



New Covenant Presbyterian Church
March 6, 2022 10:00am Service



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

The Worship of God

March 6, 2022 First Sunday of Lent

Welcome and Announcements

Lay Leader: Donna Casey

Sharing Our Vision

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Musical Prelude ...



We enter the season of Lent this week – a holy season which demands that we follow Jesus with renewed intention and look at life as he lived it on the way to the cross. If we dare to lean toward the luxury of sliding from the exultation of his transfiguration through the triumph of Palm Sunday to the victory of an empty tomb, we deny ourselves the opportunity to discover the connecting points between Jesus' journey of faith and our own.

There is no doubt that God walks beside us on our journey, and Psalm 91 is not about proving God's existence or trusting God in all circumstances. It is not a guarantee against difficulty, but a promise that as we encounter life's hardships, God will be present, and no one or nothing will be able to separate us from God and God's love.

Preparing to Meet God

Call to Worship

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

P: *And also with you.*

L: Hear what God's Word says to you: I will save those who love me and sing praises to my name.

P: *When we call on the Holy One, God hears us and will answer. When we are in trouble, God will be with us.*

A: *Thanks be to God!*

Hymn # 345

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

*1- Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.*

*3- O Sabbath rest by Galilee,
O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with thee
The silence of eternity,
Interpreted by love!*

*2- In simple trust like theirs who heard,
Beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them, without a word
Rise up and follow thee.*

*4- Drop thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our striving cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of thy peace.*

Prayer of Confession

Listening God, you have been responsive to our prayers, and we come again with our prayers of adoration and confession. The psalmist reminds us that it is good to give thanks to you and to sing praises to your name. Unfortunately, we have spoken your name irreverently at times, and not at all when we might have called upon you with the expectation of your presence and help. We know that you love us and are with us always, but too often our minds are full of worldly things. Forgive us for our lack of faith in your saving power, and our desire to be saved from the consequences of our sin, rather than the sins themselves. 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: Hear the Good News: Everyone who calls out to the Lord for help will be saved.

P: **Scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame."**

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

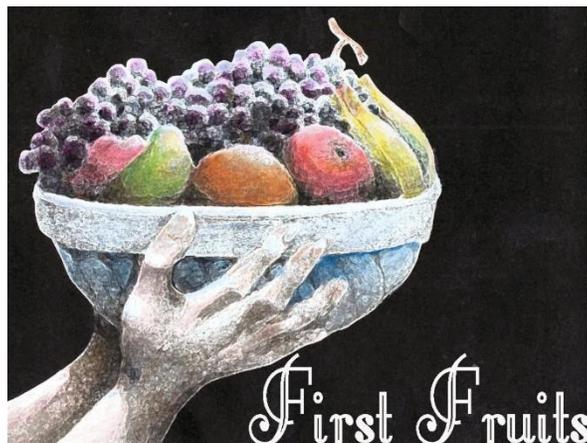
First Lesson

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

First Fruits and Tithes

Lay Leader: Donna Casey

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God:



'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

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

Special Music



You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.' Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your dwelling-place, no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them. With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

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

Sermon

*God is All That We Need –
Our Destination, Our Refuge and Fortress, and our Companion on the Journey*

Responding to the Word

Hymn # 260

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

*1-A mighty fortress is our God,
A bulwark never failing;
Our helper, he amid the flood
Of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
Doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great,
And armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.*

*3-And though this world, with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us;
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim
We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
For lo! His door is sure,
One little word shall fell him.*

*2-Did we in our own strength confide,
Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
The Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he,
Lord Sabaoth his name,
From age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.*

*4-That word above all earthly powers,
No thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
Through him who with us sideth;
Let goods and kindred go,
This mortal life also;
The boy they may kill,
God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.*

Litany of Faith

L: Those who live in the shelter of the Most High, those who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord:

P: *My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.*

L: Those who call for help in times of trouble, who seek strength to make it through another day will say to the Lord:

P: *My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.*

L: Those who wrestle to remain calm and compassionate as the world rages, those who need courage to stand up for truth, will say to the Lord:

P: *My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.*

L: Those who require fresh purpose when the well has run dry, those who seek solace from the fast lanes of life, will say to the Lord:

P: *My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.*

L: Those who dig deep to keep changing the situation, those who need shelter when another storm rages, will say to the Lord:

P: *My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust, listen to me, Holy One, and help me navigate through this life.*

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

+Prayer of Dedication: *Just as your people, Israel, worshiped you in the presentation of the first fruits of the harvest, so may we, your people of Christ's church, worship you in the presentation of our offerings, remembering those in need whom we might help with our blessings. For all the ways you provide for us, holy One, we give you thanks. Amen.*

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation and Prayer of Consecration

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Elements

The Prayer of Thanksgiving



Going Out to Serve

Hymn # 212, vs. 1-4

Within Your Shelter, Loving God
(Sung to tune of *Amazing Grace*)

*1-Within your shelter, loving God,
My refuge and my tower,
I safely walk by day and night
Beneath your guiding power.*

*3-Your holy angels bear me up
And keep my feet secure.
Though fierce and angry foes assail,
In you my way is sure.*

*2-Because I trust in you alone,
No evil shall come near.
The strong defender of my home,
With you I have no fear.*

*4-As often as I call to you,
You kindly hear my prayer.
In times of trouble and distress
I rest in your own care.*

Blessing

L: We have worshiped a holy and loving God -

P: *One who walks beside us, providing guidance and shelter.*

L: May we not take for granted the blessings we have from God,

P: *That our lives might reflect our spirits full of thanksgiving and adoration for our Creator.*

L: And may the blessings of almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit...

Response

*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.*

