



New Covenant Presbyterian Church
July 11, 2021
Worship Service



1125 Jamison Corner Rd., Middletown, DE 19709
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The Worship of God

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

Lay Leader: Donna Casey

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

There's a Hasidic tale about a famous rabbi who accepted an invitation from a small village to come visit and answer questions about the Torah. The long-awaited day finally came. The excited villagers ushered the wise man into a large room, where they had all gathered. Rather than inviting the people to ask questions, the rabbi walked slowly and deliberately around the room, silently looking each villager in the eye as he softly hummed a religious tune. So engaging was the rabbi's gentle manner that, before they knew it, the people found themselves humming his tune. Slowly, the rabbi started to dance. And soon the people found themselves dancing with him. Their movements grew more and more frenzied, and all lost themselves in the dance. Together, they truly moved as one. When the dance finally ended, the rabbi took one more walk around the room, looking deeply into the eyes of each person in turn. "I trust that I have answered all of your questions," he said, just before he departed from them.

Lucinda Coleman writes about worshipping God through dance: "Paul reminds Christians that their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit and that they should glorify God with their bodies (1 Cor. 6: 19-20). He further indicates physical movement is an approved part of prayerlike expression when he exhorts Timothy to pray lifting up holy hands (1 Tim. 2:8). The biblical stance for most prayers included raising arms and hands above the head (1 Tim. 2:8). In prayers of confession, kneeling or prostration was common, and in thanksgiving prayers or intercession, standing with arms raised was common...In the Aramaic language which Jews spoke, the word for "rejoice" and "dance" is the same. Hence, in including "dance" with "rejoice" there are references to dancing and leaping for joy (Lk. 6:23), as well as "dancing in the Spirit" (Lk. 10:21).

Preparing to Meet God

Call to Worship

L: Today is the day the Lord has made!

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

L: Let us praise God with song,

P: Let us praise God with our whole selves.

L: Let us praise the Lord our God with body, mind and soul.

A: Amen!

*Hymn of Praise

Morning Has Broken

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*Morning has broken, like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing, fresh from the Word!*

*Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall, on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness, of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness, where God's feet pass.*

*Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!*

Prayer of Confession

O God, from the depths of our hearts we believe that Jesus is the Messiah and our Lord. We are glad to witness to that fact with our lips but our lives deny the gratitude we should feel and the joy you desire for us. Forgive our apathy and touch our hearts once again that our lives might reflect how blessed we feel that you loved us enough to provide for our salvation. Open our hearts to show you and the world how glad we are to be your children. 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: In Christ you are redeemed -
P: *And our sins are forgiven through the shedding of his blood.*
 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

Mark 6: 17-29

John the Baptist is Beheaded

Lay Leader

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.' And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.' And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.' She went out and said to her



mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the baptizer.' Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.' The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Special Music

Alabaré

Manuel José Alonso

Second Lesson II Samuel 6: 1-5, 12b-19

David Brings the Ark to Jerusalem



David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart with the ark of God; and Ahio went in front of the ark. David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the Lord with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

' So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; and when those who bore the ark of the Lord had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. David danced before the Lord with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

As the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart.

They brought in the ark of the Lord, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt-offerings and offerings of well-being before the Lord. When David had finished offering the burnt-offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts, and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Be EN – THU – siastic!

Responding to the Word

*Hymn

I Danced in the Morning

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*I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
At Bethlehem I had my birth.*

**Refrain: Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.**

*I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
But they would not dance and they would not follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
They came with me and the dance went on. **Refrain***

*I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
And left me there on a cross to die. **Refrain***

*I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
But I am the dance and I still go on. **Refrain***

*They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that will never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. **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



God provided all that we need, and so we are called to return a portion of our blessings to God to be used in God's service. We so appreciate all that each of you shares for our church's ministry. May we all give sacrificially for God's glory.

Going Out to Serve

Closing Hymn

Every Move I Make

Every move I make, I make in you.
 You make me move, Jesus.
 Every breath I take, I breathe in you.
 Every step I take, I take in you.
 You are my way, Jesus.
 Every breath I take, I breathe in you.
 La, la la, la, la, la, la
 La, la, la, la, la, la

Every move I make, I make in you.
 You make me move, Jesus.
 Every breath I take I breathe in you.
 Every step I take, I take in you.
 You are my way Jesus.
 Every breath I take I breathe in you.

Waves of mercy, waves of grace,
 Everywhere I look I see your face.
 Your love has captured me.
 Oh my God, this love, how can it be?
 La, la la, la, la, la, la
 La, la, la, la, la, la

Blessing

L: In everything that you do, be EN – THEOS – IN GOD,
 and may your lives exude the joy God desires for you
 as his children.

**P: *We will follow Christ's example and go in peace,
 with the love of God surrounding and keeping us.***

L: May it be so for each of us and may the blessings of ...

Response

He Is Lord

*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.*

