



New Covenant Presbyterian Church
November 1, 2020 10:00am Service



1125 Jamison Corner Road Middletown, DE
(302) 378-4446 www.newcov-church.org

The Worship of God

Communion Sunday

Welcome, Announcements and Sharing of Our Vision

Preparing to Meet God

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Prelude...



No one can serve two masters

Either you will love the one and hate the other
or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other
You cannot serve both God and money

Matthew 6:24 NIV

Middle-class culture always wants it both ways on almost everything – a little of this, and a little of that – a world of both-and. That's not Jesus' instinct about the Kingdom of God. His view is that it's either-or. Don't even try to live it otherwise. Binary categories have never been welcome when it means saying "no" to ourselves.

Why can't we serve two masters? Because each demands exclusive allegiance, and gaining one will finally mean losing the other. The masters Jesus names are God and wealth. Neither is neutral or passive. They do NOT live in peaceable coexistence. So, choose the master you really want to serve, it will ultimately reveal what you love and what you hate.

Call to Worship

L: Winds blow, rains fall and storms rage, but we have faith for,

P: God is our strength and sanctuary.

L: Floods rise, we are battered by waves, and ravaged by wars, but we have faith for,

P: God is our strength and sanctuary.

L: Violence threatens, hunger abounds, and diseases flourish, but we have faith for,

P: God is our strength and sanctuary

A: We are safe here in this place, for God's sustaining and nourishing Spirit surrounds and supports us, and for that, we give thanks.

*Hymn of Praise

For All the Saints

*For all the saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; Thou Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle; they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Prayer of Confession

O God, we have failed as your church. You call us to live faithfully, to act justly, and to bring peace to the world. Instead, our lives and your church reflect more of our needs and worries, and less of the needs and worries of others. Move us beyond ourselves to hear the cries of the world, and to respond with kindness and mercy. May your grace shine through us that, even with our shortcomings, you can see what is in our hearts. And now we turn to you in silent prayer to share our concerns and seek your forgiveness.....Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

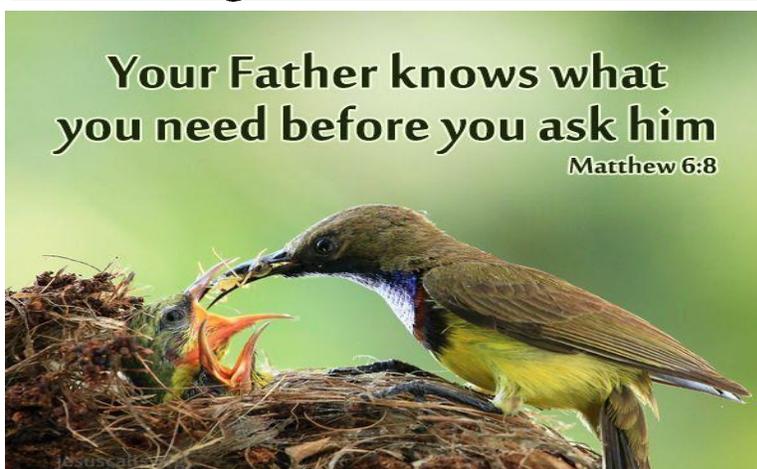
L: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

P: *In our forgiveness, may we blossom fully with purpose and resolve, so that the world will know us by our love.*

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

I Corinthians 4: 1-5

The Ministry of the Apostles

Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they should be found trustworthy. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself. I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgement before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive commendation from God.

Second Lesson

Matthew 6: 24-34

Serving Two Masters and No Need to Worry

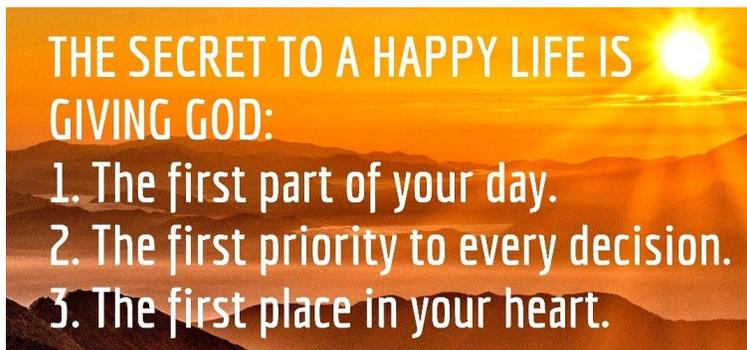
'No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your

span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you - you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

