



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
MILFORD

August 16, 2020
12th Sunday of Pentecost

REFLECTION

Celebrating Jesus Christ, Fulfiller of the Covenant Made With David: The Kingdom of God Present

It is the Lord's Day!
Let us give thanks to the Father,
For he has given us a share in the inheritance of the saints
In the kingdom of light.

By grace, and in faithfulness to David,
God has rescued us from the dominion of darkness
And brought us into a kingdom—
The kingdom of the Son he loves.

In ascending to heaven
Christ began his reign on David's throne.
The Kingdom has come!
Our baptisms signify that we are its citizens;
Our faith and our obedience to the Lord confirm it,
But the sovereign grace of God secures it.

Blessed are they forever who live the Kingdom way
In the strength of the Spirit of God!
Alleluia!

.....

TWELFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

Advent + Christmas + Epiphany + Lent + Easter + Pentecost

Gathering Hymn Come People of the Risen King

Come people of the Risen King
Who delight to bring Him praise
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in

Chorus

Rejoice, rejoice let every tongue rejoice
One heart one voice
O Church of Christ rejoice

Come those whose joy is morning sun
And those weeping through the night
Come those who tell of battles won
And those struggling in the fight
For His perfect love will never change
And His mercies never cease
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace

Chorus

Come young and old from ev'ry land
Men and women of the faith
Come those with full or empty hands
Find the riches of His grace
Over all the world His people sing
Shore to shore we hear them call
The truth that cries through ev'ry age
Our God is all in all

Chorus

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

Call to Worship Psalm 89:1-4, 20-21, 27-29

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
 with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.
For I said, “**Steadfast love will be built up forever;
 in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness.**”
You have said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
 I have sworn to David my servant:
**‘I will establish your offspring forever,
 and build your throne for all generations.’ ”**
I have found David, my servant;
 with my holy oil I have anointed him,
so that my hand shall be established with him;
 my arm also shall strengthen him.
And I will make him the firstborn,
 the highest of the kings of the earth.
My steadfast love I will keep for him forever,
 and my covenant will stand firm for him.
**I will establish his offspring forever
 and his throne as the days of the heavens.**

Invocation

Old Testament Lesson: 2 Samuel 7:8–16

Praise Hymn Our God Our Help in Ages Past

♯ C F C Am Dm G C ♯ Am Em Am D G

1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4. A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone;

C F Dm G C F E ♯ C F C Dm G C ♯

our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5. The busy tribes of flesh and blood,
 with all their lives and cares,
 are carried downward by your flood,
 and lost in foll'wing years.

6. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
 bears all its sons away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the op'ning day.

7. Our God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come:
 O be our guard while troubles last,
 and our eternal home.

Confession of Sin

O Lord Jesus Christ,
We have not loved your appearing;
We have wandered out of the narrow way that leads to life.

Some of us have sinned boldly, presuming upon your kindness.
Others of us still fear your law, which rightly condemns us.
But we have all forsaken our first love:
 not loving you with all our heart,
 our soul, our mind, our body

We have cheated, or indulged our laziness,
 or hated, or held a grudge,
 or lied, or felt sorry for ourselves.

We are being choked by the cares of this world:
 its passions,
 its suppression of truth,
 its hypocrisy,
 its self-assurance—
and we have resisted so poorly.

We have neglected our despised our neighbor,
 or ourselves;
 our brothers and sisters here or elsewhere,
 or the Lord who bought us.

Forgive us Father,
 for the sake of your Beloved Son,
 who loved us and gave Himself up for us.

Forgive me dear Jesus,
 and teach me what gratitude I owe you,
 that I may love your appearing
 when you come again O My Lord. Amen.

Individual Confession

Absolution

Colossians 1:11-13

May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son.

Thanksgiving Hymn

Good to Me

I cry out
For Your hand of mercy to heal me
I am weak
I need Your love to free me
Oh Lord my rock
My strength in weakness
Come rescue me oh Lord

You are my hope
Your promise never fails me
And my desire
Is to follow You forever

For You are good for You are good
For You are good to me
For You are good for You are good
For You are good to me

Epistle Lesson

Hebrews 1:1-5, 8-12

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, ye heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen!

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

New Testament Lesson Acts 14

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Sermon “The Acts of the Ascended Christ, 15” | Pastor Curran Bishop

Response Hymn Lift high the name of Jesus

Lift high the name of Jesus, Of Jesus our King.
Make known the power of His grace, The beauty of His peace.
Remember how His mercy reached; And we cried out to Him.
He lifted us to solid ground, To freedom from our sin.

