



Titusville Presbyterian Church

48 River Drive
Titusville, NJ 08560
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May 16th, 2021 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Call to Worship Ephesians 4:3-6 (ESV)

Leader: Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

People: There is one body and one Spirit—

Leader: Just as you were called to one hope when you were called —

People: One Lord, one faith, one baptism;

Leader: One God and Father of all,

People: Who is over all and through all and in all.

370 Rejoice, the Lord Is King

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Philippians 4:4

1. Re - joi - ce, the Lord is King; Your Lord and King a - dore!
 2. Je - sus, the Sav - ior, reigns, The God of truth and love.
 3. His king - dom can - not fail; He rules o'er earth and heav'n.
 4. Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come

Re - joi - ce, give thanks and sing And tri - umph ev - er - more. Lift
 When He had purged our stains, He took His seat a - bove. Lift
 The keys of death and hell Are to our Je - sus giv'n. Lift
 And take His ser - vants up To their e - ter - nal home. Lift

up your heart; Lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!
 up your heart; Lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!
 up your heart; Lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!
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TEXT: Charles Wesley
MUSIC: John Darwall

DARWALL
6.6.6.6.8.

648 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. 1 John 4:16

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
 2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - ery trou - bled breast!
 3. Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; Let us all Thy life re - ceive.
 4. Fin - ish then Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less let us be.

Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing; All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 Let us all in Thee in - her - it; Let us find the prom - ised rest.
 Sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.
 Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee:

Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion; Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art.
 Take a - way our bent to sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be.
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove,
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heav'n we take our place,

Vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion; En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 End of faith, as its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 Pray and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
 Till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love and praise.

Prayer of Confession

Holy Lord, whose ways are righteous, whose paths are straight, whose word is to be desired more than anything, hear us as we confess our sin and disobedience to you. Our ways have not been righteous, our paths have wandered the crooked ways of selfish desire, and your word has lain neglected both in our hands and in our hearts. O God, by your Holy Spirit remind us of our need for Jesus, renew our faith in his atoning death and resurrection, and grant us your forgiveness for his sake. Amen.

[Silent confession]

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Gloria Patri

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, amen.

Old Testament Lesson: Nehemiah 8:1-12

8 And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the Lord had commanded Israel. 2 So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. 3 And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. 4 And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiyah, and Maaseiah on his right hand, and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. 5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. 6 And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. 7 Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. 8 They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. 10 Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat

the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” 11 So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, “Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.” 12 And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, 25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Sermon: “The Church’s Strength”

90 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to You. Psalm 71:23

1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2. All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays.
 3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,
 4. Mor - tals, join the might - y cho - rus Which the morn-ing stars be - gan;

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Open-ing to the sun a - bove.
 Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean depth of hap - py rest!
 Love di - vine is reign - ing o'er us, Lead - ing us with mer - cy's hand.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; Drive the dark of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - ery mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Broth - er - All who live in love are Thine.
 Ev - er sing-ing, march we on-ward, Vic - tors in the midst of strife.

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day!
 Chant-ing bird and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee!
 Teach us how to love each oth - er; Lift us to the joy di - vine!
 Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun-ward In the tri-umph song of life!

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Announcements and Prayers of the People

- Welcome to Reverend John F. Potter and his wife, Mary.

The Rev. John Potter retired in 2012 after 21 years as stated supply pastor of the Holland Presbyterian Church in Holland Township (Milford) NJ. Until January 2005 he was also employed weekdays by the A.M. Best Company in Oldwick, NJ. Previously he had served as pastor of the Amwell First Presbyterian Church (Reaville) and the United First Presbyterian Church of Amwell (Larison's Corner) in Ringoes, NJ for fourteen years. After many years as a member of the former Presbytery of New Brunswick, serving as its Moderator as well as on several of its committees and task forces over the years, John is now a member of the Presbytery of the Highlands.

Pastor Potter came to faith in Christ as a senior in college in 1965. This conversion experience led to a complete change in his life and career plans. He graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1971 and served as an unordained parish associate at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Trenton, NJ before being called to his first pastorate in 1976.

Pastor Potter has been married to the former Mary Raff since 1965. Mary, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, retired from Trenton Psychiatric Hospital in 2003. They reside in Ringoes, NJ and are the parents of three grown children: John, a Navy chaplain living at Camp LeJeune, NC with his wife Li-Chuan (Sara); Susanna, an editor who lives in the Bronx with her husband Hammad Jawdat; and Charles, a teacher who lives in Forest Hills, NY with his wife Helen and children James and Lillian.

- We have a prayer team that will pray for your joys, celebrations and concerns. If you would like prayer, please send an email to bmatlack@titusvillechurch.org and a prayer request will go right out. Also, if you would like to prayer for those on our prayer list, please let Barbara Matlack know. She will add you to the prayer team email list
- Tuesday and Friday Scripture and Prayer at 10am. Tuesdays we use the Upper Room devotion for the day and on Friday's we are reading through Mark.
- Thursday evening Bible Study on Genesis. Rev. Potter leads a Thursday evening Bible Study via Zoom. If you would like to join, please email Rev. Potter at johnfpotter@comcast.net to sign up.

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!**

429 They'll Know We Are Christians

By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another. John 13:35

Unison

1. We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.
2. We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.
3. We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.
4. All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come.

We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord.
We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand.
We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side.
And all praise to Christ Je - sus, His on - ly Son.

And we pray that all u - ri - ty may one day be re - stored.
And to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
And we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save each one's pride.
And all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one.

▮ *Refrain*

And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our love.

Yes, they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love.

Benediction