



## POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH

January 26, 2025

10:00 am

### **Prelude**

### **Lighting the Christ Candle**

*May the light of the life of Christ illuminate our lives. May it shine into the darkness of the world, and may it guide us on our way.*

### **Call to Worship**

Lord of heaven and earth of all nations and peoples  
all faiths and no faith  
reveal yourself to those who are suffering,

**reveal yourself**

**to all who are refugees,**

**reveal yourself**

**to those who are powerful,**

**reveal yourself**

**to all who are powerless,**

reveal yourself

to ordinary people

in their everyday lives,

that this world

might reflect your love

and your glory.

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.**

### **Opening Song – Green #145**

*“There Is a Redeemer”*

### **Confession and Assurance**

We say a prayer of confession together because it reminds us that we are all in this together. We share the same brokenness and potential. We share in the same sin and grace, and we are loved by the same God. I will begin the litany.

Lord of Creation, we confess that we have squandered your gifts and used them as if they had been given for us alone.

**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have failed to be an obedient church.**

**We have not done your will,**

**we have rebelled against your love,**

**we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

**Forgive us, we pray.**

**Free us for joyful obedience,**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

### **Words of Assurance**

Hear the Good News:

We have not been faithful in all things. But our God still welcomes us with patience and kindness. Therefore, as people of God's promise, let us receive forgiveness, embrace hope, and faithfully respond, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Glory to to God! We are forgiven. We have hope. We will respond.**

Friends, the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### **Living the Way of Jesus**

For living the way of Jesus today, we are going to read a modern interpretation of The Apostles' Creed. This simple statement of belief is the center of the center.

I believe in God, who created all things

and seeks for all to be in communion as God's people.

**I believe in Jesus Christ who showed us how to share love, and who commissioned us to go out into the highways and byways inviting all to be a part of God's work in the world.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit who leads and guides us into the world, then touches the lives of those around using ways that make them receptive to love.

**I believe in The Church a community of believers who serve the world through compassion, justice and love.**

### **Announcements**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

### **Offering**

**Offertory Choir Anthem** "Go Out and Serve Him"

"Carry His Word Into All of the World"

Words/music

Nancy Price & Don Besig

**Doxology – Green #216**

*"Give Thanks"*

**Scripture: Matthew 5:1-10**

**Sermon: Everything is Upside Down, Part 1**

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

**The Beatitudes**

He said:

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

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

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

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

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

**Our Shared Faith: From *Our World belongs to God, Article 34***

**34. In our world,**

**many journey alone,**

**nameless in the bustling crowd.**

**But God, by his gracious choosing 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.**

**Closing Song – Blue #89**

*"Our Great Savior"*

**Benediction**

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Worship Leader: Pastor John Burden  
Liturgist: Bruce Davis  
Guest Pianist: Maxine Alstrom

### Streaming & Audio

Karen Huysers  
Gail Freeland  
Joe Apgar

### Screen Visuals

Eddie Van Schaack

## 2025 CONSISTORY

### Deacons

Doreen Apgar  
Keith Hanisch  
Joann Mack  
Kristin Widdowson

### Elder Care Team

Sabine Kroeger	A-F	973-728-7460
Terry Terhune	G-L	973-835-6982
Drew Altorfer	M-S	973-975-3223
Elena Van Schaack	T-Z	973-632-6639

If you are in need of prayer, spiritual support, have concerns about your faith journey or wish to discuss any other issue, we faithfully encourage you to reach out to your Elder representative.



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