Sermon

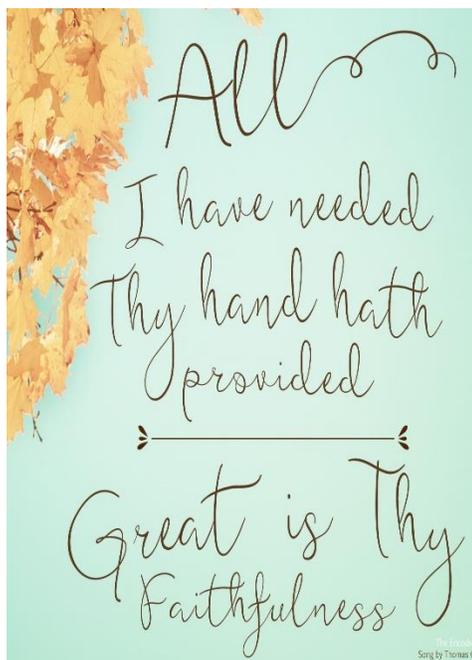
A Shortage of Hope



Responding to the Word

*Hymn

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be. **Refrain**

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed, thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness,
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **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

The Invitation *You are invited to place your offering in the basket in the back of the sanctuary.*

Prayer of Dedication Christ Jesus, when we gather to worship you, touch us deeply with your Spirit. Touch and embrace our lives. Move us to generosity and service. Strengthen our faith and direct us into ministries and service for those in great need. Rededicate our lives and bless our gifts, using our offerings to renew your church and meet the needs of our community. Amen.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation

The Prayer of Consecration

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Elements

The Prayer of Thanksgiving



Going Out to Serve God

* Hymn

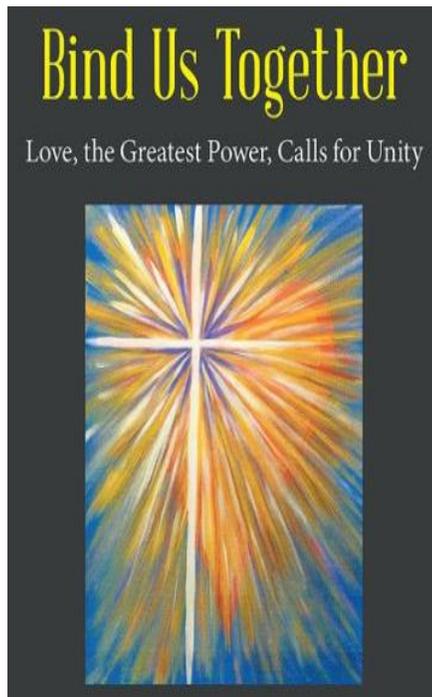
You've Called Us Together
(Sung to - *To God Be the Glory* #485)

*You've called us together, O God, by your grace,
In grateful obedience, we've come to this place.
Our new common mission has only begun,
We're learning the blessings of serving as one. **Chorus***

Chorus: *We are called! We are freed!
We are baptized as one.
In the Church, all we need
Can be found in your Son!
With Christ to unite us, and born from above,
We witness together to your wondrous love.*

*We're one in the faith, and in creeds that we share,
In worship and sacraments, scripture and prayer.
We're one in our seeking to follow Christ's way.
In Spirit-led ministry, day after day. **Chorus***

*There's much to rejoice in, yet much to be done.
While some are excluded, we can't live as one.
May we as your churches uniting now see,
That justice is needed for true unity. **Chorus***



*** Blessing**

L: May God's great Spirit empower us to teach like Christ,

P: *To heal like Christ*

L: To love like Christ

P: *To forgive like Christ*

A: *And to serve like Christ.*

L: May the Lord Jesus go before us, equipping, empowering, and supporting us, as we live out our faith. And may the blessings...

***Response**

*He Is Lord
He is Lord, He is Lord!
He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess,
That Jesus Christ is Lord.*

