



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
MILFORD

February 6, 2022
5th Sunday after Epiphany

REFLECTION

Celebrating Christ Our Brother, In His Estate of Humiliation: Birth

Kenosis

In sleep his infant mouth works in and out.
He is so new, his silk skin has not yet
been roughed by plane and wooden beam
nor, so far, has he had to deal with human doubt.

He is in a dream of nipple found,
of blue-white milk, of curving skin
and, pulsing in his ear, the inner throb
of a warm heart's repeated sound.

His only memories float from fluid space.
So new he has not pounded nails, hung a door
broken bread, felt rebuff, bent to the lash,
wept for the sad heart of the human race.

— *Lucy Shaw*

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Advent + Christmas + Epiphany + Lent + Easter + Pentecost

Gathering Hymn

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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

Call to Worship

Hebrews 10:5-7a

“when Christ came into the world, he said,

**“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body have you prepared for me;**

in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said,

‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God’”

Γ D A⁷ D A Γ D G D A⁷ D

1. Come, thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

A⁷ D A D G D A⁷ D

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

A⁷ D G D A⁷ D G D

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God:
 Prone to wan - der—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:

A⁷ D A Γ D G D A⁷ D Γ

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Invocation

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 53:1-3

Praise Hymn

Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in His hands
Who has numbered every grain of sand
Kings and nations tremble at His voice
All creation rises to rejoice

Chorus

Behold our God seated on His throne
Come let us adore Him
Behold our King nothing can compare
Come let us adore Him

Who has given counsel to the Lord
Who can question any of His words
Who can teach the One who knows all things
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds

Chorus

Who has felt the nails upon His hands
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man
God eternal humbled to the grave
Jesus Savior risen now to reign

Chorus

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

Confession of Sin

from I Corinthians 1:20-25

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age?
Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

But Lord, we have trusted its wisdom.

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.

But Lord, the wisdom of the world is so ensnaring.

For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

But Lord, we want the comfort of signs and what passes for wisdom.

For the foolishness of God is wiser than men,
and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

Individual Confession

Absolution

2 Corinthians 1:21

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin,
so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Thanksgiving Hymn

Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor

New Testament Lesson

John 1:1–5, 9-14a; Luke 2:1-7

Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you!

And also with you!

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!

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

Sermon Text

Psalm 56

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Ben Sheldon, church planter, New London, CT

1. Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor, all for love's sake be -
 2. Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing, all for love's sake be -
 3. Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing, Sav - ior and King, we

cam - est poor; thrones for a man - ger didst sur - ren - der,
 cam - est man; stoop - ing so low, but sin - ners rais - ing,
 wor - ship thee. Em - man - u - el, with - in us dwell - ing,

sap - phire - paved courts for sta - ble floor. Thou who wast rich be -
 heav'n - ward by thine e - ter - nal plan. Thou who art God be -
 make us what thou wouldst have us be. Thou who art love be -

yond all splen - dor, all for love's sake be - cam - est poor.
 yond all prais - ing, all for love's sake be - cam - est man.
 yond all tell - ing, Sav - ior and King, we wor - ship thee.

Response Hymn

Jesus Messiah

He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing love so amazing

Chorus

Jesus Messiah Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The Rescue for sinners
The Ransom from heaven
Jesus Messiah Lord of all

His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn
Love so amazing love so amazing

Chorus

All our hope is in You
All our hope is in You
All the glory to You God
The Light of the world

Chorus

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

Bringing Our Life to God

Prayers | Collection | Profession

Prayers of the People

Collection

Text **MNA 1708** to **76959** and follow the prompts or visit
give.pcamna.org/to/1708/

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

Break me, melt me, Mold me, fill me,

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

Confession of Faith Westminster Larger Catechism (1647), Question 47

How did Christ humble himself in his conception and birth?

Christ humbled himself in his conception and birth, in that, being from all eternity the Son of God, in the bosom of the Father, he was pleased in the fulness of time to become the son of man, made of a woman of low estate, and to be born of her; with divers circumstances of more than ordinary abasement.

Communion in Christ Jesus

All Christians are invited to receive Christ's presence of bread and wine. When directed please take your bulletin, stand and form a circle around the worship space. Whether you intend to take communion or not, please join us in the circle. If you are not able to stand, please move your chair into the circle. We serve wine in the outer rings of the tray in the Lord's Supper, believing it to be the Biblical element used. We provide grape juice in the inner rings for those who, out of conscience or for health, do not drink wine.

Communion Hymn Lamb of God (Verses 1, 2 & Chorus)

Your only Son no sin to hide
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God

Your gift of love they crucified
They laughed and scorned Him as He died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God

Chorus

Oh Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God
Oh wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

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.

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

Coronation Hymn

Lamb of God (Verse 3, Chorus)

I was so lost I should have died
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God

Chorus

Oh Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
Oh wash me in His precious blood
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

SERMON NOTES

REFLECTION

Where you would have expected angels, there were only flies. Where you would have expected heads of state there were only donkeys, a few haltered cows, a nervous ball of sheep, a tethered camel, and a furtive scurry of curious barn mice. Except for Joseph, there was no one to share Mary's pain. Or her joy. Yes, there were angels announcing the Savior's arrival—but only to a band of blue-collar shepherds. And yes, a magnificent star shone in the sky to mark his birthplace—but only three foreigners bothered to look up and follow it. Thus, in the little town of Bethlehem... that one silent night... the royal birth of God's Son tiptoed quietly by... as the world slept.

– Ken Gire

Psalm 56

P L G R A C I O U S N Y L U C
A Q V J T W K U F R P G J U R
I H Z P B C S Q K X T T G H R
L P B Z T J H K J H Y C T V K
J E A D K Y P Q T J F M Q O P
H F K R C D B D E H L T T F K
Z J H C J D F B O I I H R P I
Q N O E I O S S V V F O U F R
L M W A L K F E Q P E U S F S
V O R J E E I F H B V G T N T
Q F X H Z A H V E W M H H H E
A M B J G E F T O R B T F D A
O J L I G H T I F V I S N T R
R K U B P S H L C S T N O F S
K N I M S D S Y Y O F D G Q Y

DOVE
GRACIOUS
AFRAID
TRUST
THOUGHTS
EVIL
TEARS
OFFERING
LIGHT
LIFE
WALK

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Group | We'll meet tonight at the Costens' house at 5:30pm for a meal and community-building time. Check the weekly email for a link to sign up to bring a dish, drink or side.

Men's Breakfast | Wednesdays at 7am, Pop's Restaurant (134 Old Gate Ln.). A space for community, important questions, and understanding. Feel free to invite friends, coworkers, and neighbors.

Thursday Night Prayer Meeting | 7-7:50pm. Regular prayer for each other, our community, our world and the redemptive work of God is essential to our mission. Please join us as we follow a short prayer and scripture liturgy and pray for each other.
[Zoom link](#) | Meeting ID: 899 5618 6470 | Passcode: 355978

Sunday Worship | We'll meet at the Fowler Building (parking at I Shipyard Ln.) at 11:00am through the month of February.

Men's & Women's Bible Studies | Men meet Saturday 2/19, women on Saturday 2/26 from 9-10:30am. Email questions for either study to info@cpcmilford.org.

Men's & Women's Monthly Fellowship | Generally 3rd Fridays, rotating months: women will meet Feb. 18 at 7:30pm. Details to follow. RSVP to info@cpcmilford.org.

Contact us

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