Chorus

Oh sing my soul, And tell all He's done,
Till the earth and heavens are filled with His glory!

Lift high the name of Jesus, Of Jesus our Lord.
His power in us is greater than, Is greater than this world.
To share the reason for our hope, To serve with love and grace,
That all who see Him shine through us, Might bring the Father praise.

Chorus

Lift high the name of Jesus, Of Jesus our Light.
No other name on earth can save, Can raise a soul to life.
He opens up our eyes to see The harvest He has grown.
We labor in His fields of grace As He leads sinners home.

Chorus

Bringing Our Life to God

Prayers | Collection | Profession

Prayers of the People

Collection

Confession of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith, 25: 1 & 2

The catholic or universal church, which is invisible, consists of the whole number of the elect, that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one, under Christ the head thereof; and is the spouse, the body, the fulness of him that fills all in all.

The visible church, which is also catholic or universal under the gospel (not confined to one nation, as before under the law), consists of all those throughout the world that profess the true religion; and of their children: and is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, the house and family of God, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation.

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.

Alleluia Celtic Alleluia

A – lle – lu – ia; A – lle – lu – ia; A – lle – lu – ia; A – lle – lu – ia!

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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Coronation Hymn

Psalm 89 (verses 20-37)

I have found My servant David; With My oil anointed him.
My hand will be ever with him, And My power will make him strong.
None to tribute will subject him, Nor will wicked ones oppress.
I will crush his foes before him; Those who hate him I'll strike down.

My strong love and truth is with him; I will raise his head up high;
To the sea his rule extending, And to rivers in the east.
He will cry: 'You are my Father; You're my God, my savior, rock.'
I'll appoint him as My firstborn, Highest of the kings of earth.

I'll keep love for him forever, My oath to him will not fail.
I'll his line establish always, And his throne for evermore.
If his sons forsake My teaching, Break My laws, commands and rules,
I'll their sins severely punish, But not take My love from him.

I'll maintain My faithful promise. I'll not break My covenant,
Nor take back the words I've uttered. This I've pledged in holiness;
And I'll not be false to David. Like the sun his line will last;
Like the moon his throne before Me; Heaven's witness faithful stands.

Benediction

Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think,
according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ
Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Announcements

REFLECTION

Many Covenants, One Promise

Are God's various covenants a succession of separate, unrelated covenants? Does he end one covenant and then replace it with a new one? Or, do the covenants build on one another, unfolding God's redemptive plan, little by little, until his whole purpose is revealed? In other words, has God had one single plan of redemption for all his people in all times, or has he had multiple plans that address different people in different times?

The covenantal view sees one unified plan of redemption that embraces every area of life....

There is but one covenant of grace—one conditional promise of redemption—that runs throughout all Scripture and redemptive history. Within this one covenant of grace there are a variety of administrations. These various administrations are seen in the Adamic covenant, the Noahic covenant, the Abrahamic covenant, the Mosaic covenant, the Davidic covenant, and the New Covenant....

God's one plan of redemption unfolded in time to reveal more of his purpose as he entered into covenant with David. This new administration of the covenant of grace is described in 2 Samuel 7, which relates how God inaugurated and established his kingdom. The kingship of David prefigured the ever-lasting kingship of David's descendant—King Jesus.

The unique feature of the Davidic covenant was the establishment of a king over Israel forever. The Lord spoke to David through Nathan, saying, When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. (vv. 12-13). This prophecy was fulfilled both in Solomon and eventually in Jesus Christ. King David never hesitated to appeal to the previous covenant oaths of God and to apply them to his kingdom. The Davidic covenant specifically identified itself with both the Abrahamic and the Mosaic covenants. For example, David recalled the promises that God had made to Abraham when he sang about the ark being brought to Jerusalem....

We should also note that mere physical descent from David was not sufficient reason for a descendant to receive covenant blessings. God required, as he always had, covenant faithfulness from the heart. Then, and only then, could covenant blessing be expected and the redemptive promises be fulfilled.

In the Old Testament covenants, the flower bud of redemption swells in anticipation of a full display of all its glory and beauty. As God reveals more and more of his redemptive plan, new revelation is always inseparably tied to his previous covenants. In fact, each successive covenant is but a renewal and an explanation of the previous covenants.

—Robert R. Booth *Children of the Promise*, (1995)

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 for more info.

Worship Location Schedule

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

Contact us

203.812.9928 or curran.bishop@cpcmilford.org; find us on Facebook at facebook.com/CPCMilford or visit us online at cpcmilford.org



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