

42 Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Unison
♩ = 60
G7sus4 C Dm7 C/E F F/G C(add2) F/C Cmaj9

1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;
2 Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in my heart, in my heart;
3 Lord, I want to be more ho-ly in my heart, in my heart;
4 Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in my heart, in my heart;

G7sus4 Em7 A7(b9) Dm7 G7sus4 C Am7 Abdim7 Gm7

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more ho-ly in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in my heart.

G♭7(b5) Fmaj9 C♯dim7 Dm9 G7sus4 G13 Em7 Em7(b5)/B♭ A13

In my heart, in my heart,

F♯m7(b5) Fm6 Em7 A7(b9) Dm7 G7sus4 C F/C Fm6/C C

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more ho-ly in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in my heart.

rh

WORDS: Traditional spiritual
MUSIC: Traditional spiritual; arr Daniel Charles Damon
Music Arr. © 2022 Hope Publishing Company

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN
Irregular

Sunday, February 2, 2025
4th Sunday after Epiphany



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Pastor Debbie Johnson

"Today"

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Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

Order of Worship: Sunday, February 2, 2025 4th Sunday after Epiphany

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: Jesus is anointed and sent "to proclaim the good news," the gospel. This good news is particularly for the poor. It is also liberty for captives and the oppressed, and new sight for the blind. Of all the Gospels, Luke's is most concerned with the poor and the oppressed. All those who are pushed to the margins of society by their status and suffering are lifted up in the Gospel of Luke.
<https://www.logos.com>

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship: (responsive)

Elder Chris Greenwood

You who are poor, why have you come?

To hear good news.

You who are brokenhearted, why have you come?

To heal our hearts.

You who are captive, why have you come?

To hear words of freedom.

You who are prisoners, why have you come?

To be released from what binds us.

You who mourn, why have you come?

To receive comfort.

Then you are welcome here in this place,
at this table, where Jesus offers blessing for all.

Amen.

Choral Introit "Spirit of the Living God"

*** Hymn: "O for a Thousand Tongues" # 76**

*** Passing the Peace** - *Please turn to your neighbor and pass the peace of Christ*

Current Prayer Concerns:

Diane Ayres, Virginia Miller, Marie McCallister, Thomas Simpson, Chris Hazard, Kent Mitchell, Hudson Day, Amy Etheridge, Bonnie Hancock, Eric Richardson, Lydia Frasca, Diane Devanna, Larry (Black) Blackwell, Kathy Smith, Larry Steele, Mark Payne, Pat and Ben Steele, Joey Martin, Robert Wilkins, Bob & Dee Lebo, Margie Baugher-Cramer, William Steger, and Brian Dypsky, and Christine Ruskin.

**** Please let the office know when a loved one can be moved off our prayer list. Call or text Beth at 862-266-6939 or email the office at ocmdpresbyterian@gmail.com.****

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

Feb 9 Nancy Wright (Ann Hales)

Feb 16 Jonelle Jones

Feb 23 Barb & Betsy Kipila

Pastor Debbie's Info:

Email: djhj3675@gmail.com

Cell phone: (843) 568-6480

Always available by texting or calling.

There will be a congregational meeting following worship on Sunday, February 2 to elect Jonelle Jones as a Deacon. Ordination and installation will take place on Sunday, February 9.

Calendar, Birthdays, Flowers

Tues	Feb	4	Grace Parker Set up	10:00	AM
Tues	Feb	4	Worship Committee	11:00	AM
Wed	Feb	5	Grace Parker Breakfast	7:00	AM
Wed	Feb	5	Choir Practice	6:00	PM
Fri	Feb	7	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00	PM

Birthdays: *Dee Lebo (2/7)*

Flowers: Flowers in the chancel vases are given:

~ In loving memory of my parents, Darrell and Lorraine Rose. Dawn Epperson

~ A basket of flowers is placed with love to a special lady who recently celebrated her birthday on January 28th. Sarah Dypsky, we love you. Church is not quite the same when you're not here.

CHANCEL VASES OPEN FOR DEDICATIONS

February 9 One (1)
February 16 one (1)
February 23 two (2)

New Castle Presbytery Retreat

The New Castle Presbytery is having their retreat for which anyone can attend at the Hyatt Place in Dewey Beach on Friday, February 28 beginning in the morning and ending at noon on Saturday, March 1. Because Pastor Debbie has already registered, any 2 people from this church can attend with a \$100 scholarship. Cost would be \$ 125 for double occupancy and \$ 175 for single occupancy. This includes lunch and dinner on Friday and Saturday breakfast. This is a real steal! There is an option to stay 2 nights if desired, costing more. There is a brochure in the bulletin showing the program titled "Fearless Dialogues." Registration closes February 5.

