



CHRIST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
MILFORD

August 9, 2020  
11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

## REFLECTION

---

### **Celebrating Jesus Christ, Fulfiller of God's Covenant with Moses: Christ, the True Temple of God**

Blessed be God  
for giving us the Old Covenant temple  
in all its elaborate beauty,  
to be a shadow of the Great Beauty who is Christ,  
the very fullness of Deity!

In the great mysterious Temple  
where he met his people,  
God allowed his just wrath to be appeased  
by the blood of animals, and looked ahead  
to the all-atoning sacrifice of his one and only Son.  
Praise be to his Name!

In heaven now, the eternal dwelling place of God,  
the worship of Jesus is pure and unbroken.  
O sing to the Lord you who by faith  
have become his temple;  
Sing to the Lord in the beauty of holiness.  
Alleluia!

.....

### ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

Advent + Christmas + Epiphany + Lent + Easter + Pentecost

### **Gathering Hymn**    Here I am to Worship

Light of the world;  
You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes let me see  
Beauty that made;  
This heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

**Chorus:**

So here I am to worship;  
Here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God  
And You're altogether lovely;  
Altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days;  
Oh so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly You came;  
To the earth You created  
All for love's sake became poor

**Chorus**

And I'll never know how much it cost;  
To see my sin upon that cross (repeat)

**Chorus**

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

**Call to Worship**    Psalm 96:6-10

Splendor and majesty are before him;  
    strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.  
Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,  
    ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!  
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
    bring an offering, and come into his courts!  
Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;  
    tremble before him, all the earth!

**Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!**

**Yes, the world is established;**

**it shall never be moved he will judge the peoples with equity."**

Invocation

**Old Testament Lesson:** I Kings 8:6, 10-12, 20, 27-30

**Praise Hymn**            Within Thy Temple Lord

Within Thy temple, Lord,  
In that most holy place,  
We on Thy loving-kindness dwell,  
the wonders of Thy grace.  
Men sing Thy praise, O god,  
Where'er Thy Name is known;  
by every deed Thy hand has wrought  
Thy righteousness is shown.

Let Zion's mount rejoice,  
and all her children sing;  
Let them with thankfulness proclaim  
The judgments of their King.  
Mount Zion's walls behold,  
About her ramparts go,  
And number ye the lofty towers  
That guard her from the foe.

Observe her palaces,  
Mark her defenses well,  
That to the sons that follow you  
Her glories you may tell;  
For God as our own God  
Forever will abide,  
And till life's journey close in death  
Will be our faithful Guide.

## Confession of Sin

Almighty God and Eternal father,  
in whose heart the quality of mercy is never strained,  
we confess now,  
that we have not loved you with all our heart and soul,  
with all our mind and strength;  
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.

We ask you O Lord,  
to forgive what we have been,  
amend what we are,  
and grant hope for what we yet will be.

Then by the power of his spirit,  
we will follow till we die  
the example of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
the bearer of all our guilt  
And lover of our inmost soul. Amen.

## Individual Confession

### **Absolution**            Hebrews 9:11–14

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

## Thanksgiving Hymn

## Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong and perfect plea  
A great High Priest whose name is Love  
Who ever lives and pleads for me  
My name is graven on His hands  
My name is written on His heart  
I know that while in heav'n He stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart (repeat)

When Satan tempts me to despair  
And tells me of the guilt within  
Upward I look and see Him there  
Who made an end to all my sin  
Because the sinless Saviour died  
My sinful soul is counted free  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me (repeat)

Behold Him there the risen Lamb  
My perfect spotless righteousness  
The great unchangeable I Am  
The King of glory and of grace  
One with Himself I cannot die  
My soul is purchased with His blood  
My life is hid with Christ on high  
With Christ my Saviour and my God (repeat)

I bow before the cross of Christ  
And marvel at this love divine  
God's perfect Son was sacrificed  
To make me righteous in God's eyes  
This river's depths I cannot know  
But I can glory in its flood  
The Lord Most High has bowed down low  
And poured on me His glorious love (repeat)

## Gospel Lesson

John 2:13-22

## Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you!

