

**NOTHING IN ALL  
CREATION WILL  
EVER BE ABLE  
TO SEPARATE US  
FROM THE  
LOVE OF GOD**

ROMANS 8:39

**New Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
**November 14, 2021** **Worship Service**



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

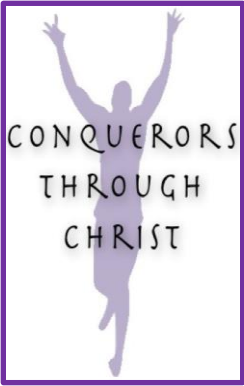
## Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

### Part 8 of Sailboat Church Series

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Sharing of Our Vision

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



*Most adults say that it is very important to worship God, but a survey finds many churchgoers struggle to have a consistently positive worship experience, sometimes for reasons of their own making. Although two out of three adults say they always look forward to worshipping God, only one-third of all church regulars believe they always experience God's presence or intimate interaction with God during corporate worship times (Barna Research Group). Certainly, it is imperative for those who lead worship to prepare all elements of the worship experience to the best of their abilities. But what do you believe the role of each worshipper is in regard to maximizing the potential of encountering God in worship? May each of us commit ourselves to do whatever is necessary to make each and every worship service touch our heads and hearts in a transformative way!*

## Preparing to Meet God

#### Call to Worship

**L:** God has so graciously and wonderfully sheltered and provided for us.

**P** *And so we come, confidently waiting, and expecting to meet God here.*

**L:** We know that God is with us night and day, and never fails to greet us each new day.

**P:** *Let us worship the one true living God this very day!*

#### \*Hymn of Praise

*God Is Here!*

# 461, vs. 1,2,4

*1-God is here! As we your people  
Meet to offer praise and prayer,  
May we find in fuller measure  
What it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us,  
All our varied skills and arts  
Wait the coming of the Spirit  
Into open minds and hearts.*

*2-Here are symbols to remind us  
Of our life-long need of grace;  
Here are table, font, and pulpit;  
Here the cross has central place.  
Here in honesty of preaching,  
Here in silence, as in speech,  
Here, in newness and renewal,  
God the Spirit comes to each.*

*4-Lord of all, of church and kingdom,  
In an age of change and doubt  
Keep us faithful to the gospel,  
Help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication,  
All we have to give, receive:  
We, who cannot live without you,  
We adore you! We believe!*

**Prayer of Confession**

*We are acquainted with hurt, O God, and sometimes we become bitter with the troubles and suffering we must endure as part of human life. We fail to see how good can come from that which seems so difficult. Forgive us for withdrawing from you, to suffer our misery alone. Help us to live in a love relationship with you, so that when we are struggling, we still may see your love and purposes at work. Enable us to be assured that nothing will ever separate us from your love. 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: Friends, hear the Good News: God has chosen to reconcile the whole world to God's self.
- P: ***Through the Son of God, we have peace with God through the shedding of Christ's blood upon the cross.***
- L: Believe the Good News of the Gospel -
- P: ***In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!***

Meeting God in the Word

**Children's Message**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson**      *Ephesians 5: 6-14*      *Renouncing Un-Christian Ways*      *Lay Leader*



**EPHESIANS 5:8,9**  
 8. For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light  
 9. for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth,

*Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be associated with them. For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light - for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'*

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

**Special Music**

**Second Lesson**      *Romans 8: 26-35, 37-39*      *God's Love in Christ Jesus*

*Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.*





*We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.*

*What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?*

*No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*Spotting God*

## Responding to the Word

**\*Hymn**

*God's Great Love Is So Amazing*

*Sung to the tune of What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

*1-God's great love is so amazing!  
See – a shepherd with his flocks!  
Ninety-nine are safely grazing;  
One is lost among the rocks.  
That good shepherd goes and searches  
Till he finds the one astray.  
So God says to fill our churches  
With the ones who've lost their way.*

*2-God in love is always seeking!  
See – a woman with her broom!  
For a single coin she's sweeping  
Every corner of the room.  
When it's found she calls each neighbor,  
Telling friends from all around.  
So God says to search and labor  
Till God's precious ones are found.*

*3-God keeps waiting, searching, yearning!  
See – a father's heartfelt joy!  
Thankful for his son's returning,  
He runs out to greet his boy.  
To the angry older brother,  
Hear the father's patient call.  
So God says to love each other,  
For in Christ. God loves us all.*

**\*Litany of Faith**

L: I stand before you in the name of the Lord.

**P: *Who is the Lord that we should heed your summons?***

L: The Lord is the God of Moses, through whom we receive the Law that is a light unto our feet and a lamp unto our path.

**P: Who is the Lord that we should heed your summons?**

L: The Lord is the God of the prophets, through whom we discover that the one true religion invites us to not only pray for the powerful, but to empower the poor.

**P: Who is the Lord that we should heed your summons?**

L: The Lord is the God of the sages, through whom we learn that true religion will be as visible in the street as in the sanctuary.

**P: Who is the Lord that we should heed your summons?**

L: The Lord is the God of Jesus, who becomes one with us that we might know our oneness with God and one another.

**A: Let us worship the Lord with all of our heart, and soul, and mind and strength.**

### 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

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

# 171

*1-The King of love my Shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his,  
And he is mine forever.*

*3-Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
But yet in love he sought me.  
And on his shoulder gently laid,  
And home, rejoicing, brought me.*

*2-Where streams of living water flow  
My ransomed soul he leadeth,  
And where the verdant pastures grow,  
With food celestial feedeth.*

*4-In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
Thy cross before to guide me.*

### Blessing

L: In love, God justifies and forgives us. If God is **FOR** us, who can be **AGAINST** us?

**P: Persecution, famine, peril, and the sword cannot separate us from the love of Christ.**

L: In all things, we are more than conquerors through the One who loves us.

**P: There is no power on earth, in life or death, which can cut us off from God's saving power.**

L: Live then, as God's children, aware of God's generosity and expectations.

**P: As God has blessed us, we will share these blessings with others.**

L: And may the blessings...

### 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.*