

**New Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
**October 25, 2020      10:00am Service**



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

# The Worship of God

## 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

### October 25, 2020

Welcome, Announcements and Sharing of Our Vision

Lay Leader: Brian Lindgren

## Preparing to Meet God

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

- There was an elderly man who was filling out an application for a retirement village. He very carefully and deliberately answered all the questions. After writing down his current address, he came to the word "Zip," and he slowly printed the words, "Normal for my age."

- Our days are numbered. One of the primary goals in our lives should be to prepare for our last day. The legacy we leave is not just in our possessions, but in the quality of our lives. What preparations should we be making now? The greatest waste in all of our earth, which cannot be recycled or reclaimed, is our waste of the time that God has given us each day. - Billy Graham

- A young child asked a woman how old she was, and the woman answered, "Thirty-nine and holding." The child thought for a moment, and then asked this question: "And how old would you be if you stopped holding, and let go?"

### Call to Worship

L: Worship the Lord with jubilant hearts -

**P: Not to please one another, but to praise God.**

L: Worship the Lord with jubilant minds -

**P: Not to gratify our neighbor, but to glorify God.**

**A: Worship the Lord with your heart, soul and mind. Come, let us worship the Lord.**

### \*Hymn of Praise

*All Creatures of Our God and King*



*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 heaven 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!*

### Prayer of Confession

***Holy God, from whom all that we have comes, hear our confession this day. We find it easier to go along with Jesus when there is a crowd. But we are not always ready to part company with family and friends when our call is to costly discipleship. We may begin bravely and lose our nerve, forgetting that you can give us courage in the face of challenge and perseverance in the time of fatigue. Forgive us if we have turned back from you and your vision for our lives. Give us your vision and the strength of character it takes to live it out. 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: God give us grace and peace through Jesus Christ.

**P:** ***Such knowledge is too wonderful to comprehend.***

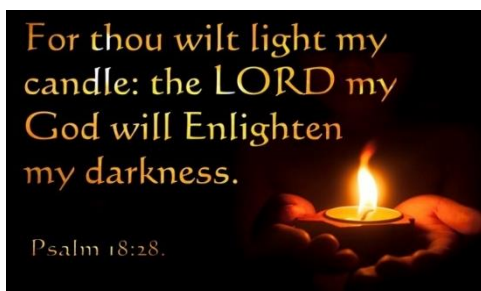
**L:** Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel –

**P:** ***In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!***

## Meeting God in the Word

### Children's Message

### Prayer for Illumination



**First Lesson**

I Thessalonians 2: 1-8

Paul's Ministry in Thessalonica

*You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.*

**Second Lesson**

Deuteronomy 34: 1-12

Moses Dies and Is Buried in the Land of Moab

*Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain - that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees - as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, 'This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, "I will give it to your descendants"; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.' Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.*

*Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.*

**Sermon**

Advancing God's Vision

***We need to advance in our experience with the Lord, until there is a clear sky between us and him, and we receive a vision of God's heart's desire, and then we live the rest of our days doing all we can to make it a reality.***

## Responding to the Word

### Hymn

#### *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

*Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,  
We respond with deep commitment, fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,  
Equal partners in our caring, to fulfill God's chosen end.*

*Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
Let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.  
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old.  
Blending human skills together, gracious gifts from God unfold.*

*Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,  
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge said with care.  
Bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.*

*So God grant us for tomorrow, ways to order human life,  
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,  
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.*



### \*Affirmation of Faith

- From the P.C.U.S.A. Brief Statement of Faith

***In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.***

***We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.***

***We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.***

***With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.***

## 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:** Your church, O God, is meant to be a non-profit corporation. Enable us to serve you so selflessly that the world will know that your body – the church – is also willing to be broken for the sake of the world. Amen.

## Going Out to Serve God

\* Hymn

*Be Thou My Vision*



*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me Lord;  
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise; thou mine inheritance now and always;  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart, high king of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

**\* Unison Blessing**

- Words of the World Peace Prayer

*Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.*

*Lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust.*

*Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.*

*Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.*

**\*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.*