**And also with you!**

## 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.

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

## New Testament Lesson Acts 13

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon** “The Acts of the Ascended Christ, 14” | Pastor Curran Bishop

**Response Hymn** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

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

## Bringing Our Life to God

Profession | Collection | Prayers

## Prayers of the People

## Collection

## Confession of Faith

The Second Helvetic Confession (1564)

The Church is the Temple of the Living God:

**This holy Church of God is called the temple of the living God, built of living and spiritual stones and founded upon a firm rock, upon a foundation which no other can lay, and therefore it is called "the pillar and bulwark of the truth" (I Tim. 3:15).**

1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the  
 2. A help - er just he comes to thee, his char - iot  
 3. O blest the land, the cit - y blest, where Christ the  
 4. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is  
 is hu - mil - i - ty, his king - ly crown is  
 Rul - er is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and  
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for

draw - ing near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.  
 ho - li - ness, his scep - ter, pi - ty in dis - tress.  
 hap - py homes to whom this King in tri - umph comes!  
 heav'n's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.

5. Redeemer, come! I open wide  
 my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide!  
 Let me thy inner presence feel;  
 thy grace and love in me reveal.

6. So come, my Sovereign, enter in!  
 Let new and nobler life begin!  
 Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on,  
 until the glorious crown be won.

## **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.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven  
Reveal who you are  
Set the world right; Do what is best; As above so below  
Keep us alive with three square meals  
Keep us safe from the Devil and ourselves  
Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others  
You are in charge; You can do anything; You are beautiful  
You are in charge; You can do anything; You are beautiful  
Amen

## **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 —

## **Benediction**          Jude 24–25

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

## **Coronation Hymn**

## **We Will Feast in the House of Zion**

### **Chorus**

We will feast in the house of Zion  
We will sing with our hearts restored  
He has done great things we will say together  
We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire  
He is the Lord our God  
We are not consumed by the flood  
Upheld protected gathered up

### **Chorus**

In the dark of night before the dawn  
My soul be not afraid  
For the promised morning oh how long  
Oh God of Jacob be my strength

### **Chorus**

Every vow we've broken and betrayed  
You are the faithful one  
And from the garden to the grave  
Bind us together bring shalom

## **Announcements**

## REFLECTION

---

### **God's Temple is Christ.**

That is where we must go to meet God: to Christ. And who can possibly plumb the depths of the beauty of his moral perfection and the beauty of the majesty of his being!

But coming to Christ we see more than that he is the True Temple; we see also that he draws up into his beauty all who are baptized into him and who love him, and he makes them a temple, fit for the presence of the glory-laden God of all things. Meditate this week also on Ephesians 2:19-22 and let it teach you to think highly of yourself and your brothers and sisters in the Lord as the temple of God. This morning we are claiming for little Anna the promise that she too is the dwelling place of the Triune God.

Even in our "classless" society you can tell something of the wealth of people by the richness of the homes they live in. In the same way, God, wanting us to know that Christ is the fount and source of all that is beautiful and all that is rich, had Solomon build him a magnificent house to prefigure his Son. And this lordly One, is the same one who loves you and me, little people that we are!

— Ron Lutjens

## COMING UP

---

### **THURSDAY Night Prayer Meeting – 7pm, August 6 (new day!)**

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

### **Wednesday Night BBQ in the Hill – August 19.**

We will be helping Christ Pres in the Hill by volunteering at their BBQ outreach at [Trowbridge Square Park](#) (across from 122 Carlyle St.). Volunteers needed from 4:45 to help hand out pre-made dinners. Please email [info@cpcmilford.org](mailto:info@cpcmilford.org) for more info.

### **Worship Location Schedule**

- August 16, 23, 30, Sept 6, 20 - [1 Shipyard Ln., Milford, CT 06460 \(Fowler Field Pavilion\)](#)
- August 9, Sept. 13, 27 - [165 Forest Rd, Milford, CT 06461](#)

### **Contact us**

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



**CHRIST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
MILFORD**

CCLI License # 20088182