



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
MILFORD

June 27, 2021
6th Sunday of Pentecost

REFLECTION

Celebrating Jesus Christ, Lord of the Conscience

Praise is due you, O Lord, Master of the Universe,
Infinite Goodness and pure Holiness.

For you did for us what we could not do:
You washed the spot of sin from our hand,
And answered the accusations of our conscience.

O God, you made peace with us
By the blood spilled in an ancient execution.
You effected the Great Exchange:
For trusting you, I am given Christ's righteousness;
For obeying you, He is given my damnation.
He dies, and I live.

Trusting, O Lord, I come.
Despairing of my never-completed works,
I cling to the finished work of him
who died and now lives for me.
Fill me with joy as I worship,
So that more and more I may ignore
My never-ending accusations against myself
Even as I strive toward your holiness.

.....

SIXTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

Advent + Christmas + Epiphany + Lent + Easter + Pentecost

Gathering Hymn

Nothing but the Blood of Jesus

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

1. What can wash a - way my sin? noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
 2. For my cleans - ing this I see— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
 3. Noth - ing can for sin a - tone— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
 4. This is all my hope and peace— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;
 5. Now by this I'll o - ver - come— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus;

what can make me whole a - gain? noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 for my par - don this my plea— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 • naught of good that I have done— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 this is all my righ - teous - ness— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.
 now by this I'll reach my home— noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.

REFRAIN

O pre - cious is the flow that makes me white as snow;

no oth - er fount I know, noth - ing but the blood of Je - sus.

Call to Worship

Psalm 32:1-5, 7

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

**For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.**

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

**I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"**
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

Invocation

Praise Hymn

A Debt of Love We Owe

A debt of love we owe, nothing but this
Aid us Lord to care for those You gave
By this sacrifice, to neighbor far and wide
The law of love is found and fulfilled in Christ

Chorus

Strong or weak or bold or mild,
Live and die as unto Christ
Every knee shall bow to the One who forgives,
Every tongue confess the Lord who lives

The night hour is far gone, day is at hand
Let us cast the darkness from this land
Leave no open door to the flesh or its desires
But put on Jesus Christ, the shield of light

Chorus

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

Old Testament Lesson Nahum 1:2–6

Confession of Sin

Holy and loving God, you have loved us with a love irrevocable and incorruptible, we confess that which you already know – we have sinned in thought.

Moment of silence for individual confession

Mighty and merciful God, who has forgiven us with a forgiveness irrevocable and incorruptible we confess that which you already know – we have sinned in word.

Moment of silence for individual confession

Good and gracious God, who has filled us with a Spirit irrevocable and incorruptible we confess that which you already know – we have sinned in deed.

Moment of silence for individual confession

We have sinned in thought, sinned in word, sinned in deed. For the sake of your Son and our Savior, have mercy on us.

Moment of silence for individual confession

Absolution I John 3:16, 18–20

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. ... By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

Thanksgiving Hymn And Can it Be that I Should Gain?

New Testament Lesson Luke 15:14–24:

Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you!

And also with you!

1. And can it be that I should gain an in - t'rest in the Sav - ior's blood?
 2. 'Tis mys - tery all, th' Im - mor - tal dies: who can ex - plore this strange de - sign?
 3. He left his Fa - ther's throne a - bove (so free, so in - fi - nite his grace!),
 4. Long my im - pris - oned spir - it lay fast bound in sin - and na - ture's night;

1. Died he for me, who caused his pain - for me, who him to death pur - sued?
 2. In vain the first-born ser - aph tries to sound the depths of love di - vine.
 3. emp - tied him - self of all but love, and bled for Ad - am's help - less race.
 4. thine eye dif - fused a quick-'ning ray; I woke, the dun-geon filled with light!

1. A - maz - ing love! How can it be that thou, my Lord, shouldst die for me?
 2. 'Tis mer - cy all! Let earth a - dore, let an - gel minds en - quire no more.
 3. 'Tis mer - cy all! im - mense and free! for, O my God, it found out me.
 4. My chains fell off; my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and fol - lowed thee.

Refrain

A - maz - ing love! How can it be that thou, my Lord, shouldst die for me.
 A - maz - ing love! How can it be that thou, my Lord,

5. No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
 Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
 bold I approach th'eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

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 —

Sermon Text Philippians 1:18-30

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Sermon Joy in Life and Death | Joe Fisher

Response Hymn I Will Praise Him Still

When the morning falls on the farthest hill
I will sing his name, I will praise him still.
When dark trials come and my heart is filled
With the weight of doubt, I will praise Him still.

