



New Covenant Presbyterian Church  
March 13, 2022                      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

## March 13, 2022      Second Sunday of Lent

Welcome and Announcements

Lay Leader: Jane Adams

Sharing Our Vision

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Musical Prelude ...



Earlier in the Gospel of Luke, Jesus “set his face to go to Jerusalem.” Apparently, some Pharisees felt he was not leaving quickly enough, so they informed him that Herod wanted to kill him. Jesus refers to Herod as “that fox,” which is a derisive term for a crafty or sly person. Jesus knew that his death would not come at the hands of Herod, but through the events that would unfold in Jerusalem.

Our passage today indicates Jesus’ lament about his rejection from the people in Jerusalem. Using the material imagery of a hen, who extends protection to her chicks by gathering them under her wings, Jesus bewails Jerusalem’s unwillingness to accept his protection, which is another way of describing Israel’s rejection of God’s offer of salvation through him. This passage is such an appropriate one during this liturgical season, as we reflect on Jesus’ preparation for the sacrifice his Father called him to make. What sacrifice do you feel is being asked of you?

## Preparing to Meet God

Call to Worship

- L: Lent calls us to journey along the edge – to anticipate that final trip to Jerusalem.
- P: *Lent calls us to the cutting edge – when new life springs forth. It is the cutting of a new covenant.***
- L: Lent calls us not only to consider giving up something, but also to take upon ourselves, as a community, the intention of true participation in the mystery of God-with-us.
- P: *Lent calls us to confession, accountability, and preparation.***
- L: Lent calls us to concentrate upon our baptismal vocation to be a sign of the New Creation.
- P: *Lent calls us to face the darkness of the world without holding a flashlight, relying on the light provided by God.***

Hymn # 326

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

1-Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;  
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;  
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,  
And make me love thee as I ought to love.

2-Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;  
All, all thine own: soul, heart, and strength, and mind?  
I see thy cross, there teach my heart to cling.  
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

3-Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;  
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,  
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;  
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

4-Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,  
One holy passion filling all my frame;  
The baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,  
My heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

## Prayer of Confession

*Great and loving God, forgive your church during these Lenten days. Forgive us for our prosperity as we dwell in the midst of many who are hungry – for our silence amidst those who are at war - and for our cowardice amidst the oppressed. Forgive your children for our lack of confidence – our lack of deep and abiding faith – our lack of hope and love – and our lack of courage in you. Restore our covenant with you, and allow us to feast in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us during this season to renew our spiritual lives, and to look forward to the hope and promise of new life given to us daily in Christ. 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 and believe the Good News: God's love is never ending.

**P:** **God is always present WITH and FOR us.**

**L:** As we journey through the days of Lent, may we come to know even more completely the depth and breadth of God's forgiving love.

**P:** **Thanks be to God for the gifts of love and forgiveness.**

# Meeting God in the Word

## Children's Message/Prayer for Illumination

### First Lesson

Psalm 27

Triumphant Song of Confidence

Lay Leader: Jane Adams

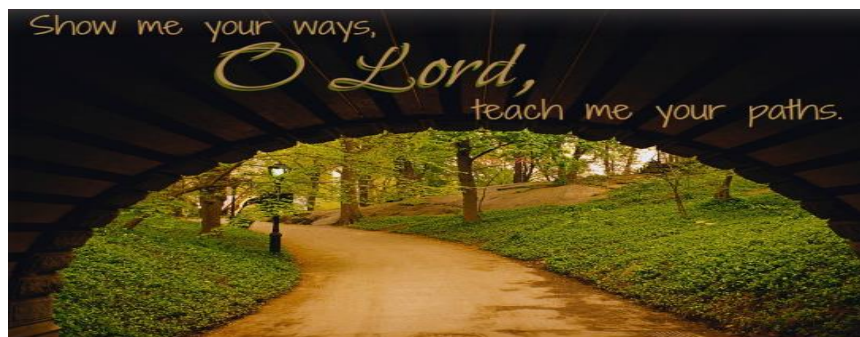
*The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh - my adversaries and foes - they shall stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.*

