



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
MILFORD

July 19, 2020
8th Sunday of Pentecost

REFLECTION

Celebrating Jesus Christ, Fulfiller of God's Covenant with Moses: The Exodus, Drama of Christ's Deliverance

When the time had fully come
God sent forth his redeemer, Moses,
to rescue his people from Egypt's slave pits.
The Exodus was God's mighty act of salvation
for his people of old.

But blessed be the Lord Jesus Christ,
a Redeemer greater than great Moses:
in his dying and in his rising
he leads all God's people
out of their enslavement to
sin, death, and the power of the devil,
our great enemies.

Stand by and watch God do his saving work!
Go forth in confidence and
follow the lead of his light through the wilderness
into the Promised Land of glory!

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EIGHTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

Advent + Christmas + Epiphany + Lent + Easter + Pentecost

Gathering Hymn ○ Church Arise

○ church arise and put your armour on
Hear the call of Christ our Captain
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies
An army bold whose battle cry is Love
Reaching out to those in darkness

Our call to war to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valour
When faced with trials on every side
We know the outcome is secure
And Christ will have the prize for which He died
An inheritance of nations

Come see the cross where love and mercy meet
As the Son of God is stricken
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet
For the Conqueror has risen
And as the stone is rolled away
And Christ emerges from the grave
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him

So Spirit come put strength in every stride
Give grace for every hurdle
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful
As saints of old still line the way
Retelling triumphs of His grace
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in glory

— God + calls + cleanses + speaks + strengthens + sends —

Call to Worship Psalm 105:1-2, 23, 37-43

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;

make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him; **tell of all his wondrous works!**

Israel came to Egypt; **Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham.**

He brought out Israel with silver and gold, and there was none among his tribes who stumbled. Egypt was glad when they departed, for dread of them had fallen upon it. He

spread a cloud for a covering, and fire to give light by night. They asked, and he brought quail, and gave them bread from heaven in abundance.

He opened the rock, and water gushed out; it flowed through the desert like a river. For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant.

So he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing!

Invocation

Old Testament Lesson Exodus 14:5-8, 10, 13-14, 21-22, 31

Praise Hymn Psalm 84

— God + calls + cleanses + speaks + strengthens + sends —

Confession of Sin Exodus 14:11-12

They said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.”

Individual Confession

Absolution Psalm 105:42–45

For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant.
So he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing.
And he gave them the lands of the nations,
and they took possession of the fruit of the peoples' toil,
that they might keep his statutes and observe his laws.
Praise the LORD!

1. How love - ly, LORD of hosts, to me The tab - er - nac - les
 2. The spar - row has her place of rest; The swal - low through Thy
 3. *Blest they who in Thy house a - bide; To Thee they ev - er*
 4. *Ad - vanc - ing still from strength to strength They go where oth - er*
 5. Look Thou, O God, up - on our Shield; The face of Thine A -
 6. For God the LORD is shield and sun; The LORD will grace and

of Thy grace! O how I long, yes, faint to see Je -
 kind - ly care Has found where she may build her nest And
ren - der praise. Blest they who in Thy strength con - fide, And
pil - grims trod, Till each to Zi - on comes at length And
 noint - ed see; One day with - in Thy courts will yield More
 glo - ry give. No good will He with - hold from one Who

ho - vah's courts, His dwell - ing place! My heart and flesh with
 brood her young in safe - ty there. Thine al - tars as my
in whose heart are pil - grims' ways. They make the vale of
stands be - fore the face of God. LORD God of hosts, my
 good than thou - sands with - out Thee. I'd rath - er stand near
 does up - right - ly walk and live. O LORD of hosts, how

joy draw nigh As to the liv - ing God I cry.
 rest I sing, O LORD of hosts, my God, my King,
tears a spring, With showers of bless - ings cov - er - ing,
plead - ing bear; O Ja - cob's God, to me give ear.
 my God's house Than dwell in tents of wick - ed - ness.
 blest is he Who plac - es all his trust in Thee!

Thanksgiving Hymn **Song of Moses**

Oh the Lord our strength and song
Highest praise to Him belongs
Christ the Lord the conquering King
Your name we raise Your triumphs sing

Chorus

Praise the Lord our mighty warrior
Praise the Lord the glorious One
By His hand we stand in victory
By His name we overcome

Though the storms of hell pursue
In darkest night we worship You
You divide the raging sea
From death to life You safely lead

Chorus

All the saints and angels bow
Hosts of heaven crying out
Glory glory to the King
You reign for all eternity

Chorus

New Testament Lesson **Luke 1:67–79**

Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Alleluia **Celtic Alleluia**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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New Testament Lesson Acts 10

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Sermon “The Acts of the Ascended Christ, 11” | Pastor Curran Bishop

Response Hymn Days of Elijah

These are the days of Elijah
Declaring the Word of the Lord
And these are the days
Of Your servant Moses
Righteousness being restored
And though these are days
Of great trials
Of famine and darkness and sword
Still we are the voice
In the desert crying
Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Chorus

Behold He comes
Riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun
At the trumpet call
So lift your voice
It's the year of Jubilee
And out of Zion's hill
Salvation comes

And these are the days of Ezekiel
The dry bones becoming as flesh
And these are the days
Of Your servant David
Rebuilding a temple of praise

And these are the days of the harvest
The fields are as white in the world
And we are the laborers
In Your vineyard
Declaring the Word of the Lord

Chorus

There is no God like Jehovah (repeat 6x)

Chorus

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Bringing Our Life to God

Profession | Collection | Prayers

Prayers of the People

Collection

Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Questions 52 & 56

Christians, what do you believe?

