

TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 10, 2021

829 Salem Road - Union, New Jersey

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

LAY LEADER

God's strong voice calls us to worship,
it calls us to sing and offer praise.
God's creative voice calls us to worship,
it calls us to life and light.
God's loving voice calls us to worship,
it calls us to love and be loved.
Listen, for God's voice calls to us now.

OPENING PRAYER

LAY LEADER

Word of God, speak,
for your servants are listening.
Spirit of creation and renewal,
hover over our gathering this day,
as you hovered over creation on that first day.
Enter into our hearts and our lives,
as you did at the day of our baptism.
Descend on us like a dove,
as you did on Jesus's day of baptism,
that we may hear again your words of love and adoption.
Speak from the heavens into our minds,
that we may perceive your words of guidance and wisdom. Amen.

OPENING HYMN #644 *"Morning Has Broken"*

SONG LEADER

1 Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!	2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.	3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's re-creation of the new day!
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CALL TO CONFESSION

LAY LEADER

The gift of God's grace is lavished upon us—
poured out like water—
through the life and death of the risen Lord.
Trusting in the love and goodness of God,
let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

ALL

**Most merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry,
and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

LAY LEADER

Hear the truth of God's voice breaking through the clouds of our lives:
"You are my child, the one I dearly love.

GLORIA PATRI

ALL

**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.**

THE PEACE

LAY LEADER

Share together this blessing and truth:
You are God's child,
beloved and pleasing to God.
The Peace of Christ be with you!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PASTOR

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1:1-5; Mark 1:4-11

PASTOR

SERMON: “*God Created*”

PASTOR

HYMN #493 “*Now There Is No Male or Female*”

SONG LEADER

<p>1 Now there is no male or female; now there is no free or slave; now there is no Jew or Gentile in the earth Christ died to save. Christ has set us free for freedom: we no more sing slavery’s creed; old submissions cannot claim us; Christ has set us free indeed.</p>	<p>2 Crucified with Christ the Savior, baptized in his holy death, and as Christ was raised to glory we have new life on this earth. Power of water and God’s naming, turning us from dark to light, joins us to those who, before us, ran the race and fought the fight.</p>	<p>3 Death has no dominion o’er him, so for us death holds no power; life’s own waters now have marked us, born to God this very hour. From this moment and forever dead to sin, alive in Christ, born of water and the Spirit, now in Christ we find our life.</p>
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JOYS AND CONCERNS, A TIME OF SHARING

PASTOR

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

PASTOR

Let us pray to the Lord, saying,
Give strength, O Lord, **and bless us with peace.**

All-glorious God,
maker of heaven and earth,
hear us as we pray:
Give strength, O Lord, **and bless us with peace.**

We pray for the world you have made....
Move again over these troubled waters,
steeped in chemicals and stained with blood.
Where carelessness and violence bring chaos
restore order, goodness, and life.
Give strength, O Lord, **and bless us with peace.**

We pray for the church you have redeemed....
Renew in us the gifts of your Spirit
and the call to Christian discipleship.
Where history and heresy have divided us,
make us one in the baptism we share.
Give strength, O Lord, **and bless us with peace.**

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

We pray for the peoples you have created....
Give to the leaders of all nations
the wisdom to know what is good.
Where people are poor and hungry
provide justice and daily bread.
Give strength, O Lord, **and bless us with peace.**

We pray for the loved ones you have given us....
Bless our families, friends, and neighbors;
keep them safe from trouble and danger.
Where there is sorrow, sickness, or suffering
send your Spirit of comfort and healing.
Give strength, O Lord, **and bless us with peace.**

As we pray as Jesus taught us to pray...

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

LAY LEADER

With hearts wide open and ears ready to hear,
we bring our very lives to this time of offering.
May we bring more than just gifts in a plate,
but hearts and minds ready to hear God's call
and respond where God's voice leads us.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: HYMN #606

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;*

Building Faith, Changing Lives, Sharing Christ

*Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Bless these gifts with your voice of creation,
your healing, and your love, Mighty God.
Transform our meager offerings into abundant gifts
for a world in need of your light and life. Amen.

LAY LEADER

CLOSING HYMN #634 “To God Be the Glory”

SONG LEADER

<p>1 To God be the glory; great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in. <i>(Refrain)</i></p>	<p>Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory: great things he has done!</p>	<p>2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer and higher and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. <i>(Refrain)</i></p>
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BENEDICTION

PASTOR

POSTLUDE



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

31 Glenda Ramdeen

A Note from Our Treasurer:

Please continue to **mail your weekly offerings** to the church office. **Bill Pay and other online banking options** should also be considered. Online contributions may be made through our church's website "Give Now" button:



Our church's Donation Page can also be reached using the Quick Response (QR) Code below. A QR Code is a two-dimensional, modular barcode that, when scanned by a smart phone (most phones use the camera to do this) will connect you to our Donation Page.



"TIME FOR PRAYER" -- 6:00 PM on Wednesdays
Praying by teleconference. All may call in to pray and/or make prayer requests: Dial-in using your phone:
1 717-275-8940 Access code: 367 0530

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

While donations of non-perishable items can be accepted on Sunday mornings at 11:00 AM, you are encouraged to support this ministry with a monthly monetary donation of \$4.00 – a dollar a week can bring food to an empty pantry.