*One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.*

*Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord. Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! 'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation! If my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up.*

*Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence. I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!*

**L:** This is the Word of the Lord. **P:** **Thanks be to God.**



## Special Music

### Second Reading

Luke 13: 31-35      *The Lament Over Jerusalem*

Carol



At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time

comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord." '

L: This is the Word of the Lord.      **P: Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

*A Sense of Must*

## Responding to the Word



### Hymn # 303

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

1-Jesus, lover of my soul,  
Let me to thy bosom fly,  
While the nearer waters roll,  
While the tempest still is high:  
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,  
Till the storm of life is past;  
Safe into the haven guide;  
O receive my soul at last!

2-Other refuge have I none;  
Hangs my helpless soul on thee;  
Leave, ah! Leave me not alone,  
Still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on thee is stayed,  
All my help from thee I bring;  
Cover my defenseless head  
With the shadow of thy wing.

3-Thou, O Christ, art all I want;  
More than all in thee I find:  
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,  
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
Just and holy is thy name;  
I am all unrighteousness;  
False and full of sin I am,  
Thou art full of truth and grace.

4-Plentous grace with thee is found,  
Grace to cover all my sin;  
Let the healing streams abound;  
Make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art,  
Freely let me take of thee;  
Spring thou up within my heart,  
Rise to all eternity.

### Affirmation of Faith

- From the Directory for Worship in the *PCUSA Book of Order*

Q: *What is the purpose of worship?*

A: **Christian worship joyfully ascribes all praise and honor, glory and power to the triune God. In worship, the people of God acknowledge God present in the world and in their lives. As they respond to God's claim and redemptive action in Jesus**

**Christ, *believers are transformed and renewed. In worship, the faithful offer themselves to God and are equipped for God's service in the world.***"

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

*The 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**

+Prayer of Dedication: Loving God, we give you thanks for your call to follow you, offering up all that we have and are for your purposes. Make us ever faithful to your call. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Going Out to Serve

**Hymn**

*I Believe*

Sung to tune *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken #446*

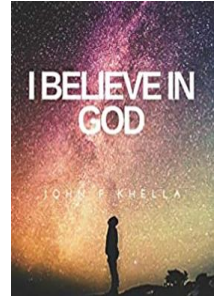
1-I believe in God the Father,  
The Almighty God above.  
Maker of the earth and heaven  
Which were formed in God's great love –  
And in Jesus, loving Jesus,  
God's own Son, who makes us new.  
This, the creed of generations,  
Is the faith for our church, too.

2-Jesus, by God's Holy Spirit,  
Was so wondrously conceived,  
Born unto the Virgin Mary,  
Who your promises believed.  
Jesus, suffering under Pilate,  
On a cross was crucified.  
Soldiers mocked him, friends denied him;  
He hung there until he died.

3-So it was, our Lord was buried,  
In a borrowed tomb he lay.  
To the dead he then descended,  
Where was joy on earth that day?  
There is more to God's great story:  
In three days he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
And he sits at God's right hand.

4-I believe what God has promised:  
Christ will come as he has said.  
He will judge the nations' peoples,  
Both the living and the dead.  
I believe God's Holy Spirit  
Makes the church one family.  
We're surrounded by God's people,  
Saints who in our Lord believe.

5-I believe that God forgives us for the times we turn away,  
And that God will raise our bodies on that resurrection day.  
We rejoice we'll live forever, singing praise to God's great name.  
This, the creed of generations, is the faith that we proclaim.



**Blessing**

L: May the Lenten journey of our Lord Jesus Christ be our journey as well.

**P: *On our journey, may we come to know Jesus Christ even more fully, and learn from his sense of responsibility that we might be as faithful as he was.***

L: And may the blessings...

**Response**

*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.*