

When you Pray,  
God Listens.  
When you Listen,  
God Talks.  
When you Believe,  
God Works.

-Unknown

**New Covenant Presbyterian Church  
February 21, 2021 10:00am Service**



**1125 Jamison Corner Road Middletown, DE  
(302) 378-4446 [www.newcov-church.org](http://www.newcov-church.org)**

# The Worship of God

## The Second Sunday of Lent

Welcome, Announcements and Sharing of Our Vision

Lay Leader:

### Preparing to Meet God

#### Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Prelude...

*Go watch a family playing together in a swimming pool sometime. The father is in the water and the children are standing on the edge of the pool, dripping wet and giggling. One at a time, again and again, the children leap out over the water, trusting completely that their father will catch them. He doesn't disappoint. There may be a few near misses, but the father is focused on his task, and is determined to be reliable, which he is. This is a metaphor for the life of faith because TRUST in our Heavenly Father is at the heart of it all.*

#### Call to Worship

L: We have come together to praise our Maker,

**P: *But we have betrayed the purpose of the Lord.***

L: The Lord is God of Second Chances, and we are invited into the presence of the Holy One.

**P: *The problem is that we have sinned against the Lord.***

L: The Lord is God of Second Chances, and the Lord grants us redemption from sin.

**P: *But the problem is that our transgressions have estranged us from the Lord.***

L: The Lord is God of Second Chances, and the Lord offers us reconciliation through Christ.

**A: *We stand in awe of you, O Lord, who creates, redeems, and reconciles us. Let us praise you with our lips AND our lives.***

\*Hymn of Praise # 465, red book *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*



*What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
 What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!  
 O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear,  
 All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!*

*Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
 We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
 Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share!  
 Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!*

*Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
 Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
 Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
 In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.*

### **Prayer of Confession**

***O God, here we are again, confessing the sins that continually trip us up. We are so thankful that your mercy is new every morning, because we falter day after day. Thank you for pouring out your righteousness upon us, and for never leaving us to drown in our sinfulness. We humbly ask for your forgiveness, and pray that you would free us from the things that keep us in bondage. Make us every day more and more like your Son. And now, holy God, we turn to you in silent prayer to share our concerns and to seek your forgiveness.....Amen.***

### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

**L:** Hear the Good News: Our God is always ready to draw us near and forgive us.

**P:** ***Thanks be to God that the One whom we love and serve not only created us, but comes to us in forgiveness and love, and reconciles us that we might be restored to abundant living.***

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

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

## Meeting God in the Word

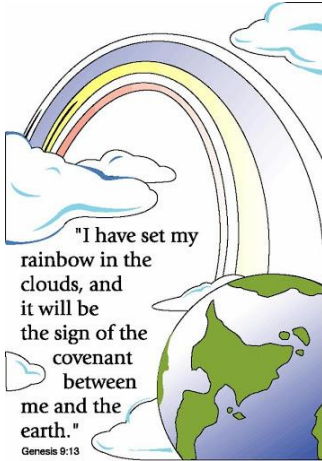
### **Children's Message**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

### **First Lesson**

*Genesis 9: 8-17*

*God's Covenant with Noah*



Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

## Second Lesson

Psalm 25: 1-10

Prayer for Guidance and Deliverance

*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.*

*Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!*

*Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.*

## Sermon

*Do You Listen When God Talks?*



## Responding to the Word

\*Hymn # 683 red book

*Lord of All Hopefulness*

*Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust ever childlike, no cares could destroy:  
Be there at our waking and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.*

*Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
Be there at our labors and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.*

*Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:  
Be there at our homing and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.*

*Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
Be there at our sleeping and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.*

### \*Litany of Faith

L: So much of the time we are distracted by noise and chaos.

**P: *Speak to us, Lord. We ARE listening.***

L: We listen to so many other voices, rather than turning solely to you.

**P: *Speak to us, Lord. We ARE listening.***

L: We know that your voice speaks of TRUTH, and HOPE and LIFE.

**P: *Speak to us, Lord. We ARE listening.***

L: We choose now to quiet our hearts and minds, to truly LISTEN only to you.

**A: *Speak to us, holy One, for truly, WE ARE LISTENING, and we desire to hear and follow where you lead 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 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 # 835, red book

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

**Refrain:**        ***Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,  
Daily walking close to thee: Let it be, dear Lord, let it  
be.***

*I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.    **Refrain***

*Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but  
thee.    **Refrain***

*When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;  
Guide me gently, safely o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.    **Refrain***



### \* Blessing

L: Work – Rest – Play – Sleep – Eat – Love. In all that you do this week, LIVE for JESUS.

**P: *We will bring his life to every corner of the world we encounter.***

L: For in his name, we are SENT OUT from this place to DO the work to which we are called.

**P: *We long to love and serve our Lord.***

L: And may the blessings of God ...

### \*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.*

