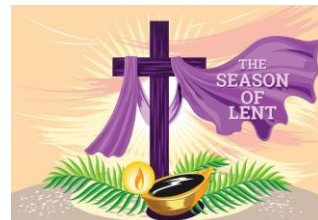
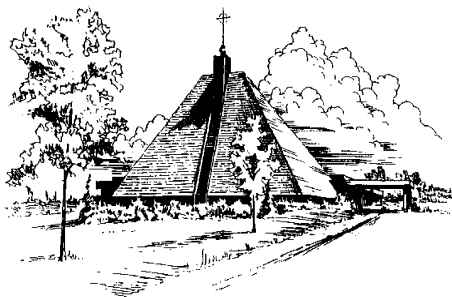


# COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CINNAMINSON, NEW JERSEY



4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

10:00 AM

MARCH 10, 2024

## PRELUDE

"The Old Rugged Cross"

Rev. George Bennard

## GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

Bonnie Cain

## CHORAL INTROIT

"For God So Loved the World"

Lloyd Larson

## CALL TO WORSHIP

In this place, the community of faith is reminded of the promise:

**God's love endures forever!**

In spite of our impatient grumbling, despite our attraction to the shadows:

**Christ's light shines in us!**

When we think our hands are empty, when we have no music in our souls:

**the Spirit fills us with glad songs, and creates us for good works!**

With prayer and praise, in scripture and in song, let us Worship the Living God!

## HYMN

"Come! Live in the Light!"

(See page 9)

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**The Light of the world has come, Ceaseless Creator, but we admit we love the shadows all around us. For there, we can boast of our achievements, rather than point to your grace; there, we can grumble of our unhappiness with you, instead of singing your praises; there, we can give into our natural anger, and not be touched by your call to be agents of peace and hope. Forgive us, Eternal Love: lead us from the shadows of sin into the light of your joy; raise us up, as your children, so we may kneel in service to others; shower us with the grace, the hope, the peace you have brought to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**



**SILENT MEDITATION**

**LORD HAVE MERCY (3x)**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Let the community of faith say so:

**God's love endures forever!**

Let those gathered in grace say so:

**God's love endures forever!**

Let those gathered from all parts of the world say so:

**God's love endures forever!**

This is the good news for us:

**God's love endures forever. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**WE ARE FORGIVEN (1x)**

**SHARING THE PEACE**

**And also with you.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**NUMBERS 21:4-9**

They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!" Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people. The Lord said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**ANTHEM**

"We Remember"

arr. Joel Raney





## SALM 107:1-3, 17-22

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

**Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble**  
and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

**Some were sick through their sinful ways and because of their iniquities endured affliction;**

they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death.

**Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress;**

he sent out his word and healed them and delivered them from destruction.

**Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.**

And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

## JOHN 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

"Does God Love the World?"

Rev. Dr. Robert Higgs

## PRAYER AND REFLECTION

If you wish, you may want to use the following breath prayer (or any of your choice). The words may be said aloud or in silence

Breathe in: "Help me rest ...

Breathe out: "... give me peace"

## HYMN

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

(See page 10)





**LITANY: MARKED BY A CROSS**

Marked by a cross, cherished and forgiven

**We are traveling home.**

Called to be holy, called to be happy

**We are traveling home.**

Across deserts, over mountains

**We are traveling home.**

God in our hearts, God in our lives

**We are traveling home.**

*~ written by Ruth Burgess.*

**SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the church.....God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for creation..... God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the world.....God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for peace.....God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who govern us. ....God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for this community.....God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all families and those who live alone.....God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all who suffer any sorrow or trial.....God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Let us give thanks for the lives of the departed who now have rest in God.

**God of glory, you see how all creation groans in labor as it awaits redemption. As we work for and await your new creation, we trust that you will answer our prayers with grace, and fulfill your promise that all things work together for good for those who love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**CALL TO STEWARDSHIP**

**OFFERTORY**

"Sweet Hour of Prayer"

arr. Martha Mier





**DOXOLOGY**

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings"

#809

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**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.**

**HYMN**

"To God Be the Glory"

(See page 12)

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Go out into the world ... be with us all. Amen.