Chorus

For the Lord our God, he is strong to save
From the arms of death, from the deepest grave.
And he gave us life in his perfect will,
And by his good grace I will praise him still.

"Know the Lord, your God leaves you not alone:
'I will visit you, I'll restore your home.'
For I know my plans for your hope and good:
I'll be found in you; Be my flesh and blood

Chorus

Now to you, O Lord I lift up my eyes;
to you enthroned far above the skies
As a servant looks to the master's hand,
So I gaze above, trust your mighty plan

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/

Confession of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith 20 § 2 (1647)

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and hath left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are in anything contrary to his Word, or beside it, in matters of faith or worship. So that to believe such doctrines, or to obey such commands out of conscience, is to betray true liberty of conscience; and the requiring of an implicit faith, and an absolute and blind obedience, is to destroy liberty of conscience, and reason also.

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

Lion and The Lamb

He's coming on the clouds
Kings and kingdoms will bow down
And every chain will break
As broken hearts declare His praise
For who can stop the Lord Almighty

Chorus

Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him

So open up the gates
Make way before the King of kings
The God who comes to save
Is here to set the captives free
For who can stop the Lord Almighty

Chorus

Who can stop the Lord Almighty (repeat 2x)
Who can stop the Lord

Chorus

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

Lion and The Lamb (chorus)

Chorus

Our God is the Lion

The Lion of Judah

He's roaring with power

And fighting our battles

And every knee will bow before Him

Our God is the Lamb

The Lamb that was slain

For the sins of the world

His blood breaks the chains

And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb

Every knee will bow before Him

Benediction

I Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

REFLECTION

Real Change Requires an Inside Look

Certain groups of people come to mind as I write. First, those who are trying hard to do what the Bible commands but feel frustrated. You are doing all you know to do—not perfectly of course, but sincerely. And yet things just aren't right inside, and you know it. You feel more pressure than joy. God isn't changing either you or things in your world the way you ask Him to. You wonder if He listens to your prayers, or if He simply doesn't care about your struggles.

Worries over money or children, hurt caused by a friend or spouse, fears about whether you can handle whatever problems may arise tomorrow—all keep you awake at night. But the sunrise brings no relief for you, just more pressure. You don't know what else to do to find those green pastures and still waters. You plug along but with a weight on your back that keeps you feeling heavy.

My message to you is, **THERE'S HOPE!** More effort isn't the answer. Continued obedience is required, of course, but looking for more hoops to jump through before God becomes real is not the way. Freedom and quiet rest can replace the pressure and churning in your soul. But finding peace requires an honest look into your life at some hard things. Jumping through more hoops is sometimes easier than facing troubling things inside. But an inside look can lead to real change, from the inside out.

Second, I think of those who are doing quite well.... Your life is not without tensions, but God gives you the strength to press on with confidence. By the grace of God, life is good.

My message to you is, **THERE'S MORE!** Gratefully enjoy the blessings of God and live out the maturity He's developed in you—but don't settle for it. Don't let your legitimate comfort become complacency or your joy slip into smugness. There is more to knowing God than the most mature Christian has ever envisioned. Be willing to have the steadiness in your life disrupted if knowing God better requires it. The good fight is fought with a sweaty passion that develops only when the evenness of our soul is upset. God wants to change good disciples into powerfully loving servants who leave an indelible mark on people they touch. But His method of changing us, from the inside out, can be disturbing. Be open to new levels of struggle.

— Larry Crabb, *Inside Out* (1988)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Group – Meets tonight, June 27, 5:30-7pm at the Costens' for a picnic and community building time.

Wednesday 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: 856 4475 2681 | Passcode: 665297

Women's Bible Study – We will be meeting on the following Saturdays: July 10, July 24, Aug 14, Aug 28, Sept 11, Sept 25 from 9:00-10:30 AM, in person. Future locations will be announced. Please RSVP to cpcmilford@gmail.com for location info.

Summer Sunday Pop-Up Worship – We will be meeting for the month of July at the Fowler Pavilion, 1 Shipyard Lane, Milford.

Summer VBS and BBQ with Christ Pres in the Hill – Save the date to participate with our sister congregation in their outreach to their neighborhood on Saturday, July 24 (for VBS) and Wednesday, August 4 (for BBQ).

Contact us

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