



## POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH

March 30, 2025

10:00 am

### Prelude

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

*The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life, of whom shall I be afraid? -Psalm 27:1*

#### **Congregational Song of Response: “The Lord is my light and my salvation”**

#### **Call to Worship**

Come, all who are weary and longing for rest.

**We come, seeking the presence of God.**

Return to the Lord with all your heart, for God is gracious and compassionate.

**Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

**God binds up the wounded and restores the weary.**

Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

**We will seek justice, love mercy, and follow in the way of Christ.**

Let us worship the God who makes all things new.

**With open hearts and lifted voices, we come to worship!**

**From the rising of the sun to the setting of the same, may your name be praised.**

**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 #129 “Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights” vs. 1-4**

#### **Prayer of Confession**

Friends, Lent invites us to slow down, to reflect, to take an honest look at ourselves. We acknowledge the ways we have turned away from love, the moments we have been indifferent to suffering, the times we have chosen self-interest over compassion. But hear this: God does not turn away from us. God meets us in mercy, in kindness, in grace. Let us come before God in confession, trusting that we are always met with love. Hear these words from Joel 2:12-13:

*“Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love.”*

Let us pray:

**Merciful God,**

**We confess that we have strayed from your path.**

**We have been quick to judge and slow to forgive.**

We have clung to comfort rather than seeking justice.

We have turned inward when you call us to love outwardly.

**Forgive us, O God. Draw us back to your heart, that we might walk in your ways of mercy, and live as reflections of your grace.**

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

### **Words of Assurance**

Hear this good news:

God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

God does not turn away from us but welcomes us with open arms.

**May Christ, who bore our burdens,  
renew in us a spirit of hope,  
restore us to the joy of his salvation,  
and lead us forward in love.**

Friends, believe the good news:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

As forgiven people, let us now go and live in love.

These are the words of Jesus:

*"A new command I give you: Love one another.*

*As I have loved you, so you must love one another.*

*By this, everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."* (John 13:34-35)

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Announcements**

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

#### **Offering**

**Offertory Choir**

*"Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You"*

*Jay Althouse*

**Doxology – Blue #130**

*"O for a Thousand Tongues" vs 1-2*

**Scripture:** Matthew 26:14-16, 47-56

## Sermon: The Betrayal

### Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

<sup>14</sup> Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests <sup>15</sup> and asked, “What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?” So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. <sup>16</sup> From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

### Jesus Arrested

<sup>47</sup> While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. <sup>48</sup> Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: “The one I kiss is the man; arrest him.” <sup>49</sup> Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him. <sup>50</sup> Jesus replied, “Do what you came for, friend.”<sup>[a]</sup>

Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. <sup>51</sup> With that, one of Jesus’ companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

<sup>52</sup> “Put your sword back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. <sup>53</sup> Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup> But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?”

<sup>55</sup> In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, “Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. <sup>56</sup> But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

### Our Shared Faith: *The Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 1*

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**A. That I am not my own,  
but belong—body and soul,  
in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.  
He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood.  
Because I belong to him,  
Christ, by his Holy Spirit,  
assures me of eternal life  
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready  
from now on to live for him.**

Closing Song - Blue #502

“Amazing Grace”

Benediction

Postlude

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

Worship Leader: Pastor John Burden  
Liturgist: Drew Altorfer  
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.



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

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