

New Covenant Community Church

September 13, 2020

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

- Leader: We gather here to share the faith that captures our hearts, enriches our lives, and inspires us for discipleship.
- People:** Let us communicate our faith through actions of love and welcome, of grace and inclusion, of hope and mission.
- Leader: As we worship, may our faith promote peace and unity, and serve as a blessing to humankind.
- People:** May our faith stimulate us to live according to the word of Christ.
- Leader: Let us express our faith by shining the light that dispels the world's darkness.
- People:** As we seek to deepen and renew our faith, let us worship God in all that we do and may all God's people hail the power of Jesus' name.

HYMN

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Ken Heischman

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown Him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace, And crown Him Lord of all!
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace, And crown Him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe, On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe, And crown Him Lord of all!
To Him all majesty ascribe, And crown Him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song And crown Him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song And crown Him Lord of all!

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION (unison)

Merciful God, because of Your love for us, You have given us the gift of forgiveness; but because of our love for ourselves, we have withheld forgiveness from those who have offended us. Although You love us unconditionally, we harbor hatred. While You erase our many errors and transgressions, we hold grudges. Although we have received Your undeserved grace and Your unmerited mercy, we ration out our forgiveness according to precise calculations. Have mercy upon us, Lord, and enable us to reflect Your lovingkindness. Strengthen us through the power of Your Spirit, so that we may forgive others as You forgive us, and we may love others as You love us, through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. (Silent)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*adapted from Psalm 130:3-7*)

Leader: If the LORD would mark our iniquities, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with God.

People: Let us hope in the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love and plenteous redemption.

Leader: Sisters and brothers in Christ, believe the good news of the gospel:

People: Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

HYMN

Canto de Esperanza / May the God of Hope

Ken Heischman

May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.

May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace,
Singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new,
Faithful when we hear Christ's call.

(Sing twice)

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.

²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

MEDITATION

HYMN*Shine, Jesus, Shine*

Ken Heischman

Chorus: Shine, Jesus, shine, Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Chorus: Shine, Jesus, shine, Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me

Chorus: Shine, Jesus, shine, Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**CALL FOR THE OFFERING****BENEDICTION**