

**The heavens declare the glory of
God; the skies proclaim the work of
his hands. Day after day they pour
forth speech; night after night they
reveal knowledge.**

Psalm 19:1-2



**New Covenant Presbyterian Church
October 18, 2020 10:00am Service**



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

The Worship of God

20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2020

Welcome, Announcements and Sharing of Our Vision

Lay Leader:

Preparing to Meet God

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Prelude...



An anonymous donor sponsored a series of billboards with a spiritual message that captured the attention of drivers all across the nation. Each quotation was signed "God." Originally 18 sayings were selected for billboards in south Florida, but it soon mushroomed into more than 10,000 across the nation. Long before any billboards were erected, however, claiming to contain messages from God, God had already emblazoned messages for us all to read. More than 3,000 years ago, King David looked at the vast array of stars and cried, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his

hands." King David was speaking of God's wordless book – Creation. May we not miss out on creation's beautiful voice, lest we miss out on God's message to us!

Call to Worship

L: Come, let us worship the Lord, whose law revives the soul.

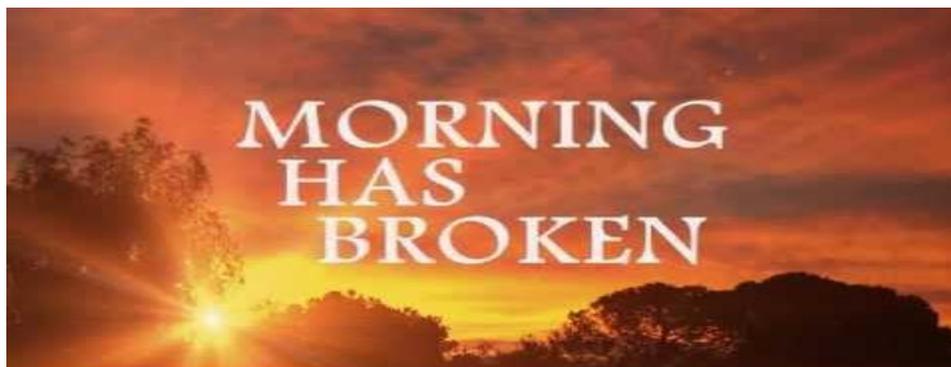
P: We come to worship the Lord, whose testimony instructs the mind.

L: Come, let us worship the Lord, whose precepts gladden the heart.

P: We come to worship our Lord, for the Lord our God shall bless us!

*Hymn of Praise

Morning Has Broken



*Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*

*Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.*

*Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!*

Prayer of Confession

We come before you today, O God, realizing that we haven't really been intently looking and listening for you. We know that you speak to us in a variety of ways, but it is so easy for us to miss your message, when we aren't truly listening. Your voice whispers to us in the stillness of creation, and it thunders across the skies. It breaks out from the heavens as all of creation proclaims your glory. And most especially, you speak to us through your Word, which took on flesh and proclaims your promises and purposes for us. Open our ears, O God, and turn our heads, that we might no longer miss your presence among us. And when we discover that what you desire of us is not what we had in mind for our lives, reorient our minds and our feet, that we would live as you see fit. And now we turn to you in silent prayer to share our concerns and seek your forgiveness.....Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: Hear the Good News: It is the will of God that all would come to know the truth and be saved.

P: ***Through Christ, we are forgiven of our sins, and reconciled to God.***

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

Exodus 33: 12-23

Moses' Intercession

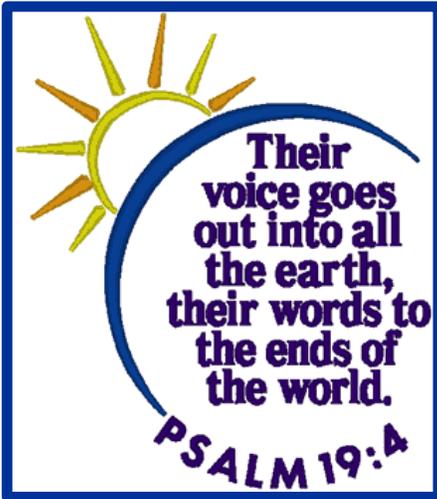
Moses said to the Lord, 'See, you have said to me, "Bring up this people"; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, "I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight." Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.' He said, 'My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' And he said to him, 'If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.'

The Lord said to Moses, 'I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.' Moses said, 'Show me your glory, I pray.' And he said, 'I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, "The Lord"; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But', he said, 'you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.' And the Lord continued, 'See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.'

Second Lesson

Psalm 19

God's Glory in Creation and the Law



The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hidden from its heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be

desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Sermon

Using Our Ears to Listen, and Our Voices to Praise

Responding to the Word

Hymn

How Can I Keep from Singing?

*My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.*

REFRAIN: *No storm can shake my inmost calm,
while to that Rock I'm clinging.*

*Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?*

*Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? **REFRAIN***

*What though my joys and comforts die? I know my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.*

REFRAIN

*The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?*

REFRAIN



*Affirmation of Faith

We believe that God created the universe, which stands firmly in his glory. God is from everlasting to everlasting.

We believe in Jesus Christ, who is the image of the unseen God; the first born of all creation; the Word made flesh who dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. We have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the eternal light of God and a reflection of God's power in the world. By the work of the Spirit, we are transformed into the likeness of God and claimed as God's own, for the glory of his kingdom.

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

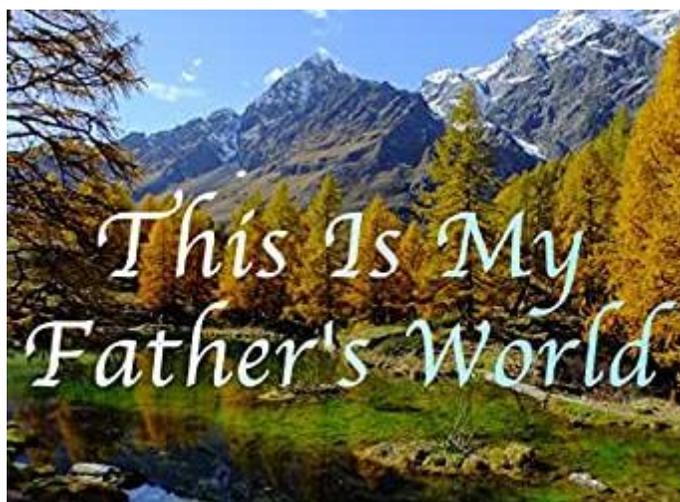
The Invitation *You are invited to place your offering in the basket at the back of the sanctuary or send it in to the church. Thank you!*

Prayer of Dedication: O Holy Spirit, enable us to do what needs to be done, whether little or much, that all of us, doing our part, may help to complete your work in the world. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Going Out to Serve God

* Hymn

This Is My Father's World



*This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings, the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought,
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the wonders wrought.*

*This is my Father's world. O, let me ne'er forget,
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world. The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.*

* Blessing

L: The psalmist tells us that "the heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork."

P: *We will go out from this place to admire God's glory in creation.*

L: God's glory might also be found in the Law of God.

P: *The Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul...and rejoicing the heart,*

L: More to be desired than gold, even much fine gold, sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

A: *May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to our Lord who is our Rock and our Redeemer.*

L: And may the blessing of God.....



*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.*