**O Lord, may you this week open up doors for us to share your love!**

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

"Amen"

Lloyd Larson

**POSTLUDE**

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

Hans Hassler

**MINISTERS:** Diane Steel and Mike Martin (Ushers), Joan Samph (Flower Delivery), Sandi Pascone (Refreshments),

**THE CHANCEL FLOWERS** presented to the Glory of God by David Landgraf in loving memory of his parents, Eleanor and Carl Landgraf and his sister, Susan Landgraf Bizga.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **1. EASTER LILY FORM**

You can purchase an Easter Lily to honor a loved one! Please find the form in your bulletin and return it to the church office with your payment. All names will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

### **2. SOUP SALE!**

**The next soup sale will be Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.** You can purchase two different sizes. We hope to see you after worship services for this tasty fundraiser!

### **3. TRIBORO SCHEDULE:**

Covenant will be hosting a soup supper on Thursday, March 14 at 6PM with a service at 7PM. All are welcome!

**4. SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES:** Calling all children ages 4 and above! Join us for Sunday school on the following dates! March 24<sup>th</sup>, April 21<sup>st</sup> and May 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **5. DAILY PRAYER**

Covenant is now offering Daily Prayer videos narrated by our new Pastor, Bob! This is a wonderful way to begin each day in prayer. If you are not receiving them, please notify Bob, or Greg and you will be placed on the email list.

**6. YOUR PARTICIPATION IS NEEDED!** Members are invited to participate in our services. Please contact Bonnie Cain or Greg DiBona if you are interested in reading scripture or leading our worship services. We are also in need of more volunteers to operate the camera and soundboard. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

**7. BIBLE STUDY** The Bible Study will be located in the lounge on Mondays at 11AM. All are welcome!

**8. STEWARDSHIP:** Total Income for 3/3: \$2160.00, Envelope Giving: \$2160.00, Deacons Fund: \$175.00. Capital Improvements Fund: \$10.00

**9. VOLUNTEER CHAPLAIN AIDES** are needed throughout the Virtua Health System in Burlington and Camden counties. There are openings for trained lay visitors every day of the week. Following a training and orientation process, and Aide may donate two to four hours each week to visit patients, offering them compassion and spiritual comfort. To find out if volunteering is for you, please call or email for an information package with details of the training and the process to become a volunteer at any of our facilities. The orientation class is Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> and Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8am-5pm.

For more information about volunteering at Virtua Burlington, Virtua Marlton, Virtua Mt. Holly and Virtua Voorhees, please contact Chaplin Marge McGinley at 609-914-6365 or email [mmcginkey@virtua.org](mailto:mmcginkey@virtua.org).



## PRAYER LIST



Thank you once again for the very thoughtful sermon from Pastor Bob. He really gets the mind thinking and turning to what the Lord is telling us. Mandy provided the scripture reading and announcements, and also tasty goodies following worship. Thank you!  
The fine music from our choir and Greg gets the day off to a good start. Thank you!

We need peace in our communities country and world.

Please keep our Covenant families and friends in your prayers this week:

Mary Lou Newborg is requesting prayers for:

Her friend, Arlene - for healing following open heart surgery this past week

Logan - 2-year-old battling a rare cancer - prayers for careful treatment

Dave - serious health issues

Marchelle - being treated for cancer

Melissa - joyful prayers that she is cancer free

Chris Todd - he will have eye surgery this Friday - prayers for good results

Betty Herskovitz's son, Mike - he is in the hospital and is being treated for an infection in his lung and is improving

Linda Ballenger's cousin, Sally - cancer patient - that she will receive very good treatment

Betty Graham - a lift in spirits and peacefulness in her heart

Julia Slater - successful hip replacement in the very near future

Dave DuBois - healing and strength with the help of rehabilitation following a bad fall in his home, and strength for B. Ann

Lisa Grace - relief from numerous health concerns

Kathy Hood - peace of mind and comfort

Laura Brenner - good care and feeling better

Karen Schwartz's friend, Rita - good care and recovery

Janette Hutchinson's daughter, Wendy - feeling better and had a good week

Barbara Van Tassel's friend, Judy - continued good progress with therapy

Dale Neas - longtime friend and member of men's breakfast group - in rehab and hopefully improving with good care

Bruce - managed first chemo treatment and aftereffects and feeling some better and will have second one next Friday - prayers for strength and positive attitude

Elsie - healing and making progress with physical therapy

Sr. Mary William - Greg is asking for prayers for his elementary music teacher who has been diagnosed with cancer

I wish to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ Easter Lily (s) at \$13.00 each.