In all my distress and persecution, I turn my eyes to the heavens and confidently await as Judge the very One who has already stood trial in my place before God and so has removed the whole curse from me. I believe that God, because of Christ's atonement, will never hold against me any of my sins nor my sinful nature which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather in his grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment.

Communion in Christ Jesus

All Christians are invited to join us to receive Christ's presence of bread and wine. During this time of social distancing we offer for our pastor to come and bless your partaking of elements you provide to preserve the corporate-presence of Christ pictured in the supper as best we can. If you've been part of our streaming service please text Curran (203-812-9928) to set up a time he can meet you (from a distance) to celebrate communion.

Communion Hymn How Sweet and Awesome is the Place

1. How sweet and awe - some is the place
2. While all our hearts and all our songs
3. "Why was I made to hear your voice,
4. 'Twas the same love that spread the feast

with Christ with - in the doors, while ev - er - last - ing
join to ad - mire the feast, each of us cries, with
and en - ter while there's room, when thou - sands make a
that sweet - ly drew us in; else we had still re -

love dis - plays the choic - est of her stores.
thank - ful tongue, "Lord, why was I a guest?
wretch - ed choice, and rath - er starve than come?"
fused to taste, and per - ished in our sin.

5. Pity the nations, O our God,
constrain the earth to come;
send your victorious Word abroad,
and bring the strangers home.

6. We long to see your churches full,
that all the chosen race
may, with one voice and heart and soul,
sing your redeeming grace.

Prayer for those searching

Oh God, I am discovering that the more I have, the more I need to have, the more I am loved, the more I need to be loved, the more I achieve, the more I need to achieve. Nothing seems to satisfy me. Could it be, as someone once said, that “Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in thee.” Dear God, if this is true, and if as the Bible teaches there is life and life eternal in Christ alone, please guide me to Him. Open me to the reality of the One who alone can satisfy my restless heart. Give me the courage to believe that which I cannot see but can understand, feel and touch through the Word, sacraments and church family. Lord I want to believe, help my unbelief! Amen.

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Benediction Psalm 90:16–17

Let your work be shown to your servants,
and your glorious power to their children.
Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
and establish the work of our hands upon us;
yes, establish the work of our hands!

Coronation Hymn Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise Him, all creatures here below!
Praise Him above, you heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen!

Announcements

REFLECTION

A Post-Cross Meditation on the Exodus

Israel thought she knew her enemies: they spoke Egyptian and worshipped cats and wallowed in the pride of their culture built on an economy of oppression and slavery. “We have met the enemy—and thank God we are being delivered from him by this fellow, Moses!”

But Israel misunderstood. Do I understand? Egypt was a mirror upon which the people of God could see their own soul reflected. All my enemies typify my heart, the sin in my soul. God came to save me from myself. I am enslaved to self-pity, to lust, to laziness, to arrogance, to a complaining spirit. I am bent in on myself, like all of us. We would be as gods to ourselves—perhaps not terribly base or wicked, only quite in charge. Do we understand? We have met the enemy—and he is us.

○ Lord Jesus, you came not only to save me but to show me my enemies. Because of your great love **death** shall rattle me in the end but shall not ruin me; the **devil** may taunt and tempt and try me, but his back has been broken and I shall stand one day, my foot on his neck. In your triumph over these, my enemies, I greatly rejoice.

But that **I myself** am the third great enemy you came to save me from? Does the Exodus really teach me that the pagan self-will and falseness of Egypt was all left behind in Egypt? Or rather that some was carried through the parted sea in the sin-sick hearts of your people? Must I die as well as my enemies if I am to be saved? Is it I myself that I despise and seek to be rescued from as my own worst enemy? Must I drown the old man in me daily? Must I call myself an idol worshipper and confess a pagan heart prone to wander before I am consoled in the sweet truth that by Mercy I am a chosen child of God?

○ wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?
(Romans 7:24)

Did Christ at the cross slay me that I might live? I am Israel and I am Egypt; I am the beloved and I am the oppressor of my own soul.

Who will deliver me? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! Grant then Lord, that freed from myself, I might live enslaved to you forever. For then I shall be myself. Amen.

—Ron Lutjens

COMING UP

Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting – 7pm

In the midst of pandemic, financial crisis and social isolation we need each other, and we need God. Please join us as we follow a short prayer and scripture liturgy, pray for each other, and have some “digital fellowship“ while staying home and staying safe.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/823911975> Meeting ID: 823 911 975

Rooted: Applying the Essentials of the Faith – 8pm

We're doing an online training in partnership with Christ Pres. Fairfield looking at what the Bible teaches, how to read the Bible faithfully, and what Presbyterians believe. This is also the introduction to any leadership role in the the church: Sunday school teacher, ministry coordinator, community group leader, elder, etc.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88538451252> Meeting ID: 885 3845 1252

Congregational Meeting

Following worship we will have a brief congregational meeting to go over the 2020-21 budget and ministry plan.

Contact us

203.812.9928 or curran.bishop@cpcmilford.org; find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/CPCMilford](https://www.facebook.com/CPCMilford) or visit us online at [cpcmilford.org](https://www.cpcmilford.org)



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