



I have given
them the glory
that you gave
me, that they
may be one as
we are one--

(John 17:22 NIV)

New Covenant Presbyterian Church
May 29, 2022 **10:00am Service**



1125 Jamison Corner Road Middletown, DE
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The Worship of God

May 29, 2022 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Welcome and Announcements

Lay Leader: Georgia Mackay

Sharing Our Vision

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Musical Prelude ...



Once upon a time, there was a flock of doves that flew in search of food, led by their king. One day, they had flown a long distance and were very tired. The dove king encouraged them to fly a little further. The smallest dove picked up speed and found some rice scattered beneath a banyan tree. So all the doves landed and began to eat.

Suddenly a net fell over them and they were all trapped. They saw a hunter approaching carrying a huge club. The doves desperately fluttered their wings trying to get out, but to no avail. The king had an idea. He advised all the doves to fly up together carrying the net with them. He said that there was strength in unity.

Each dove picked up a portion of the net and together they flew off carrying the net with them. The hunter looked up in astonishment. He tried to follow them, but they were flying high over hills and valleys. They flew to a hill near a city of temples where there lived a mouse who could help them. He was a faithful friend of the dove king.

When the mouse heard the loud noise of their approach, he went into hiding. The dove king gently called out to him and then the mouse was happy to see him. The dove king explained that they had been caught in a trap and needed the mouse's help to gnaw at the net with his teeth and set them free.

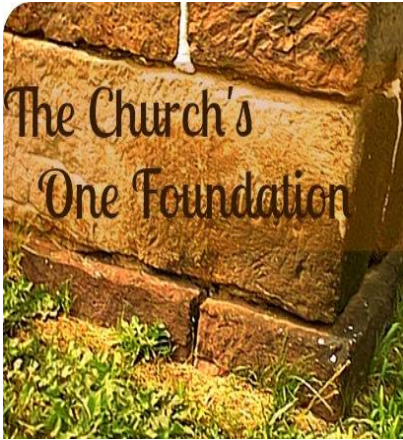
The mouse agreed saying that he would set the king free first. But the king insisted that he first free his subjects and the king last. The mouse understood the king's feelings and complied with his wishes. He began to cut the net and one by one all the doves were freed, including the dove king. They all thanked the mouse and flew away together, united in their strength.

Moral: When you work together, you are stronger.

Preparing to Meet God

Call to Worship

- L:** We are God's church and as the Body of Christ, we are united with all Christians everywhere.
- M:** ***To all who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: We are your brothers in the Lord.***
- W:** ***To you who worship Jesus as Lord and Savior, we are your sisters in the faith.***
- A:** ***We are one in the Spirit. May our lives reflect God's love and blessings that others may be drawn to God.***

Hymn # 442The Church's One Foundation*

*1-The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is his new creation by water and the word;
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.*

*2-Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.*

*3-Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.*

*4-Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.*

Prayer of Confession*Lay Leader*

We might want to point fingers at people in the early church who caused divisions to occur within the Body of Christ, but we have our divisions too. We recognize, O God, that any division among us hurts you, so we ask for your forgiveness. Forgive us for our self interests which compete with the unity of your church. Restore singleness of heart to this Body of Christ, that Christ's death may not be robbed of its power to save and unite us in your common purpose. 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: Jesus prays for us who have believed in him through the word of the apostles.

P: ***Jesus prays that we may be one with him and with each other.***

L: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel -

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

Meeting God in the Word

Children's Message

First Lesson *The Glory of God's Reign*
Psalm 97 *Lay Leader*

The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad! Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. Fire goes before him and consumes his adversaries on every side. His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles. The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.



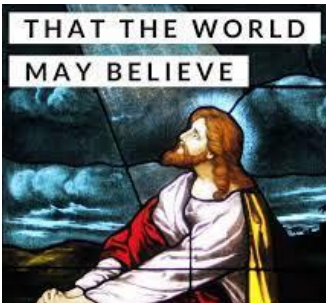
The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory. All worshippers of images are put to shame, those who make their boast in worthless idols; all gods bow down before him. Zion hears and is glad, and the towns of Judah rejoice, because of your judgements, O God. For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

The Lord loves those who hate evil; he guards the lives of his faithful; he rescues them from the hand of the wicked. Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

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

Special Music *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* Bell Choir

Second Lesson *John 17: 20-26* *One in Christ* Carol



'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

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

Sermon**Oneness, Not Sameness**

*It is the beauty of our diversity that strengthens the Body of Christ,
each one giving of him or herself.*

Responding to the Word

Hymn # 435We All Are One in Mission*

*1-We all are one in mission,
We all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united
By Christ, the Lord of all.
A single, great commission,
Compels us from above
To plan and work together
That all may know Christ's love.*

*2-We all are called for service
To witness in God's name;
Our ministries are different,
Our purpose is the same:
To touch the lives of others
By God's surprising grace
So every folk and nation
May feel God's warm embrace.*

*3-Now let us be united
And let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel
For God's redeeming word.
We all are one in mission,
We all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united
By Christ, the Lord of all.*

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 case all my cares upon you.*

The Call to Celebrate Our Gifts

Prayer of Dedication: Your gift of life and all of the ways you bless our lives is priceless, O God. We cannot repay nor match your generosity but we can testify to your goodness by the way we live so that all who know us will come to know you. Receive this offering and our grateful spirits as praise of your holy name. Amen.

Going Out to Serve

Hymn # 561

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

1-My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet lands of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside
Let freedom ring.

2-My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills
Like that above.

3-Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake,
Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

4-Our fathers' God, to thee
Author of liberty,
To thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might,
Great God, our King.

Blessing

L: Let us go, remembering that we are one, even as the Lord our God is one.

P: *Let the faithfulness of our lives and the fullness of our love proclaim to the world that none of God's creatures is ever alone,*

A: *For we are truly one in the Spirit.*

L: And now, 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.*