



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
MILFORD

August 30, 2020
14th Sunday of Pentecost

REFLECTION

Celebrating the Life of Learning God Gives Us Jesus in the Temple at Twelve

Blessed be the infinite Lord
For all the glorious things flowing from his Incarnation:

A Jewish pre-teen in the temple
Proves to be the great I AM
Who drew our humanness up into the Godhead.

Praise to our Lord Jesus Christ,
Substitute for us in his death,
Supreme example to us in his life:
As he asked questions,
Listened to other opinions,
Reasoned with his teachers,
And expanded the capacity of his mind.

Praise to him who now rules the universe!
He in whom are hidden
All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge,
And yet who still grew in wisdom and in stature, like us.

Alleluia.

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

Advent + Christmas + Epiphany + Lent + Easter + Pentecost

Gathering Hymn Resurrection Hymn (See what a Morning)

See what a morning gloriously bright
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem
Folded the grave-clothes tomb filled with light
As the angels announce Christ is risen
See God's salvation plan wrought in love
Borne in pain paid in sacrifice

Fulfilled in Christ the Man for He lives
Christ is risen from the dead

See Mary weeping where is He laid
As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb
Hears a voice speaking calling her name
It's the Master the Lord raised to life again
The voice that spans the years
Speaking life stirring hope bringing peace to us
Will sound till He appears
For He lives Christ is risen from the dead

One with the Father Ancient of Days
Through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty
Honour and blessing glory and praise
To the King crowned with pow'r and authority
And we are raised with Him
Death is dead love has won Christ has conquered
And we shall reign with Him
For He lives Christ is risen from the dead

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

Call to Worship Psalms 104:1-3, 24, 31, 33

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

O LORD my God, you are very great!

You are clothed with splendor and majesty,
covering yourself with light as with a garment,
stretching out the heavens like a tent.

He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters;
he makes the clouds his chariot;

he rides on the wings of the wind;

O LORD, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom have you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

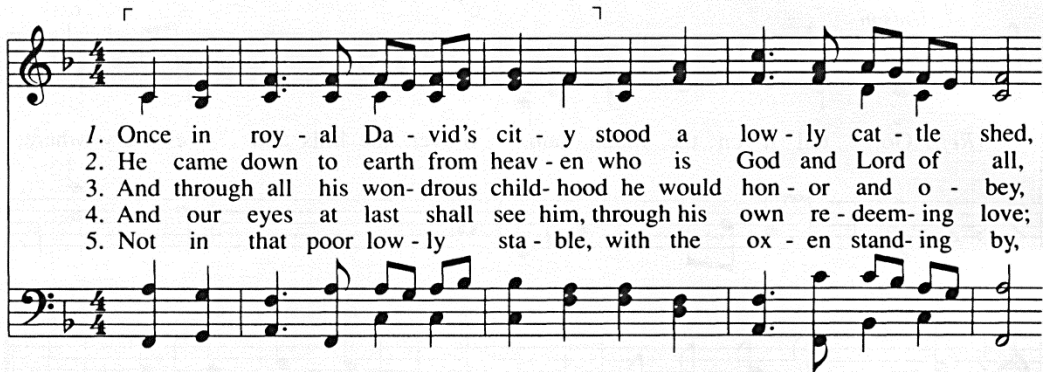
May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
may the LORD rejoice in his works,

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

Invocation

Epistle Lesson Philippians 2:1-11

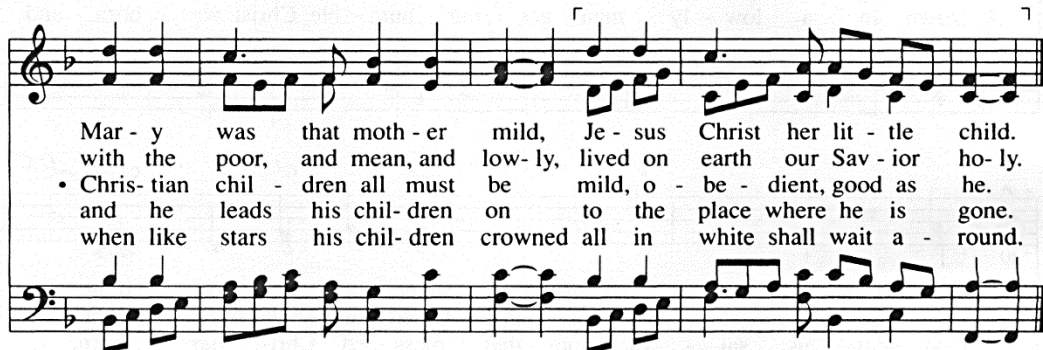
Praise Hymn Once in Royal David's City



1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3. And through all his won - drous child - hood he would hon - or and o - bey,
4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
5. Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall:
• love and watch the low - ly maid - en in whose gen - tle arms he lay:
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove,
we shall see him, but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
with the poor, and mean, and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
• Chris - tian chil - dren all must be mild, o - be - dient, good as he.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
when like stars his chil - dren crowned all in white shall wait a - round.

