



**“In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.”**

**New Covenant Presbyterian Church
January 2, 2022 10:00am Service**



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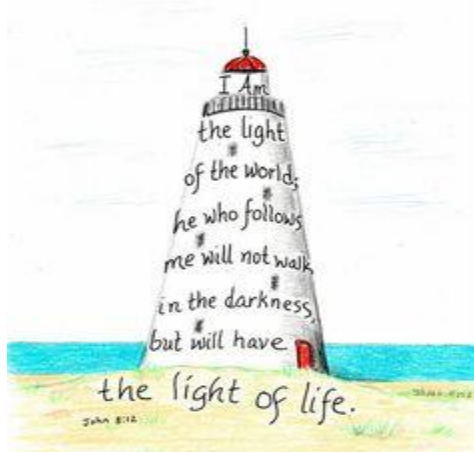
The Worship of God

January 2, 2022 Second Sunday of Christmas

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing Our Vision

Preparing Ourselves for Worship During the Musical Prelude ...



We have seen the glory of God whether we realize it or not – in the wonder of creation as we stop to look at birds, flowers, the sky or the effects of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers. It can move us to tears or inspire us. We can see its beauty, complexity, and truth, sometimes bound up in the simplest of things. We have seen the glory of God when the broken-hearted find hope, and when we personally have experienced God gently removing sin from our lives through forgiveness and reconciliation. And we have known God's glory in the deep wisdom of the Word and its effect on our hearts, bringing us peace, joy, love, kindness, gentleness, and self-control. In the loves of believers, and on the pages of scripture that change our lives, we have known the glory of God because God loved us first. Praise God for sharing the Light of his glory!

Preparing to Meet God

Call to Worship

- L: Arise, shine – for your light has come.
P: ***Because the days have grown dark, we seek the light with which God enlightens the world.***
L: Lift up your eyes and look around.
P: ***We gather as stargazers with those near and far, searching the heavens for the brightest beam.***
L: Then you shall see clearly and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice.
A: ***We give thanks for the Light of the World, for we no longer need to live in darkness, for the Light lives among us.***

Hymn # 53

What Child Is This

Prayer of Confession

God of compassion, we stumble through life one day to the next. How like the Israelites' journey in the wilderness our pilgrimage becomes. We are searching for answers to questions about life, and we become frustrated because our search seems to be unending. Forgive us when we fail to respond to your guidance, which leads us to Christ. Provide us with direction, as vivid as the brightest star in the sky, that following, we may find our Savior and give him our devotion. 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: God has forgiven you for all that you have done to hurt God or your sisters and brothers.

P: *May the peace of Christ dwell in our hearts and in the heart of all God's children.*

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

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

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

Second Reading

John 1: 1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the dark-ness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a wit-ness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

Sermon

Eyes of Faith

Responding to the Word

Hymn # 66

We Three Kings of Orient Are

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:

God of all times and places, many of us return to this place again and again, expecting spiritual refreshment and growth in grace. Bless all that we do to make this a place of renewal for all who will come to Jesus Christ. And use this offering to accomplish your purposes in and through us. 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 # 63

As with Gladness Men of Old

Blessing

The Lighthouse

IT IS A GREAT DEAL BETTER
TO LIVE A HOLY LIFE
THAN TO TALK ABOUT IT.
LIGHTHOUSES DO NOT RING BELLS AND
FIRE CANNONS TO
CALL ATTENTION TO THEIR SHINING.
THEY JUST SHINE.

- D.L. Moody



L: Go forth from this place, continuing to seek God's light, and reflecting it to all who walk in darkness.

P: *We will tell others of God's light in Christ, inviting them to search with us.*

L: With your eyes of faith, search for the Spirit at work even where others see failure, envisioning hope in places of despair.

P: *As we walk through the shadows, we will invoke the brightness of God's presence to walk with us.*

L: As you search for God's star, may you find Christ anew, and may the light of the Holy Spirit bathe you in love.

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.*