



New Covenant Presbyterian Church
October 4, 2020 10:00am Service



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

The Worship of God

World Communion Sunday

Welcome, Announcements and Sharing of Our Vision

Preparing to Meet God

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Prelude...

The Gospel Message calls us to the “way of righteousness.” The danger for us, as we try to answer this call faithfully, is that we will make it all about us, rather than it being about God – that we will use our efforts to lord it over others who are not like us – those we deem to be outsiders. But “the way of righteousness” is not about us, and it is all about God. It is a way of life lived in faithfulness to God. We incarnate the gospel by seeking to live in the way of wisdom, by orienting ourselves toward the truth.

Consider that incarnating the gospel looks a lot like other practices in which some of us partake regularly – such as yoga. We place ourselves under the instruction of a teacher, some days more easily than others. We arrive in disarray – which can be emotional, physical, or intellectual. Sometimes the suggested yoga postures come easily, and other days the entire session comes with resistance, while we regularly check the clock. Other days, we don’t even notice the time as we try postures we never thought we’d be able to do, and unexpectedly, one day we are able to do them, and our new-found ability enhances our lives.

Consider how our attitudes affect what we are able to achieve. So, when our goal is to walk in “the way of righteousness,” our focus surely needs to be on listening to the voice of God, rather than all the other voices swirling around us, grasping for our attention. Just consider...

Call to Worship

L: What a day for celebration! What a day to rejoice!

P: ***The Spirit of God is in our midst. God has come to meet with us.***

L: Bring your hearts before the Living God.

P: ***Come, let us worship God in word and song and prayer. Let us be filled with hope and joy, for we have a God who knows us personally and loves us deeply.***

L: Let go of your fears, your worries, and frustrations. Let God have all that keeps you from being the wonderful creation God had in mind when you were created. Give your Creator ALL of you.

A: ***We are here as the one Body of Christ. Let us celebrate our great and wonderful God!***

*Hymn of Praise

When Morning Gilds the Skies



*When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries: May Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer, to Jesus I repair: May Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find: May Jesus Christ be praised!
Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this: May Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Let earth's wide circle round, in joyful notes resound: May Jesus Christ be praised!
Let air and sea and sky, from depth to height reply: May Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: May Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song, through all the ages long: May Jesus Christ be praised!*

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and most merciful God, we give thanks that your mercy is without end toward those who respond in obedience to your Word. Convict us of our shallow faith when we profess with our lips a desire to live in obedience to your will, and yet we are unwilling to put into practice the principles by which you call us to live. Too often we find reasons to postpone the fulfillment of our promises. Forgive us for saying so much and doing so little of true importance. Inspire us to live in such a way as to honor you. And now we turn to you in silent prayer to share our concerns and seek your forgiveness.....Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

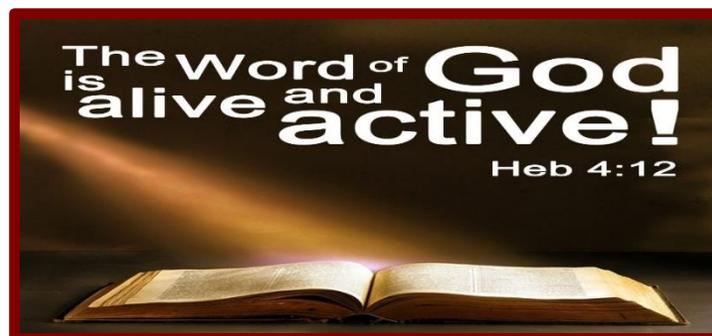
L: Hear the Good News: All those who hold firmly to the gospel -

P: ***Are saved by it to the glory of 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 *Philippians 2:1-13 Imitating Christ's Humility as Shining Lights in the World*

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Second Lesson *Matthew 21: 23-32* *Jesus' Authority Questioned & The Parable of Two Sons*

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.



The only thing
good is if we come
and rest
in the life
of Christ who is
the real Lamb of
God. Then He can
change our hearts,
He can change
our desires, and
He can change
our thoughts.

Russell M. Stendal

Responding to the Word

***Hymn**

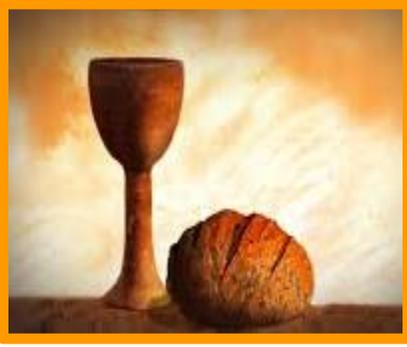
Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken

*Loaves were broken, words were spoken by the Galilean shore.
Jesus, Bread of Life from heaven, was their food forevermore.
By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.*

*Loaves were broken, words were spoken in a quiet room one night.
In the bread and wine you gave them, Christ, you came as Light from
Light.*

*By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.*





*Loaves are broken, words are spoken, as in faith we gather here.
Jesus speaks across the ages: "I am with you; do not fear!"
By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.*

*By the loaves you break and give us, send us in your name to share
Bread for which the millions hunger, words that tell your love and care.
By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.*

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.*

Prayer of Dedication

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**

In Christ There Is No East or West

*In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.*

*In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord close binding humankind.*

*Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.*

*In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him, throughout the whole wide earth.*



In Christ there is no
East or West,
In Him no South or
North:
But one great
fellowship of love
Throughout the whole
wide earth.

*** Blessing**

L: We will soon leave this service of worship, but God will not depart from us.

P: *God remains with us, working in us, and working through us.*

L: Bend your will until it rests safely and firmly in the hand of God, thus changing your minds and hearts to mirror God's will.

P: *We will offer all that we have and are to the Lord's work, until the world gives birth to perfect peace.*

***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.*



JESUS!
Good Shepherd
and Lamb of God