



***And I will pray the Father,  
and he shall give you another Comforter,  
that he may abide with you for ever;***

***Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive,  
because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him:***

***but ye know him;  
for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.***

John 14: 16,17

*We are a Biblically Grounded Church Family Dedicated  
to Serving God, Sharing Christian Fellowship, Love  
and Caring with the World.*

*— Adopted August 2010*

*New Covenant Presbyterian Church  
May 17, 2020    Worship Service*



*1125 Jamison Corner Rd., Middletown, DE 19709  
(302) 378-4446      [www.newcov-church.org](http://www.newcov-church.org)*

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter      May 17, 2020

Bulletin to follow the online service

Welcome

Lay Leader: Brian Lindgren

Preparing Ourselves for Worship ...



*Have you heard the words of the bumper sticker- "If you love Jesus, honk," or the revised one – "If you love Jesus, tithe. Anyone can honk." Our gospel lesson today strongly suggests that if we LOVE Jesus, we will keep his commandment – meaning to really keep them, rather than just saying the words. We all know that words, like horn beeps, come easily. It's the follow-through that's more challenging. But when we love Jesus – when we embrace what he calls us to, and use it as the framework of our lives, we will live more fully and freely than ever before. May it be so for us all.*

## Preparing to Meet God

Call to Worship

L: Bless our God, all you people! Let God's praise ring out in this place.

**P: God has kept our comings and goings. God has not let our feet slip. Even when we carry heavy burdens on our backs, and even through fire and water, God is with us.**

L: God has been with us, leading us ever forward to a future rich with promise. Come and listen, all who fear God, and we will tell what God has done.

**P: Blessed be our God, for God hears our prayers, and God's steadfast love remains constant.**

\*Hymn of Praise

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

#455

*All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Thou rushing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along, O sing ye! Alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, Ye lights of evening, find a voice,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Thou flowing water pure and clear, Make music for thy Lord to hear, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thou fire so masterful and bright, That givest us both warmth and light.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Thou fertile earth, that day by day, Unfoldest blessings on your way, O sing ye! Alleluia!  
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow, Let them God's glory also show!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

# Meeting God in the Word

## Prayer for Illumination

### First Lesson

I Peter 3: 13-22



*Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you - not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.*

### Second Lesson

John 14: 15-21

The Promise of the Holy Spirit



*'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.*

*'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'*

## Sermon

Our Mission as Disciples of Christ

## Responding to the Word

## Hymn

*Holy Spirit, Truth Divine*

#321

*Holy Spirit, truth divine, Dawn upon this soul of mine;  
Word of God and inward light, Wake my spirit, clear my sight.*

*Holy Spirit, love divine, Glow within this heart of mine;  
Kindle every high desire; Perish self in thy pure fire.*

*Holy Spirit, power divine; Fill and nerve this will of mine;  
By thee may I strongly live, Bravely bear, and nobly strive.*

*Holy Spirit, right divine, Make my conscience wholly thine;  
Be my law, and I shall be, Firmly bound, forever free.*

## Litany of Faith

L: O world of mine, I send you my Spirit.

**P: Holy God, do not leave us alone.**

L: My Spirit of truth, your comforting friend will stay with you forever.

**P: Holy God, do not leave us alone.**

L: I will not leave you desolate. A time comes when the world will not see me, but you will recognize me. YOU will know that I live, and because I live, you shall live also.

**P: Holy God, do not leave us alone.**

L: In days soon to come, you will well understand. I am in God. You are in me. I am in you.

**P: Holy God, do not leave us alone.**

L: Behold, the Spirit of God sends the Counselor in my name. Welcome the Spirit into your lives, and into the Body of Christ.

**P: Peace Christ leaves us. Peace Christ gives us. Let not our hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.**

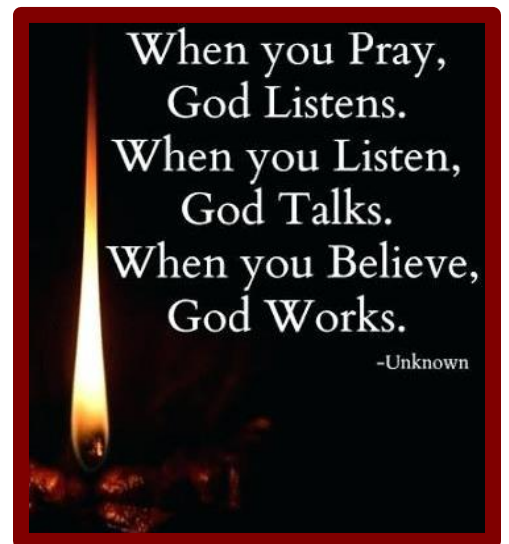
## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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 has 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 Time I Feel the Spirit*

#315

**Refrain:** *Every time I feel the Spirit, moving in my heart I will pray,  
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray,*

*Upon the mountain, when my Lord spoke, Out of God's mouth came fire and smoke,  
Looked all around me, it looked so fine, 'Till I asked my Lord if all was mine.      **Refrain***

*The Jordan river, chilly and cold, It chills the body but not the soul.  
There is but one train upon this track; It runs to heaven and then right back.      **Refrain***

## Blessing

L: Remember the connection between "living right" and "loving right," as Christ described it.

**P: We will orient our lives around the mission Christ gave us to LOVE him, KEEP his commandments, and RECEIVE the Spirit.**

L: If your lives are based on these principles, then you will be blessed by Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit both today and forever more. And may the blessings of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit...

## 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.*

