



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF NEWTON**

Fifth Sunday Of Easter

10:30 AM MAY 15, 2022

**Whether we worship in person or online,
may the Spirit of God unite us
in praise and prayer,
worship and witness to the
saving love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

** indicates when to rise in body or in spirit*

*(PH denotes The Presbyterian Hymnal,
STF denotes Sing the Faith Hymnal)*

Gathering in God's Name

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made;

People: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord
and shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

**People: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving,
singing joyful songs of praise.**

*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!*

*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.*

*Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, Praise every morning,
God’s recreation of the new day!*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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 and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and follow in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. (our silent prayers continue...)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Brothers and sisters, we are part of the body of Christ. We draw strength from our connection to the vine of God’s Spirit. When we confess our sin it is as though we are pruned from our waywardness. God’s forgiving love makes us ready to bear good fruit. Friends, believe the good news:

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

In Christ, God has broken down the dividing walls between us and has bridged whatever distance separates us from God and one another.
May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you. (Please take a moment to greet one another
from a distance.)

Listening For God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Lord, as we listen to your word, strengthen our connection to you and to one another so that your joy may be in us and our joy may be complete.
Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 148

Leader: ¹Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

People: ²Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

Leader: ³Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

**People: ⁴Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!**

Leader: ⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for he commanded and they were created.

**People: ⁶He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

Leader: ⁷Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

**People: ⁸fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!**

Leader: ⁹Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

People: ¹⁰**Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!**

Leader: ¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

People: ¹²**Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

Leader: ¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

All: ¹⁴**He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close
to him. Praise the LORD!**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

¹²Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

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

SERMON

“Gifted, by God!”

Responding to God's Word

* HYMN PH #522

“Lord, When I Came Into This Life”

verses 1,3,4

*Lord, when I came into this life
You called me by my name;
Today I come, commit myself,
Responding to Your claim.*

*In all the tensions of my life,
Between my faith and doubt,
Let Your great Spirit give me hope,
Sustain me, lead me out.*

*So, help me in my unbelief
And let my life be true:
Feet firmly planted on the earth,
My sights set high on You.*

CONFIRMATION AND COMMISSIONING

(see insert)

SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD'S SERVICE

* **SUNG RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING PH #591**

*“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.”*

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

Going Into The World as Christ's Disciples

*** HYMN PH #525**

"Here I Am, Lord"

verses 1&2

***I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?***

***Refrain: Here I am, Lord. is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.***

***I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)***

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

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**OUR WORSHIP IS ENDED.  
OUR SERVICE BEGINS!**  
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