

THERE'S NO SHORTAGE
OF ANYTHING YOU NEED.

AND MY GOD SHALL SUPPLY
ALL YOUR NEED ACCORDING
TO HIS RICHES IN GLORY BY
CHRIST JESUS.

PHILIPPIANS 4:19

New Covenant Presbyterian Church

July 18, 2021

Worship Service



1125 Jamison Corner Rd., Middletown, DE 19709

(302) 378-4446 www.newcov-church.org

The Worship of God

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 18, 2021

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Musical Prelude ... Lay Leader – Nancy Carol Willis



What are your expectations of Jesus? What sort of god do you seek? The crowds surrounding Jesus wanted to grab him and make him a king. Have you ever tried to fashion Jesus into the kind of god you would prefer? Are you truly willing to follow the One who gave his life for you, or are you only willing to follow when you agree with him? If you only follow Jesus when you like or agree with him, is Jesus truly LORD of your life?

The story of Jesus feeding the five thousand reveals a great deal about who Jesus was and is, but one thing is clear: Jesus said, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst." (Jn. 6:35) God is our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. God has designed the world in such a way as to provide for all our needs. It is only when we discover that living according to God's plan is what will bring us true fulfillment, that we begin to know what abundant living is. So, are you hungry? Come and give yourself to the One who is the Bread of Life and you will no longer hunger.

Preparing to Meet God

Call to Worship

L: In vain, O God, we have sought satisfaction in the things of space and time.

P: ***Now we come to seek fulfillment in your acts of mercy and grace.***

L: Jesus said, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

P: ***We come to you, Lord; give us what you want us to eat. We believe in you, Lord; give us what you want us to drink, and we will be satisfied.***

♦Hymn of Praise

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

#366

*Jesus, thy boundless love to me, no thoughts can reach, no tongue declare;
O knit my thankful heart to thee, and reign without arrival there!
Thine wholly thine alone, I'd live, myself to thee entirely give.*

*O grant that nothing in my soul may dwell, but thy pure love alone;
O may thy love possess me whole, my joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove; may every act, word, thought be love.*

O Love, how gracious is thy way! All fear before thy presence flies;
Care, anguish, sorrow melt away, where'er thy healing beams arise.
O Jesus, nothing may I see, nothing desire, or seek, but thee.

Prayer of Confession

O God, we are hungry. We are hungry for attention. We are hungry for recognition. We are hungry for love, and sometimes even retaliation. We are hungry for the experiences of life. But are we hungry for YOU? Do we hunger and thirst for YOUR righteousness? Do we hunger for YOUR presence? Do we hunger for YOUR glory? Will we take YOU at your Word? Great God, reveal yourself to us and feed us with the bread of life that we might learn to hunger for you. And now, holy God, we turn to you in a time of silent prayer that we might confess our sins and ask for your forgiveness.....Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

- L: Hear the Good News: Jesus said, "And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should love nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.
- P: ***This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.***
- 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 of Illumination

First Lesson Isaiah 55: 1-9 An Invitation to Abundant Life

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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



Anthem

Lead Me Back, Song of a Prodigal

Pepper Choplin

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.'

Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

For What Do You Hunger?

Responding to the Word

*** Hymn**

I Come with Joy

#507

*I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free,
In awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me,
His life laid down for me.*

*As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
And strangers now are friends.*

*And thus with joy we meet our Lord, his presence, always near.
Is in such friendship better known: We see and praise him here,
We see and praise him here.*

*Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways,
And as his people in the world, we'll live and speak his praise,
We'll live and speak his praise.*

***Affirmation of Faith**

***We believe in a God of free will, who called us into being,
created us a little lower than the angels, and gave us freedom to
accept or reject the love that was offered us by God.***

***We believe in a God of salvation who came to us in Christ Jesus, the unique Son of God. He
was born as a babe in Bethlehem. In his youth, he was a carpenter in Nazareth. As an adult, he***



taught and healed, preached and prayed, and was a friend to the friendless. As a young man he was killed. He died on a cross like any common criminal. In his death, he paid the penalty of sin for all people. The third day after his burial, he arose victorious over sin and death. He now intercedes before the Father in glory for all who call upon his name.

We hold that the meaning of life is found in a faith relationship with Jesus Christ. By following him and his Word, we learn how God wants us to live. We submit to his rule of love in our hearts and we give thanks that God sent the Spirit to guide us in our discipleship. By affirming these beliefs and living by them we will experience the abundant life God desires for us. This is the faith we affirm.

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

God provided all that we need, and so we are called to return a portion of our blessings to God to be used in God's service. We so appreciate all that each of you shares for our church's ministry. May we all give sacrificially for God's glory.

Prayer of Dedication

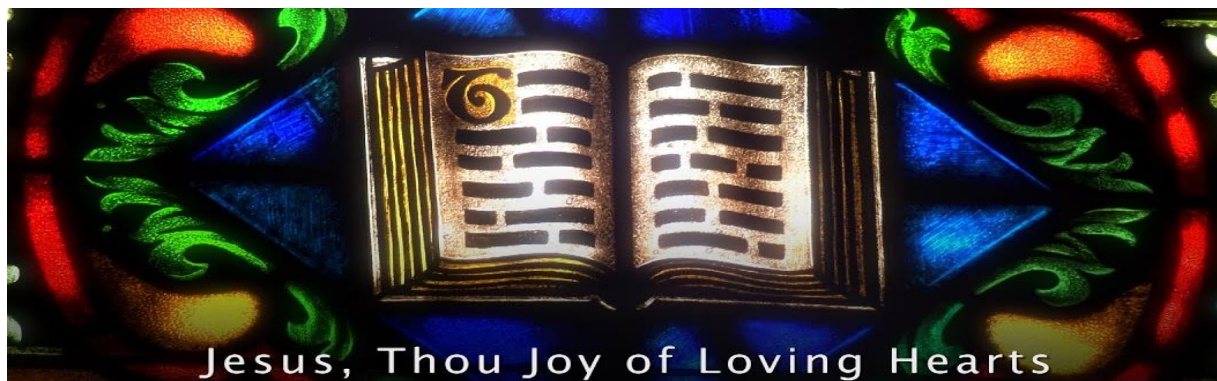
Creator of all life and source of all goodness, transform these tangibles into the intangibles of the Spirit that make the church strong to do your work and accomplish your will in the Spirit of the living God, for it is in your name that we pray. Amen.

Going Out to Serve

***Hymn**

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

#510



Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts, thou fount of life, thou light of all,
From the best bliss that earth imparts, we turn, unfilled, to heed thy call.
Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; thou savest those that on thee call;
To them that seek thee thou art good, to them that find thee, all in all.
We taste thee, o thou living bread, and long to feast upon thee still;
We drink of thee, the fountainhead, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.
Our restless spirits yearn for thee, where'er our changeful lot is cast.
Glad when thy gracious smile we see, blest when our faith can hold thee fast.

*** Blessing**

- L: To him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine,
P: *To him be glory in the church and throughout the world, in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.*
A: *Amen!*
L: And may the blessings of God...



***Response**

He is Lord, 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.

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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