



New Covenant Presbyterian Church
August 9, 2020 10:00am Service



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The Worship of God

August 9, 2020

Welcome, Announcements and Sharing of Our Vision

Preparing to Meet God

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Prelude...

*When the disciples are rowing across the Sea of Galilee, they spot what they, at first, think is a ghost walking on the water. When the figure speaks, telling them not to be afraid, they realize that it is their Lord. Peter rashly jumps out of the boat to go to Jesus. However, because of the strong wind, his fear gets the better of him, and he begins to sink. Peter calls for help, and Jesus reaches out to grasp him as he says, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" Why indeed do **WE** doubt? As human beings with limitations, it seems to me, that doubt is a normal part of life. We are not God, so we need to accept our limitations, but also make the most of our blessings. May God never let our doubt overcome the challenges we encounter, and the resources God has provided to meet those challenges.*

Call to Worship

- L: As we come together today, O Lord, we are tossed to and fro on waves of fear and doubt.
- P: O Calmer of troubled waters, let us hear again your reassuring words, Take Heart, it is I; have no fear."**
- L: As we come together today, O Lord, we are driven here and there, by winds of ambition and pride.
- P: O Healer of troubled souls, let us hear again your reassuring words, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear."**
- A: Come, Lord Jesus, and bless our worship with the gift of your presence, that we might find peace for our anxious hearts, and meaning for our troubled lives.**

*Hymn of Praise #442

The Church's One Foundation

*The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is his new creation by water and the word;
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.*

*Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with ever grace endued.*

*Though with a scornful wonder, this world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping, shall be the morn of song.*

*Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation, of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious, shall be the church at rest.*

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we come to you as disobedient children who have betrayed your love. Our sins make us unworthy to call you Father, but you have promised us mercy anyway. We come asking for your forgiveness, believing you will reclaim us as your own. Strengthen us in our discipleship, that our witness may convince others, that your mercy is sufficient. 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: If you have accepted Christ, you have died with him to sin.

P: ***In Christ, we are called to live as new creations.***

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

Psalm 105: 1-22, 45b

God's Faithfulness to Israel

O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually. Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgements he has uttered, O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

He is the Lord our God; his judgements are in all the earth. He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations, the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac, which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, saying, 'To you I will give the land of Canaan as your portion for an inheritance.'

When they were few in number, of little account, and strangers in it, wandering from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people, he allowed no one to oppress them; he rebuked kings on their account, saying, 'Do not touch my anointed ones; do my prophets no harm.'

When he summoned famine against the land, and broke every staff of bread, he had sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who was sold as a slave. His feet were hurt with fetters, his neck was put in a collar of iron; until what he had said came to pass, the word of the Lord kept testing him. The king sent and released him; the ruler of the peoples set him free. He made him lord of his house, and ruler of all his possessions, to instruct his officials at his pleasure, and to teach his elders wisdom.

Praise the Lord!

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me! Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

Sermon

It's Not About Us!

Responding to the Word

*Hymn # 276

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.*

REFRAIN: *Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto to me!*

*Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness,
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain***

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain***

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: Holy God, thank you for all the care you provide to us. We consider it a privilege to help your church and its ministries in return. Use this offering and our time and talents to accomplish your purpose. Amen.

Going Out to Serve God

* Hymn

Be Still, My Soul

*Be still, my soul: The Lord is on thy side; Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to thy God to order and provide; Who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend, Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*

*Be still, my soul: Thy God doth undertake, To guide the future surely as the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence, let nothing shake; All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: The waves and winds still know, his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.*

*Be still, my soul: The hour is hastening on, When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: When change and tears are past, All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.*

* Blessing

L: Go out into the world determined to judge none -

P: To pray for those in whose behalf we labor,

L: And to labor for the welfare of all those for whom Christ lived and died.

P: Let us always look to him, rather than ourselves, for the strength to live as faithful disciples.

L: May the blessings of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit dwell in your heart and in your home this week and always.

*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.*

