



New Covenant Presbyterian Church

March 29, 2020
Service



Worship

**1125 Jamison Corner Road Middletown,
DE**

5th Sunday of Lent March 29, 2020 (Bulletin to follow the YouTube online service)

Welcome

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Prelude...

Ash Wednesday was the first day of Lent which begins the forty-six days of prayer, fasting, reflection, repentance, and doing good deeds of service in relationship with the Trinity, preparing for Easter. Lent is a time of reflection on our relationship with God, our family and acquaintances.

Consider these questions for reflection:

- *Do I need to ask someone **to forgive me** for what I did or said? So humbling, but necessary.*
- ***Whom do I need to forgive** – myself, others, or God? Forgive and allow God to do justice, show love, grace and mercy; and forgive yourself.*
- *What do I need to **do differently in my life** to be more productive to serve and honor God by my words, actions, and finances?*
- ***Release each situation to Jesus** through the connecting power of the Holy Spirit through prayer.*
- *Allow God to intervene on your behalf to solve each problem. **Do not fear! Do not doubt, but trust God and be amazed at how each problem will be solved.***
- *During the Lenten season, **ask Jesus for a plan** to draw you closer to the Trinity.*
- *Are you to **stop eating a food that is costly, unhealthy, or time consuming?** Spend the time and money on serving God.*
- *Do you need to **break a bad habit or addiction?** Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you with wisdom, strength, and self-control to achieve victory while living the new habit.*
- *Maybe, Jesus is asking you to do good deeds of service or kindness. Perhaps you are to begin a new ministry or business. Create a poem. Write a Christian novel to counter-attack the smut available. Compose a song. Develop an invention. Ask and you will receive the blessings from God.*

Preparing to Meet God

Call to Worship

- From Psalm 130

L: Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice;

P: Let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

L: If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss,

P: O Lord, who could stand?

L: For there is forgiveness with you;

P: Therefore you shall be feared.

L: I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him;

P: In his word is my hope.

L: My soul waits for the Lord,

P: More than watchmen for the morning.

L: O Israel, wait for the Lord,

P: For with the Lord there is mercy;

L: With him there is plenteous redemption,

P: And he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

***Hymn of Praise**

God of Our Life

*God of our life, through all the circling years, We trust in Thee;
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, Thy hand we see.
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,
We own thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.*

*God of the past, out times are in thy hand; With us abide.
Lead us by faith to hope's true promised land; Be thou our guide.
With thee to bless, the darkness shines as light,
And faith's fair vision changes into sight.*

*God of the coming years, through paths unknown, We follow thee.
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone; Our refuge be.
Be thou for us in life our daily bread,
Our heart's true home when all our years have sped.*

Meeting God in the Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Second Lesson

John 11: 1-45

Sermon

What Would It Take?

Responding to the Word

***Hymn**

What Wondrous Love Is This?

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*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul.
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss,
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul.
To bear the heavy cross for my soul!*

*To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing!*

*And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on.
And through eternity, I'll sing on!*

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul.
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss,
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul.
To bear the heavy cross for my soul!*

*Litany of Faith and Humility

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| L: O Jesus, | P: Meek and humble of heart, Hear me. |
| L: From the desire of being esteemed, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the desire of being extolled, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the desire of being honored, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the desire of being praised, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the desire of being preferred to others, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the desire of being consulted, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the desire of being approved, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the fear of being humiliated, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the fear of being despised, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the fear of suffering rebukes, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the fear of being forgotten, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the fear of being ridiculed, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the fear of being wronged, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: From the fear of being suspected, | P: Deliver me, Jesus. |
| L: That others may be loved more than I, | P: Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it. |
| L: That others may be esteemed more than I, | P: Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it. |
| L: That others may be praised and I unnoticed, | P: Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it. |
| L: That others may become holier than I, provided that I may become as holy as I should, | P: Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it. |

Amen.

Music to Praise God

We Are Not Alone

Pepper Choplin

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, that I don't know what to do, I will cast all my cares upon you.*

Repeat

I will cast all my cares upon you.

The Call to Celebrate Our Gifts

*God has provided for us in so many ways. All that we have truly comes from God.
Giving of our resources is an essential part of discipleship. We feel grateful for
our blessings and we share a good portion of them to do Christ's work. Since we can not gather
together for worship, we encourage each of you to send in
your tithes and offerings so that the church can continue its ministry.*

Going Out to Serve

*Closing Hymn

Lord of the Dance

*I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
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 leap 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***

***Blessing**

L: May the Lord bless you and keep you.

P: *May the Lord make his face to shine upon you,*

L: And grant you peace.

A: *May it be so for each of us and all of God's creation.*

***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.*

Consider watching the song *We Are Not Alone* by Pepper Choplin sung by the Oasis Chorale at the Sandy Ridge Mennonite Church .

<https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=mcafee&p=We+Are+Not+Alone+at+the+Sandy+Ridge+Mennonite+Church#id=1&vid=f43f95d002758989876782817c64fce7&action=click>



**May God
be above you
to bless you; below you
to support you; before you
to guide you; behind you
to protect you; beside you
to comfort you and inside
you to give you strength
and Joy. Amen**