



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
MILFORD

January 16, 2022
2nd Sunday after Epiphany

REFLECTION

Christ our Brother, Sorely Tempted: Celebrating the Sympathy of God With Us

How awesome a Savior, how humble a Friend!

In the wilderness he fights for us;
He, the Older Brother, knowing our weakness,
On our behalf feels the lure of evil.

He feels it for us, and fights it for us.
Indeed, for love's sake,
He had to be made like us in all things—even in this.

He knows temptation from the inside:
its sweetness,
its sinister confusions.
But he trusted his way through it.

Jesus won what Adam lost;
He undertook our weakness,
that we might be strong in his strength. Alleluia!

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Advent + Christmas + Epiphany + Lent + Easter + Pentecost

Gathering Hymn

Jesus I Come

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health, Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love, Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold, Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.

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

Call to Worship Psalm 138:1-3

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

**I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name
for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,**

for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.

On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased.

Invocation

Praise Hymn Tell Me the Story of Jesus

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

Old Testament Lesson Genesis 3:1–8

Confession of Sin Heidelberg Catechism (1563), Questions 6 & 7

Did God create people so wicked and perverse?

**No. God created them good and in his own image, that is, in true
righteousness and holiness, so that they might truly know God their creator,
love him with all their heart, and live with God in eternal happiness, to praise
and glorify him.**

Then where does this corrupt human nature come from?

**The fall and disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, in Paradise.
This fall has so poisoned our nature that we are all conceived and born in a
sinful condition.**

1. Tell me the sto - ry of Je - sus, Write on my heart ev - 'ry word;
 2. Fast - ing a - lone in the des - ert, Tell of the days that are past;
 3. Tell of the cross where they nailed Him, Writh - ing in an - guish and pain;
Chorus: Tell me the sto - ry of Je - sus, Write on my heart ev - 'ry word;

Tell me the sto - ry most pre - cious, Sweet - est that ev - er was heard.
 How for our sins He was tempt - ed, Yet was tri - um - phant at last.
 Tell of the grave where they laid Him, Tell how He liv - eth a - gain.
Tell me the sto - ry most pre - cious, Sweet - est that ev - er was heard.

Fine

Tell how the an - gels, in cho - rus, Sang as they wel - comed His birth,
 Tell of the years of His la - bor, Tell of the sor - row He bore;
 Love in that sto - ry so ten - der, Clear - er than ev - er I see:

D.C. al Fine

"Glo - ry to God in the high - est! Peace and good tid - ings to earth."
 He was de - spised and af - flict - ed, Home - less, re - ject - ed and poor.
 Stay, let me weep while you whis - per, Love paid the ran - som for me.

Individual Confession

Absolution

Hebrews 10:19–22

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Thanksgiving 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

New Testament Lesson Matthew 4:1–11

Peace of Christ

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

The Gospel Song

Holy God in love became, Perfect Man to bear my blame
On the cross He took my sin, By His death I live again

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

Sermon Text Obadiah

This is the Word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon The Minor Prophets for the Church | Pastor Curran Bishop

Response Hymn Psalm 62

My soul finds rest in God alone
My rock and my salvation
A fortress strong against my foes
And I will not be shaken
Though lips may bless and hearts may curse
And lies like arrows pierce me
I'll fix my heart on righteousness
I'll look to Him who hears me

Chorus

O praise Him hallelujah
My Delight and my Reward
Everlasting never failing
My Redeemer my God

Find rest my soul in God alone
Amid the world's temptations
When evil seeks to take a hold
I'll cling to my salvation
Though riches come and riches go
Don't set your heart upon them
The fields of hope in which I sow
Are harvested in heaven

Chorus

I'll set my gaze on God alone
And trust in Him completely
With ev'ry day pour out my soul
And He will prove His mercy
Though life is but a fleeting breath
A sigh too brief to measure
My King has crushed the curse of death
And I am His forever

Chorus

Bridge

O praise Him O praise Him
Hallelujah hallelujah
(Repeat)

Chorus

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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/

Sinclair Alleluia

Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism (1647), Questions:

(46) What was the estate of Christ' s humiliation?

The estate of Christ' s humiliation was that low condition, wherein he for our sakes, emptying himself of his glory, took upon him the form of a servant, in his conception and birth, life, death, and after his death, until his resurrection.

(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.

(48) How did Christ humble himself in his life?

Christ humbled himself in his life, by subjecting himself to the law, which he perfectly fulfilled; and by conflicting with the indignities of the world, temptations of Satan, and infirmities in his flesh, whether common to the nature of man, or particularly accompanying that his low condition.

(49) How did Christ humble himself in his death?

Christ humbled himself in his death, in that having been betrayed by Judas, (Matt. 27:4) forsaken by his disciples, scorned and rejected by the world, condemned by Pilate, and tormented by his persecutors; having also conflicted with the terrors of death, and the powers of darkness, felt and borne the weight of God's wrath, he laid down his life an offering for sin, enduring the painful, shameful, and cursed death of the cross.

(50) Wherein consisted Christ's humiliation after his death?

Christ's humiliation after his death consisted in his being buried, and continuing in the state of the dead, and under the power of death till the third day; which hath been otherwise expressed in these words, He descended into hell.

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

Before the Throne of God Above (verses 1-2)

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)

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 Before the Throne of God Above (verses 3-4)

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)

Benediction from Philippians 2:9–11, 4:23

God has highly exalted Jesus and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

REFLECTION

The Cosmic Battle

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.... Matthew 4:1-2

We begin to feel that our own fate depends on the outcome of this struggle between Christ and the devil. And so we will try to pay due heed to what is said to us in the wilderness and to what happens to us. For our destiny is at stake: Jesus Christ who is fighting here is not only 'the mirror of the divine heart' (Martin Luther), but also of the human heart (Phil. 2:7), a mirror of our nakedness and vulnerability and of our poverty and imprisoned state (Matt. 25:35 ff). Jesus Christ's presence in the desert and his temptation hold a message for us: Look, through suffering and conflict the Son of God has become your human brother. For he bears the burden which oppresses you and which does more to shape your destiny than anything else in the world: Jesus suffers temptation with you. He shows you how life can be borne in its most critical and terrible hour—the hour of temptation. By himself confronting the Evil One, he shows you how to recognize this dangerous crisis in your life and where to seek salvation.

—Helmut Thielicke, *Between God and Satan* (1938)

Obadiah

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

DECEIVED	EDOM	ALLIES	EXILES
STARS	REPORT	TRAP	CITIES
DOWN	MESSENGER	ALOOF	RULE
THIEVES	BATTLE	GLOAT	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Group | We'll meet tonight at the Costen's house at 5:30pm for a meal. 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 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 MAC (40 Railroad Ave.) at 10:30am on Jan. 23, and at the Fowler Building (parking at I Shipyard Ln.) at 11:00am on Jan 30.

Bible Studies | Men will meet on Jan 22 from 9-10:30am. Women will meet again in February. Email questions for either study to info@cpcmilford.org.

Men's & Women's Monthly Fellowship | Generally 3rd Fridays, rotating months. RSVP to info@cpcmilford.org.

Contact us

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