



## POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH

February 23, 2025

10:00 am

### **Prelude**

#### **Welcome and Lighting the Christ Candle**

*And God said, "Let there be light, and there was light." God is always bringing light into the darkness of our world and our lives. Let's experience that light today.*

#### **Call to Worship: Inspired by Psalm 23, written by Joanna Harader**

In the darkest valley,

at the banquet table;

in the hard work of life,

**at the moments of ease;**

**in our day-to-day reality,**

**at times set aside—**

**like this time, now—**

**for worship, for listening, for paying attention;**

with every step we take:

**goodness and mercy follow us; our cups overflow.**

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 – Blue #77**

*"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"*

#### **Call to Confession from Psalm 51**

Friends, as we come to our time of corporate confession, we recognize that we are all in this together. We are all created in God's image and loved by him. We share the same brokenness and sin. So let's go to God, knowing that he doesn't meet us in judgment, but in love. Say these words with me:

**Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out our transgressions. <sup>2</sup>Wash away all our iniquity and cleanse us from my sin. <sup>3</sup>For we know our transgressions, and our sin is always before us.**

<sup>7</sup> Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

<sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

<sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

<sup>10</sup> **Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup> **Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.**

<sup>12</sup> **Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.**

Lord, hear our prayer. **Lord, have mercy.**

### **Words of Assurance and Hope from Psalm 103**

Friends, we are not defined by the things we have accomplished or things we have failed at, neither are we defined by our worst day or our worst action. The center of who we are is that we are loved and accepted. We have been redeemed and we are being restored. Hear these words from Psalm 103.

Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

<sup>2</sup> Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, <sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, <sup>5</sup> who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; <sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. <sup>13</sup> As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; <sup>14</sup> for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.**

Friends, may the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Once the grace and peace of God sinks down into your hearts, it changes the way you live your life. As we seek to live out the way of Jesus in the world, let's reflect on this meditation from Saint Teresa of Avila.

Christ has no body but yours,

No hands, no feet on earth but yours,

**Yours are the eyes with which he looks**

**Compassion on this world,**

**Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,**

**Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.**

Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,

Yours are the eyes, you are his body.

**Christ has no body now but yours,**

**No hands, no feet on earth but yours,**

**Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world.  
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.**  
And all God's people said, **Amen.**

## **Announcements**

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

### **Offering**

### **Offertory Choir Song**

*"If You Love Me"*  
words/music Joel Raney  
*"Because I live, you too shall live!"*

### **Doxology – Green #230**

*"We Are an Offering"*

### **Scripture: Matthew 17:1-8**

### **Sermon: Everything Will Change**

*17 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup> There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup> Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. <sup>4</sup> Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."*

*<sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" <sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." <sup>8</sup> When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.*

### **Our Shared Faith: *The Apostles' Creed***

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Closing Song – Blue #262**

*"Rejoice, the Lord Is King"*

### **Benediction**

### **Postlude**

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

Worship Leader: Pastor John Burden  
Liturgist: Rick Pierce  
Music Director: Matthew Hosmer

### **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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