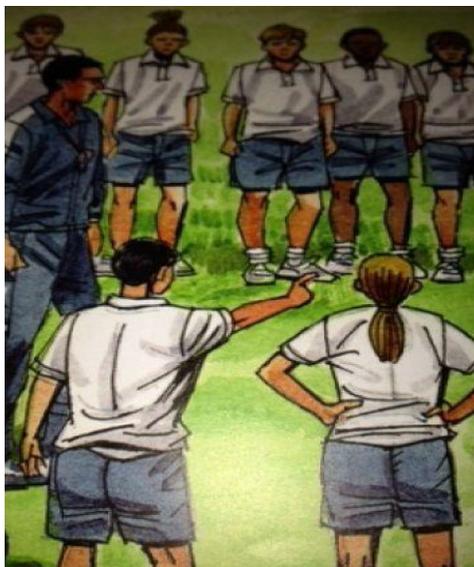
August 30, 2020

Welcome, Announcements and Sharing of Our Vision

Lay Leader:

Preparing to Meet God

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Prelude...



One of the most painful memories from my childhood, was the daily ritual of “choosing up sides” for a sporting event, to take place during school recess. I was a late bloomer, and my growth spurt didn’t kick in until I was in junior high. The two team captains would take turns selecting either their best friend, or the best athlete. As the process continued, the pace slowed, and the whispers grew louder, and the anxiety mounted. No one wanted to be the last person chosen.

Do you ever feel like you have been left out when it comes to the ability to serve God’s kingdom? I have great news: Every believer is gifted and chosen by the King himself, to serve alongside him for the advancement of the kingdom. Our spiritual gifts are God’s provision enabling us to serve him effectively as a community – a priesthood of all believers. May God lead us to discover our own talents and those of others, appreciating the wonderful blend of gifts given to God’s church.

- Kenneth Hemphill, Gifted for Service

Call to Worship

L: People of God, we are united as the one Body of Christ.

P: *Let us present our **Body for the worship of God.***

L: People of God, we are inspired by one Spirit.

P: *Let us welcome this **Spirit in praising the Lord.***

L: People of God, we are made as one and inspired as one, though we have many different gifts.

A: *Let us offer these gifts in the service of love.*

*Hymn of Praise #386

O for a World

*O for a world where everyone respects each other’s way,
Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.*

*O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved.
Where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.*

*We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice,
That opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.*

*The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise,
Tell all who mourn: Outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.*

*O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.*

Prayer of Confession

O God, we have made our choice. We have cast our lot. Boldly we will stand on the side of God. Though we take the way of the pilgrim, our wandering days are done. We have planted our feet on the rock of ages. Though slippery risks glaze our path, our trust will never falter, for we boldly stand on your side, O God. Though the world works to sap our strength, our power shall never wane. You tell us never to lose heart, and never to turn back from our determination to love and serve you. Give us the wisdom and strength, holy and loving God, to do just that. And forgive us when we miss the mark, failing you and ourselves, and thank you for your love and mercy. And now we turn to you in silent prayer to share our concerns and seek your forgiveness.....Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: Hear the Good News: When you live in ways that are not loving and honorable, give thanks for your God who loves and forgives you anyway.

P: ***May love flow not just from our tongues, but from our hearts, washing away all that is less than loving in our lives.***

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

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

Meeting God in the Word

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Exodus 3: 1-15

Moses at the Burning Bush



Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' ⁴When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, 'I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.' But Moses said to God, 'Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?' He said, 'I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.'

But Moses said to God, 'If I come to the Israelites and say to them, "The God of your ancestors has sent me to you", and they ask me, "What is his name?" what shall I say to them?' God said to Moses, 'I am who I am.' He said further, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "I am has sent me to you."' God also said to Moses, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you": This is my name for ever, and this my title for all generations.

Second Lesson

Romans 12: 9-21

Mark of the True Christian

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Sermon

Doing Our Part – Paying Our Way



Responding to the Word

*Hymn



Where Charity and Love Prevail

*Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.*

*Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son.
As members of each body joined, in him we are made one.*

*Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.*

*Let us forgive each other's faults, as we our own confess,
That we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.*

*Love can exclude no race or creed, if honored be God's name;
Our common life embraces all whose Maker is the same.*

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 cast all my cares upon you.*

The Call to Celebrate Our Gifts

The Invitation *You are invited to place your offering in the basket at the
back of the sanctuary or send it in to the church. Thank you!*

Prayer of Dedication: Most holy and loving God, thank you for all the ways you provide for us. Give us diligence and thankfulness and the ability to hold fast to all that is good. May we increasingly become reflections of your love that your kingdom might be blessed by what we do in your name. Amen.

Going Out to Serve God

* Hymn # 536

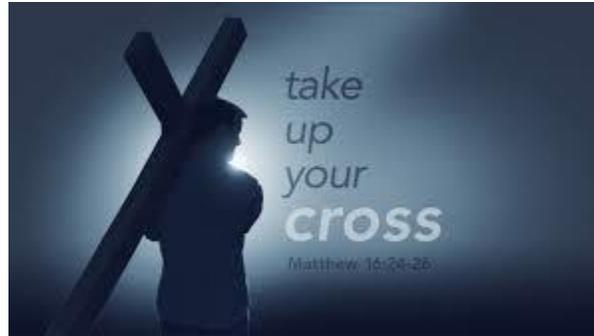
Lord, Make Us More Holy

*Lord, make us more holy, Lord, make us more holy,
Lord, make us more holy, until we meet again.
Holy, holy, holy, until we meet again.*

*Lord, make us more loving, Lord, make us more loving,
Lord, make us more loving, until we meet again.
Loving, loving, loving, until we meet again.*

*Lord, make us more patient, Lord, make us more patient,
Lord, make us more patient, until we meet again.
Patient, patient, patient, until we meet again.*

*Lord, make us more faithful, Lord, make us more faithful,
Lord, make us more faithful, until we meet again.
Faithful, faithful, faithful, until we meet again.*



* Blessing

- L: Take up your cross, quickened by the vision of the empty tomb, and inspired by the fire of the Holy Spirit.
- P: *We will not gladly bear a burden that diminishes the life you desire for us, Holy God, but we will seek your aid, and that of our neighbors, to move ever further away from sin, and toward you and your holy purposes for us.***
- L: Always strive to keep the charge that God has given you – to love genuinely with self-giving, for fulfilling your calling, and finding the abundant life for which God created you.
- P: *May it be so for us and all who come to know God.***
- L: And may the blessings of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you this day and forevermore.

*Response

*He Is Lord
He is Lord, He is Lord!
He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess,
That Jesus Christ is Lord.*