The Easter morning bulletin will include a listing of names of donors (if desired) and mention the names of those in whose memory or honor the lily (s) are presented.

For example:

The Easter Lilies in the Sanctuary are presented to the glory of God by:

*Mrs. J. Smith in memory of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. J. Doe*  
*Mr. & Mrs. J. Smith in honor of their children*  
*Mr. & Mrs. J. Smith in gratitude for loved ones*  
*The Smith Family*



Name \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Honor/Gratitude \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed please find my check for the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**LILIES MAY BE PICKED UP AFTER THE EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE, MARCH 31, 2024**

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**LILIES MAY BE PICKED UP AFTER THE EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE, MARCH 31, 2024**



# 749 Come! Live in the Light!

## We Are Called



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the  
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your  
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that



joy and the love of the Lord! We are called  
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called  
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,



to be light for the king - dom, to live in the  
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and  
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and



free - dom of the cit - y of God.  
 vio - lence will be no more.  
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.

*Refrain*



We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

# 377 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to fol - low  
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to look at  
3 I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to be with

Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The  
Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and  
Je - sus. When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

*Refrain*

star of my life is Je - sus.  
show me the way to the Fa - ther. In him there is no dark-ness at  
shall know the joy of Je - sus.

all. The night and the day are both a - like. The Lamb is the

The author-composer of this unrhymed hymn regards it as a meditation and prayer deeply rooted in many scriptures, most connected with the theme of light: Genesis 1:17; Psalm 139:12; Isaiah 60:19; Malachi 4:2; John 14:8; Ephesians 5:8; Hebrews 12:1-2; 1 John 1:5; Revelation 21:23.

A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH

light of the cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

The image displays a musical score for the hymn 'A New Heaven and a New Earth'. It consists of two staves: a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment line in the lower staff. The key signature is D major (two sharps) and the time signature is common time. The lyrics are written below the vocal staff: 'light of the cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.' The piano accompaniment features chords and melodic lines that support the vocal melody.

ADORATION

# 634 To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!  
 2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
 and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,  
 but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
 our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the fact that it is a simple, direct, and joyful expression of the Christian faith.

ADORATION

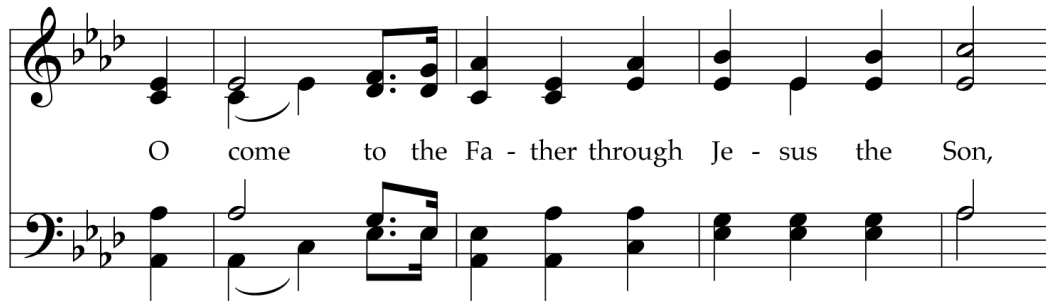
*Refrain*



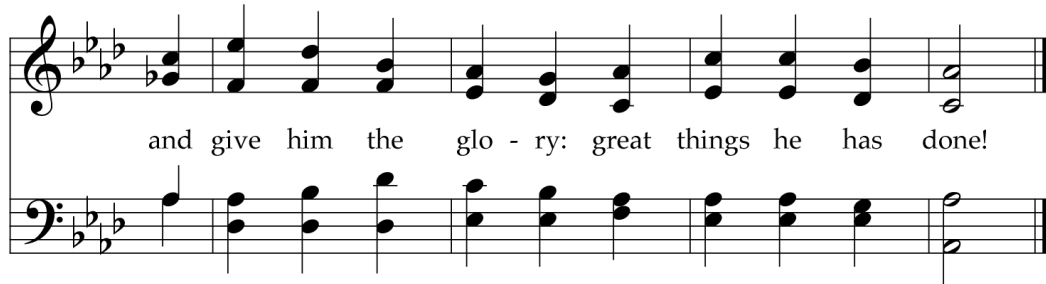
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!



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!