

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again,

“Here am I and the children whom God has given me.”

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Hebrews 2: 10-18

First Sunday After Christmas Sunday, January 1, 2023



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Rev. Dan McKenty - Pastor

“Out of Egypt”

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Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday - Friday

First Sunday After Christmas

Sunday, January 1, 2023

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: "When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son." Hosea 11:1

Ringling of the Church Bell Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: (responsive)

Deacon Karen Eberle

With what shall I come before the Lord?

I will give God my first and my best.

I will not offer to the Lord that which has cost me nothing,
but will return to God every good and perfect gift. Great is God's faithfulness! Amen.

Prelude

Choral Introit: "Joy to the World"

* Hymn: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" #138

* Passing the Peace

Sharing our Concerns, Joys, and Affirmations

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Lord Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit we celebrated your birth with song and prayer. All too often we let the season pass quickly and we resume our lives leaving you behind in that wee small manger. Forgive us Lord, forgive our haste and our distractions. Lead us back to that manger where you lie and teach us to cradle you in our own arms and carry you with us as we journey forward. To you who was born to us meek and humble and holy we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Do not fear says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Household Prayer: Morning

Creator God,
as I begin this day,
open my eyes, my ears,
all my senses
to the beauty around me.
Help me to see how mountains and trees
rise up in praise of you.
Help me to hear how the birds of the air,
the whales in the deep,
and the wild animals on the ground
sing your praises.
Help me to join another,
or many others,
in praise of your glory
not only today,
but even forever. Amen!

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God,
as the evening comes,
and with it the moon and shining stars,
I know that you are the Light
in every darkness.
Shine, then, upon anyone who is troubled this night.
Shine, then, upon the troubles I have known.
Help me to put my trust in you,
for I am your child,
and you have come to help me;
you help all whom you have drawn close.
I pray in the name of Jesus Christ,
my brother and Savior. Amen.

Current Prayer Concerns: Amy Etheridge, Larry Weems, Dawn Butler, Connie Ellis, Bonnie Hancock, Ed Hurd, Margie Bauer Cramer, Eric Richardson, Samantha Kilgore, Janice Beckham, Jim Phillips, Lakelyn Draheim, Russ Shallcross, Carol Nelson, Joyce & Jack Vavrek, Bob Lebo, Tanya Ehlers, Lydia Frasca, and Diane Devanna.

Those homebound or undergoing treatment: John Snyder

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

Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Sun, Jan 1	Boy Scout Troop # 2173	4:00 PM
Tues, Jan 3	Mobile Showers	9:00 AM
Wed, Jan 4	Food Pantry	9:00AM
Wed, Jan 4	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Fri, Jan 6	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

Birthdays: Lisa Bayles (1/06)

Flowers:

A basket of flowers is placed in memory of our mother, Juanita Mumford, as she celebrates her 91st birthday on January 2nd in Heaven with Irv, Sue and her parents. ~ *David And Julie and Danny and Liz*

The basket of white daisies, baby's breath and red roses is in honor of my dear wife Lisa and the celebration of her birthday on January 6th. There are times when words cannot adequately express how I feel about you. I just thank our Lord every day for your love and the blessings He's given us.
~ *I love you, Buzzy*

* 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.

Invitation to the Offering

As the Magi were generous in giving their gifts to the Christ child, let us be generous in giving to Christ's church. Let us give of our time, our talent, and our treasure, all three given first to us by God.

* 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

Lord Jesus, we give today but a small fraction of what you have given us. Send your Spirit to help us that we may use these gifts to love, to heal, and to comfort giving you glory in all that we do. Amen.

Moment for Mission - Marty Cropper

Choral Anthem: "Everywhere Christmas Tonight"

Prayer for Illumination (union)

Everlasting God, a thousand years in your sight are like a watch in the night. As you have led us in days past, so guide us now and always, that our hearts will learn to choose your will, and new resolves be strengthened; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9 [NRSV]

Barbara Kipila

⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his

steadfast love.⁸ For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully," and he became their savior⁹ in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

2nd Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:13-23 [NRSV]

Rev. Dan McKenty

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi.¹⁷ Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:¹⁸ "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said,²⁰ "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead."²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee.²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."

Time with Children & Youth

Rev. Dan McKenty

Sermon: "Out of Egypt"

Rev. Dan McKenty

Give us the will to work for justice and peace
and the courage to follow you into every place.

We thank you for dreamers and visionaries
who respond with imagination and joy

to what you are doing in the church and in the world,
as we remember them before you . . .

As a new year dawns, we know that all our times are in your
hand.

We entrust ourselves and those we love to your care and we
pray the prayer taught to us 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: "One Small Child" #164**

Charge

Benediction

Response and Postlude "Three-Fold Amen"

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

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

God of steadfast love,
we thank you in this joyful Christmastide
for all the blessings we enjoy:
the shelter of home and the comfort of family and friends;
the company of the faithful with whom we celebrate Christ's
coming;
and for your love, which shines as a light in the darkness.
For these and many other blessings besides, we offer our
thanks and praise.

God of mercy,
in this holy season, there are people in need of your tender
mercies: we pray for those who are ill and for those who are
recovering; for those whose sadness is made heavier
by memories of Christmases past or by some present pain.
We pray for those who do not have enough:
enough food, enough money, enough companionship,
enough hope.
Because there is not yet peace on earth,
we pray for those in harm's way.
Protect them from war, violence, and cruel oppression.
For these and many other needs, we offer our intercessions.
And we pray for

God of hope,
through long ages, you have given to your people dreams
and a vision of the time when there will be no more war,
no more pain or sorrow, no more death.
We pray this day for the time to be fulfilled,
when we will be reconciled to one another,
to all creation,
to you.
Fill us with hope as we wait upon your coming realm.

* Hymn "How Great Our Joy" #144

* Affirmation of Faith - 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.

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 holy God, creator, and ruler of the universe.

You created light out of darkness
and brought forth life on the earth.
You formed us in your image
and called us to love and serve you.
When we were unfaithful
and turned from your ways,
You did not forsake us,
Your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and sent prophets to call us back to your way.
In the fullness of time
you sent your only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Saviour.
In him, your Word, dwelling with you from all eternity,
became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth,
and we beheld your glory, Immanuel!

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial
choirs and with the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name.

**Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty,
who was and is and is to come.
Blessings and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever!**

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Born in humility,
he came to rule over all.
Helpless as an infant,
he showed the power of your love.
Poor in things of the world,
he brought the wealth of your grace.
Rejected by many,
he welcomed all who sought him

In his dying and rising,
you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin
and death, and made us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

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

Christ is the bread of life.
**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the saving death of our risen Lord
until he comes in glory.**

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 the 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.

Empower us by your Spirit, O God,
to be Christ's presence in the world
even as Jesus was God-with-us.
Give us courage
to speak his truth,
to seek his justice,
and to love his love.
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.