

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Liturgy for Sunday, January 17, 2021 - 10:30 am



We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: *"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." John 1:14*

Ringling of the Church Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (responsive)

The one who calls you together this day
yearns for each of you and for all people to hear
and be blessed.

Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Blessed is the One who comes bringing
trustworthy words
for the healing of the world.

Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening. Amen.

Prelude

Hymn "Immortal, Invisible" # 25

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light in accessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious—Thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 To all, life Thou givest—to both great and small,
In all life Though livest—the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish—but naught changeth Thee.

4 Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render—O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Holy God, you see into each of us
and know us fully**

as creatures in need of your constant care.

**We confess that we have neither heard your word
nor followed your will.**

**We have failed our nation, neighbors, families, friends,
and ourselves.**

Give us ears to hear your wisdom.

Lead us to honesty and faith

**so that we may begin again with renewed strength;
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

God knows the hearts of those who seek forgiveness,
and by grace we have been saved.

In Jesus' name we are forgiven.

Our sins are no more.

We have been made clean.

God strengthens us with freedom

through the Holy Spirit, in Christ Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Gloria Patri (unison)

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.

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

By your Holy Spirit, O God, open our ears, our eyes,

our hearts, and our minds to the Holy Word

so that it comes to rule within us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

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.**

1st Scripture Reading: Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18 [ESV]

Beth LaBrunda

1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me!
2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
3 You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.
5 You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.
13 For you formed my inward parts;
you knitted me together in my mother's womb.
14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
my soul knows it very well.
15 My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance;
in your book were written, every one of them,
the days that were formed for me,
when as yet there was none of them.
17 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
18 If I would count them, they are more than the sand.
I awake, and I am still with you.

2nd Scripture Reading: John 1: 43-51 [NRSV]

Rev. Dan McKenty

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." 46 Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." 47 When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" 48 Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." 49 Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" 50 Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." 51 And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Sermon: "Come and See"

Rev. Dan McKenty

Hymn "Open My Eyes, That I May See" # 381

1 Open my eyes, that I may see Glimpses of truth Thou has for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key, That shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

2 Open my ears, that I may hear Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, Everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

3 Open my mouth, and let it bear Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart, and let me prepare Love with Thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine! Amen.

Affirmation of Faith (unison)

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sacrament of our Lord's Supper (responsive)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your 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 truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise,
O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.
In your wisdom, you made all things
and sustain them by your power.
You formed us in your image,
setting us in this world to love and to serve you,
and to live in peace with your whole creation.
When we rebelled against you
refusing to trust and obey you,
you did not reject us,
but still claimed us as your own.
You sent prophets to call us back to your way.
Then, in the fullness of time,
out of your great love for the world,
you sent your only Son to be one of us,
to redeem us and heal our brokenness.

Therefore, we praise you,
joining our voices with choirs of angels,
with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
In Jesus, born of Mary, your Word became flesh
and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

In his baptism and in table fellowship he took his place with sinners.
Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a
new covenant by water and the Spirit.

We praise you that Christ now reigns with you in glory,
and will come again to make all things new.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this wine
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,
as we await the day of his coming.
With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you
to be a living and holy sacrifice,
dedicated to your service.

Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God,
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,
that the bread we break
and the cup we bless
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
that we may be one with all who share this feast,
united in ministry in every place.

As this bread is Christ's body for us,
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

In union with your church in heaven and on earth,
we pray, O God, that you will fulfill your eternal purpose
in us and in all the world. Keep us faithful in your service
until Christ comes in final victory,
and we shall feast with all your saints
in the joy of your eternal realm.

**Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,
now and forever.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (unison)

Let us pray for all of God's good creation, our Lord's church, and all those in need saying, God of grace, hear our prayer.

For the church that it continues to be an instrument of your will, giving sanctuary to the needy, promoting your truth and your justice, and standing up to the oppressive powers of this world.
God of grace, hear our prayer.

For our nation's leaders, that they come together to ensure a peaceful transfer of power and recommit to governing with humility, charity and a reverence for our republic and its laws.
God of grace, hear our prayer.

For the poor, the unemployed and the homeless, that they be given shelter, food and the opportunity to provide for themselves and their families. **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

For those who are struggling with sickness, disease, depression and all other crippling maladies of body and mind. **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

Specifically, we pray for

For the world's children that they be spared the agony and the pain of war, hunger, mistreatment, and neglect. **God of grace, hear our prayer.**

Father we know that, through you, all things are possible and so we bind these prayers and petitions together and present them to you in the strong name of your Son, our Lord and

Savior, who taught us to pray to you by saying, **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Hymn “God Be With You” # 602

1 God be with you till we meet again; By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.

2 God be with you till we meet again; ‘Neath His wings protecting hide you,
Daily manna still provide you; God be with you till we meet again.

Charge

Benediction

Postlude “Three-Fold Amen”

Brown Bag Bible Study!

Pastor Dan presents a new Bible study series entitled “Equipping the Saints (that’s y’all!) – The Brown Bag Bible Series” We will first tackle the Book of Acts with a series entitled “Walking with the Spirit.” The idea is to meet together via Zoom every **Thursday from 12:30-1:30**. We will break bread together, discuss the readings and share how the text speaks to our own faith lives. We will also catch up with each other, share joys and concerns and share each other’s company.

Munchings, crunchings,
all welcome so bring your
and join the crowd! A
every Wednesday the day
do is send Pastor Dan or



be included and you will receive the Zoom invite every Wednesday, it’s as simple as that! Because we are doing this via Zoom, we have room for lots of participants so spread the news to your friends and neighbors. Our series kicks off **Thursday, January 21st**. See you there!

slurpings and laughter are
sandwich, salad or shake
Zoom link will be sent
before and all you need
Beth an email asking to

Prayers, Calendar, and More ...

Berlin Nursing Home: For all those whom we're unable to visit or sing with during this time of virus.

Calendar

Thursday, January 21st

Brown Bag Bible Study

12:30 pm (via Zoom)

Birthdays

Tina McKenty (January 17th) and Lydia Frasca (January 19th)

Food Pantry

We are having increased usage of our Church Food Pantry. We're letting our community know about it by way of our outdoor church sign, our website, and through Facebook (if you're on Facebook, please share our post!).

While we are closed for worship and activities, our Pantry is still OPEN for distribution or donations during our normal office hours (Tuesday—Friday 9am—Noon). If you are able to help, we are in need of the following items:

Bread (we keep in the freezer)

Mac & Cheese

Fruit packs

Jell-O snack packs

Tuna

Pasta & sauce

Rice

Canned Veggies

Sunny-D Juice

Instant oatmeal



Prayer for Serenity

God, grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change,
the courage to change the things I can,
and the wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time,
enjoying one moment at a time;
accepting hardship as a pathway to peace;
taking, as Jesus did,
this sinful world as it is,
not as I would have it;
trusting that You will make all things right
if I surrender to Your will;
so that I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with You forever in the next.

Amen.

Reinhold Niebuhr