



New Covenant Presbyterian Church
December 27, 2020 10:00am Service



1125 Jamison Corner Road Middletown, DE
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The Worship of God

First Sunday after Christmas

Welcome, Announcements and Sharing of Our Vision

Preparing to Meet God

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Prelude...



Call to Worship

- From Psalm 148

L: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise the Lord in the heights.

P: Praise the Lord, all you holy angels; praise the Lord, all heavenly host.

L: Praise the Lord, sun and moon; praise the Lord, all you shining stars.

P: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

L: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

P: Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and winged birds.

L: Kings of the earth and all peoples, rulers and all judges of the world;

P: *Young men and women, old and young together.*

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord,

P: *For the name of the Lord only is exalted, and the splendor of the Lord is over earth and heaven.*

L: Let us praise the Lord!

*Hymn of Praise, vs. 1-4

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

*O for a thousand tongues to sing, my dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!*

*The name of Jesus charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.*

*Christ speaks, and listening to his voice new life the dead receive;
The mournful waken to rejoice; the poor in heart believe.*

*My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad, the honors of thy name.*

Prayer of Confession

We do indeed thank you and praise you, but as we gather, we must confess that our praises are often muted by the cares of the world. We celebrate the first coming of your Son, our Savior, but too often doubt the promise of his second coming when he will make all things new. Help us to not let pandemics, famine, wars, and hatred dim our hope in your promises for the future. Forgive our wayward hearts, and strengthen our witness of our hope in Christ to those who are in desperate need of hope. Forgive us we pray not for our sakes but for the sake of your Son, who died and rose for us, and in whose name we pray. 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:

P: *In Christ, the almighty and merciful Lord grants us pardon, remission of all our sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.*

L: God's name be praised!

P: *Amen.*



Meeting God in the Word

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Heavenly Father open our eyes so that we may see, our ears so we may hear, and our hearts so we may receive what you have to say to us from your Word this day. Amen.

First Lesson

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

The Vindication and Salvation of Zion

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Second Lesson

Revelation 21:1-8 & 21:22 - 22:5 *A New Heaven and a New Earth*

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.'

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the polluted, the murderers, the fornicators, the sorcerers, the idolaters, and all liars, their place will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.'

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day - and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

Sermon

Christmas to the Nth Power

Responding to the Word

*Hymn

Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending

*Jesus comes with clouds descending;
See the Lamb for sinners slain!
Thousand, thousand saints attending
Join to sing the glad refrain:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign!*

*Every eye shall then behold you,
Robed in awesome majesty;
Those who jeered and mocked and sold you,
Pierced and nailed you to the tree.
Shamed and grieving, Shamed and grieving,
Shamed and grieving, Shall their true Messiah see.*

*Yes, Amen! Let all adore you
High on you eternal throne;
Crowns and empires fall before you,
Claim the kingdom for your own.
Come, Lord Jesus, Come, Lord Jesus,
Come, Lord Jesus, Everlasting Christ, come down!*

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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 in the back of the sanctuary.*
Prayer of Dedication

Going Out to Serve God

* Hymn

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain: *Go, tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!*

*While shepherds kept their watching, o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens, there shone a holy light. **Refrain***

*The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! Above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus, that hailed our Savior's birth. **Refrain***

*Down in a lowly manger, the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation, that blessed Christmas morn. **Refrain***

* Blessing

*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.*

