



POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH

January 16, 2022

10:00 am

Prelude

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

In the times of trouble, when all seemed hopeless, I cried out to God.

And the Lord heard my plea and answered me.

When I felt lost and alone, I looked for God.

And God found me and brought me home.

When my life was filled with joy and blessing, I danced and praised God.

And God danced and rejoiced with me.

Lord let our souls rise to meet you as the day rises to meet the sun.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

Song of Reflection Green #223 "Shout to the Lord"

Call to Confession

Holy God, you are a mystery greater than our minds can comprehend.

And yet, you have come to us in Jesus and he invites us to stay with him;

to follow where he leads so that we may find you whom our hearts seek.

**We come, but we bring with us our doubts, our questions,
our frailties, and our inability to love one another well.**

We come, hesitant, yet drawn by your haunting love.

Immerse us in the waters of your grace. Pour your Holy Spirit upon us.

Teach us to love one another with the love of Christ.

To you, O Lord, we pray.

Assurance of God's Grace

In the waters of our baptism, God claims us by The Holy Spirit and declares "You are my beloved child." Now we are community, called to flood our world with the love we have received.

This week, whenever anyone or anything makes you feel small or insignificant or alone, remember your baptism and live into your high and holy calling. It is the gift of God's grace for you.

Friends, may the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Living the Way of Jesus

As followers of Jesus, our lives are changed and shaped by his life and his teaching. In the Sermon on the Mount, he gives us a picture of a different kind of world. Hear and say these words from Matthew 5:

⁵ Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

He said:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Friends, this is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Passage: Matthew 13:31-33

Sermon: Think Smaller

³¹ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.” ³³ He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds^[b] of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

Our Shared Faith: From *Our World Belongs to God*

34. In our world,
where many journey alone,
nameless in the bustling crowd,
God, through his work in Christ,
gathers a new community—
those who by God’s gift
put their trust in Christ.
In the new community
all are welcome:
the homeless come home,
the broken find healing,
the sinner makes a new start,
the despised are esteemed,
the least are honored,
and the last are first.
Here the Spirit guides
and grace abounds.

Song of Reflection Green #145

“There Is a Redeemer”

***Benediction**

Postlude

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Worship Leader:	Pastor John Burden
Liturgist:	Patricia Kitchell
Music Director:	Patricia Kitchell

2021 CONSISTORY

Deacons

Dan Douma
Leslee Ferray
Kristin Widdowson
Wes Witherington
Bill Wyckoff

Elder Care Team

Lynn Scarmazzo 973-288-1135 (A-E)
Terry Terhune 973-835-6982 (F-J)
Elena Van Schaack 973-839-7874 (K-O)
Pat Gordon 973-835-8389 (P-S)
Bruce Davis 201-236-3164 (T-Z)

2022 CONSISTORY

Deacons

Bruce Davis
Nancy Shimmel
Tina Thompson
Kristin Widdowson
Wes Witherington

Elder Care Team

Pat Gordon
Lynn Scarmazzo
Eva Terhune
Mark Warner

You are invited to speak with your Elder representative about any concerns or suggestions you have related to church life.

Pompton Reformed Church
59 Hamburg Turnpike
Pompton Lakes, New Jersey 07442
973-835-0541

pomptonreformed.org

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