

POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH

Our Vision: A world where all experience and share the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

March 17, 2019

(*Please stand if you are able)

11:00 am

... **THE APPROACH TO GOD...**

Prelude

Greeting/Prayer

Church Life

Call to Worship

The first shall be last.

We come to worship as we are.

The last shall be first.

We come with confidence.

The first shall be last.

We come with questions.

The last shall be first.

We come burdened by failure.

The first shall be last.

We come celebrating success.

The last shall be first.

We come fearful of the future.

The first shall be last and the last shall be first and a little child shall lead them.

***Singing Together (Insert)**

“Rain Down”**

Prayer of Confession

Forgiving Lord, we are such jealous people. We want to make sure that we get what we deserve, that we are always treated fairly. Yet we complain when you treat others, who have not worked as hard or been as faithful, with such love. Just like the workers in the Gospel lesson, we want to know why you are as generous with the late-comers as you are with us, after all, we whine, we've been here longer. You are merciful and compassionate. You do not count the time, but the quality of the heart. Forgive us, generous Lord, when we have been so petty about your love. Heal and restore us. Help us reach out with love and hope to others in the name of Jesus Christ. (a time of silent reflection.....) **AMEN.**

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news: what we do matters, but our salvation is God's doing. God hears our complaints, but also our prayers. God will not forget us. In Christ's name, we are forgiven. Amen.

God's Law for Grateful Living

And as a forgiven people, let us go and live a life that reflects God's incredible grace. What does the Lord require of us? To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God.

Ministry of Music

"Creation Will be at Peace"
"...a little child will lead..."

Williams/Page

Sunday School Students Dismissed

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

***Doxology (Blue) #805**

"Glory Be to the Father"

***Offering Prayer**

THE WORD OF GOD...

"It's Not Fair!!"

Matthew 20:1-16

...OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD...

***Affirmation of Faith**

excerpted from the Belhar Confession

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for his Church by his Word and his Spirit, as He has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe in one holy, universal Christian Church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the Church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another. That unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the Church of Jesus Christ. This unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one Name; are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope. To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory forever and ever.

Healing Service

¹⁴ Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well. And if you have committed any sins, you will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

James 5:14-16 NIV

Prayer Requests received today by card

Other Prayer Requests (prayed for in unison by first name)

John Nelson	Logan Norman	Stephanie	Mary Verduin
Anna Gordon	Donna Winter	Isabel Manfredo	Cheryl Putney
Joyce DeMartino	Nikol & Alanna	Meghan VanderPlaat	Michele Mac Donald
Ed Fischer	Charlie & Kay	Mike Magee	Eleanor Finke
Peter Bankuti	Erika Herz	Peter Butler	Carolyn & Don
David Pope	David Hague	Lillian Moore	Shirley Montanari
Carole Romaine	Lothar Schneider	A child & a grandchild	Russell Cueman
		Joe	Kay Bergin

During the Healing Service worshippers are invited to come forward to request prayers for themselves or loved ones. Until the pastor or healing elder asks privately to receive to the request, elders lay hands upon those who come forward, centering them in God's presence, while elders encircle the sanctuary. At the conclusion of the healing prayer, a blessing with anointing of oil on forehead or hand is offered.

Healing Song (Blue) #445

“Just As I Am” v. 1, 3 & 5

Prayers of the People and 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn (Blue) #507

“I Then Shall Live”

A Choral Blessing (be seated please) “The Irish Blessing” †

***Benediction**

Postlude

† *The anthem “The Irish Blessing” was given by Lois Bobrowski in memory of her son, J.T. Murphy.*

*** Denotes a hymn request from the congregation.*

Please join us following worship for our “Everything Green” social.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Worship Leader:	Rev. Debbie Pierce
Liturgist:	Vince Iraggi
Music Director:	Patricia Kitchell
Organist:	Scott Burzynski
Bell Choir Director:	Janine Maletsky
Ushers:	David Hackbarth - co-captain, Al Kuebler - co-captain Janet Hackbarth, Fran Bierwas, Robin Sharpe, Joe Apgar

Today's Scripture

Matthew 20:1-16 (NRSV)

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴ and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."