Call to Confession:

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Waiting God, you know us all too well. We listen to this episode in the life of Jesus. We hear the astonishment of the people gathered in worship as Jesus proclaims the mandate and scope of his ministry. It is what they had hoped for and also what they have feared.

Change and challenge are always difficult. We are more inclined to turn our backs on opportunities of service than pitch in to affect the needed changes that will promote healing and wholeness. Forgive us when we give lip service to you and then slip into inaction. Give us courage to be willing disciples. Help us to be people of promise and hope. In Jesus' Name, we offer this prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: (responsive)

This is the time of God's favor, God's grace continues to proclaim release to the captives, sight to the blind, Good News to the poor and freedom to the oppressed.

We live as loved, forgiven and free people through the grace of God! Hallelujah! Amen.

*** Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end, Amen. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

* **Doxology:** (unison)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly Hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication:

Choral Anthem: "Break Thou the Bread of Life"

Prayer for Illumination: (unison)

God of all creation, send your Holy Spirit among us this day, that the seed of your Word might take root in our hearts, and bear the fruits of peace, love, and justice for all.
Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 [NIV]

Deacon Robin Quinn

¹ all the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel.

² So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. ³ He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the

Mark your calendars the next

Grace Parker Breakfast

Wednesday, February 5 from 7-11 AM.

Helpers Needed—Thank You!!

News from WOW-They recently met and decided to add one more **Grace Parker Breakfast** to the schedule. The last one will now be April 2nd.

We are still looking for congregational members to serve on the following committees: **Fellowship** and **Mission**.

DEACONS GIVING PROJECT

Samaritan Ministries

To support the day to day operation of Samaritan Shelter in Pocomoke.

NEEDS INCLUDE

Cleaning supplies

Paper towels

Toilet paper

Laundry and dishwasher detergents

Paper plates

Zip lock bags

Monetary donations always accepted payable to Samaritan Ministries

O God, for you have baptized us into one body,
and anointed us to proclaim your reign in all the
earth.....

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

The body of Christ broken for you.

The blood of Christ poured out for you.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

(unison)

*** Hymn "Lord, I Want to be a Christian"**
(Back of Bulletin)

Charge: "Three-Fold Amen"

Benediction

Postlude and Response:

Liturgy credit: Laughingbird.net; Joanna Harader in <http://spaciousfaith.com/>; Rev. Gord on <http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca/>; Book of Common Worship; The Rev. Dr. Tara W. Bulger for The Presbyterian Outlook.

For the month of February, we are going to be celebrating in worship, Black History month. This will include one spiritual as a hymn, information on a famous black American, and some liturgy. We are doing this to honor our black brothers and sisters in Christ.

Law. ⁵ Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. ⁶ Ezra praised the Lord, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

⁸ They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

⁹ Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is holy to the Lord your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

¹⁰ Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

2nd Scripture Reading: Luke 4: 14-21 [NIV]

Pastor Debbie Johnson

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me

to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the
prisoners

and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the
attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in
the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began
by saying to them, "Today this scripture is
fulfilled in your hearing."

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Time with Children & Youth
Pastor Debbie Johnson

Sermon: "Today"
Pastor Debbie Johnson

*** Hymn: "Live into Hope"**
(familiar tune: Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates)

1. Live into hope of captives freed, of sight
regained, the end of greed. The oppressed
shall be the first to see the year of God's own
Jubilee!

2. Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight
and with clarity, removing shades of pride and
fear, a vision of our God brought near.

3. Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the
right to be, the right to have one's daily bread,
to hear God's word and thus be fed.

4. Live into hope of captives freed from chains of
fear or want or greed. God now proclaims our full release to faith and
hope and joy and peace.

*** The Nicene Creed (Unison)**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and
unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son
of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from
God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made. For us and for
our salvation he came down from heaven, was
incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human. For our sake he was
crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death
and was buried. On the third day he rose again in
accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into
heaven and is seated at the right hand of the
Father. He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no
end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of
life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of
the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

Let us lift up our hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise,