

New St. Peter's Presbyterian Church
Home Liturgy Based on the Worship Service of January 12, 2020
God is Our Hope

The recorded sermon is available online: [http://www.buzzsprout.com/
87/2464733-pilgrim-hope?play=true](http://www.buzzsprout.com/87/2464733-pilgrim-hope?play=true)

***Come, thou Incarnate Word. Gird on thy mighty sword. Our prayer attend:
Come and thy people bless, and give thy Word success; Spirit of holiness,
on us descend.***

Call to Worship (Psalm 126)

Psalm 126
A Song of Ascents

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**
Then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”
**The LORD has done great things for us;
we are glad.**

Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negeb!
Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!
**He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.**

The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we also
forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

Hymn: “*The Christian’s Hope Can Never Fail*” ([Click here to listen on Spotify](#))

*We travel through a barren land,
With dangers thick on every hand;
But Jesus guides us through the vale;
O, The Christian’s hope can never fail.*

*Sometimes we’re tempted to despair,
But Jesus makes us then His care;
Though numerous foes our souls assail;
O, The Christian’s hope can never fail.*

*Huge sorrows meet us as we go,
And devils aim to overthrow;
But vile infernals can’t prevail;
O, The Christian’s hope shall never fail.*

*We trust upon the sacred word,
The oath and promise of the Lord;
And safely through each tempest sail;
O, The Christian’s hope can never fail.*

New Testament Reading (Matthew 5:1-11)

A Reading from Matthew: Jesus blesses those who, through pilgrim hope, await the fullness of the Kingdom.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

(Take a moment to pray for peace among the members of New St. Peter’s during our temporary absence from one another)

A Liturgy for Reflection on Baptism (Deuteronomy 6 and Acts 2)

Hear, O Israel: **The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.**

Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of His Holy Spirit. **For this promise is for us and for our children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the LORD our God calls to Himself.**

Of Baptism

Like the Lord’s Supper, Baptism is a sacrament—that is, a physical representation of a spiritual reality—and thus is cannot be engaged online or in any other way apart from the gathering of the saints in worship. However, like the Lord’s Supper, the Holy Spirit uses baptism to be at work in us even when we are apart.



Consider this question from the Westminster Larger Catechism:

Q167: How is our Baptism to be improved by us?

A167: The needful but much neglected duty of improving our Baptism, is to be performed by us all our life long, especially in the time of temptation, and when we are present at the administration of it to others; by serious and thankful consideration of the nature of it, and of the ends for which Christ instituted it, the privileges and benefits conferred and sealed thereby, and our solemn vow made therein; by being humbled for our sinful defilement, our falling short of, and walking contrary to, the grace of baptism, and our engagements; by growing up to assurance of pardon of sin, and of all other blessings sealed to us in that sacrament; by drawing strength from the death and resurrection of Christ, into whom we are baptized, for the mortifying of sin, and quickening of grace; and by endeavoring to live by faith, to have our conversation in holiness and righteousness, as those that have therein given up their names to Christ; *and to walk in brotherly love, as being baptized by the same Spirit into one body.*

You see, though we are “scattered” for a time due to circumstances out of our control, we are nevertheless baptized into one body. We are members of one another, and nothing can change this. As surely as the waters of baptism are poured on the one baptized, so surely God has untied His people together in Christ. If you feel this morning like something is “missing,” you should. Gathering for worship is important. Yet the *hope* displayed in baptism far supersedes any temporal separation God’s people may endure. We are baptized into one body, and God our Helper holds us together by His own Spirit. Thanks be to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymn: “*Jesus Let us Come to Know You*”

*Jesus let us come to know you
Let us see you face to face
Touch us, hold us, use us, mold us
Only let us live in you*

*Jesus draw us ever nearer
Hold us in your loving arms
Wrap us in your gentle presence
And when the end comes bring us home*

A Liturgy for Reflection on Giving and Receiving Alms

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you?
To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

(Take a moment to pray for those in need around you—neighbors, family, friends, church. Consider ways, as you are able, to reach out to those in need, or consider how you might reach out to the deacons in your time of need: deacons@newstpeters.org)

Benediction (Hebrews 10)

May we hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus! Amen.