Confession of Sin

Exalted and mighty Father, quietly and humbly we come,
remembering that you oppose the proud,
and tear down those who exalt themselves.

We are guilty of conceit, of vanity, and of boasting,
of putting on airs of superiority,
and adopting tones of condescension.
Our hearts have been stony, and proud.
And we have loved neither you nor others
with the innocence of children
We are quick to criticize and find fault,
but defensive and testy when criticized ourselves.
We have been smug or stingy with our possessions,
or protective of our status, or too hungry for praise.

Help us, for the burden of love you ask us to carry
is breaking our proud back,
for only humility is strong enough to carry it.
Bend us, O Lord, under your mighty hand.
Bow our hearts, that we might know ourselves as we are,
and not as we imagine ourselves to be.

All this we confess, in the name of our humble Savior,
Jesus Christ. Amen.

Individual Confession

Absolution I Corinthians 1:28-31

God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Thanksgiving Hymn

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Unison

(Ref.) All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all. *Fine*

1. Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2. The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3. The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
4. The tall trees in the green - wood, the mead - ows where we play,
5. He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

he made their glow - ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
• the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them, ev - 'ry one.
the flow - ers by the wa - ter we gath - er ev - 'ry day.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well. *D.C.*

Old Testament Foreshadowing Isaiah 53:1-2

Gospel Fulfillment Luke 2:41-52

Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Praise Him all creatures here below!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host!

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen!

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

New Testament Acts 15

This is the Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

The Acts of the Ascended Christ, 14,
“Theology Debate!” | Pastor Curran Bishop

Response 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

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Bringing Our Life to God

Prayers | Collection | Profession

Prayers of the People

Collection

Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism Questions 56, 31, 32

Christians, what do you believe?

I believe that God, because of Christ's atonement, will never hold against me any of my sins nor my sinful nature which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather in his grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment. I am a member of Christ by faith, and thus partake of his anointing. He is ordained of God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Ghost, to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, who has fully revealed to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption; and to be our only High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of his body, has redeemed us, and makes continual intercession with the Father for us; and also to be our eternal King, who governs us by his word and Spirit, and who defends and preserves us in that salvation, he has purchased for us.

Communion in Christ Jesus

All Christians are invited to join us to receive Christ's presence of bread and wine. During this time of social distancing we offer for our pastor to come and bless your partaking of elements you provide to preserve the corporate-presence of Christ pictured in the supper as best we can. If you've been part of our streaming service please text Curran (203-812-9928) to set up a time he can meet you (from a distance) to celebrate communion.

Alleluia

Sinclair Alleluia

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

God of Wonders

Lord of all creation
Of water earth and sky
The heavens are Your tabernacle
Glory to the Lord on high

Chorus

God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy holy
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy holy
Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth

Early in the morning
I will celebrate the light
When I stumble in the darkness
I will call Your name by night

Chorus

Bridge

Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth

God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy holy
Precious Lord reveal Your heart to me
Father hold me hold me
The universe declares Your majesty
You are holy holy

Benediction Romans 16:25-27

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ!
Amen.

Announcements

REFLECTION

Jesus Among the Doctors

What is eternity?

Who was God's mother?

How many stars are there?

Do numbers ever come to an end?

Why is there war?

How do you know if you're in love?

What is gravity?

Children are full of questions, wonderful questions, unanswerable questions.

Jesus, too.

And where better to ask questions than in the Temple where the learned doctors were found, elders who had spent their entire lives in the study of the holy Jewish Law. Jesus was as curious as any bright twelve-year-old child. So when the family made the annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem, he went to the Temple where he astonished the teachers with his questions, and also with his answers. And there, at last, his frantic parents found him....

Jesus was an eager questioner, alert, ready to learn. He didn't notice time passing, or realize that his parents might be worried.

Already he was about his Father's business.

And that business, he was to learn, was not the law expounded in the Temple. That business was not law—but love.

—Madeline L'Engle in *The Glorious Impossible* (1990)

COMING UP

Thursday Night Prayer Meeting – 7pm, August 6 (new day!)

In the midst of pandemic, financial crisis and social isolation we need each other, and we need God. Please join us as we follow a short prayer and scripture liturgy, pray for each other, and have some “digital fellowship“ while staying home and staying safe.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/823911975> Meeting ID: 823 911 975

Community Group: resumes Sunday night, September 6, 5pm

Worship Location Schedule

– August 30, Sept 6, 20 - [1 Shipyard Ln., Milford, CT 06460 \(Fowler Field Pavilion\)](#)

– Sept. 13, 27 - [165 Forest Rd, Milford, CT 06461](#)

Contact us

203.812.9928 or curran.bishop@cpcmilford.org; find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/CPCMilford](https://www.facebook.com/CPCMilford) or visit us online at cpcmilford.org



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