

Second Reformed Church

Of New Brunswick



**100 College Avenue
New Brunswick, New Jersey**

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

March 10, 2013

Lent 4

*Welcome guests, we were expecting you! We are glad you have come to worship with us today. So please sit back now and relax.
Worship begins best out of a prayerful spirit. Let's begin our service of worship in silent prayer.*

PREPARATORY PRAYER

Almighty God, you pour out the spirit of grace and supplication on all who desire it. Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GOD CALLS US INTO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

INTROIT

"There is a Redeemer" (Vs. 1 only)

Green Hymnal #145

VOTUM / SALUTATION

Our help is in the Name of the Lord, creator of heaven and earth.
Grace to you and peace from God, our Creator, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*PEACE

Jesus said: "Peace be with you. My peace I give to you."

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body.

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Let's stand and share a sign of peace with each other.

CALL TO WORSHIP

--Joel 2:12-13-Hosea 6:1--Isaiah 44:22

One: Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

All: **Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is he who has torn and he will heal us; he has struck down and he will bind up.**

I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud, says the Lord, and your sins like a mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you. **Come let us worship the Lord.**

*HYMN

"Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

Hymnal #434

[*Please stand as you are able.]

CALL TO SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

--from Hebrews 4:15-16

Remember that our Lord Jesus Christ is able to sympathize with us in our weakness, since in every respect he was tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Have mercy, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions. Gracious God, whose mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, and deeper than all our sin: Receive again your bewildered and broken people. Forgive our folly and our excess, our coldness to human sorrow, our passion for things of the moment, Change our hearts and turn all our desires to your way, that we may love what you love and do what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Give us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.

HYMN

"Faith Begins by Letting Go"

Green Hymnal #172

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

--from the [*Heidelberg Catechism*](#), Q. & A. 60

How are you right with God? **Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned.., nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned, nor been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need do is accept this gift of God with a believing heart.** Believe the good news of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

CALL TO FAITHFUL LIVING

Matthew 22

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. And so let us live.

*HYMN

"Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

Hymnal #429

GOD COMES TO US IN WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lift up your hearts. **Let us lift them to the Lord our God.** Loving God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to us who have gone astray from your ways, and bring us again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son. Guide us now by your Holy Spirit that through the words of scripture and sermon we might be led to him, who alone is the way the truth and the life.. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

The Word of the Lord from Isaiah 58: 6-11 Pew Bible pg. 674

How to truly worship the Lord. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON

The Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Mark 6: 30-44 Pew Bible pg. 916

The feeding of the five thousand. This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Cooperative Miracles"

Ann Hays

PRAYER FOR BLESSING

*HYMN

"When the Church of Jesus"

Green Hymnal #265

*CONFESSION OF 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. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son; and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be;

world without end. Amen. Amen.

GIVING OF TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

ANTHEM / OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

***THANKSGIVING**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to offer thanks and praise.** God of all mercies, we give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all people. Give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory now and forever. **Amen.**

GOD SENDS US INTO MISSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*"Lord in your mercy...**Hear our Prayer.**"*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. AMEN.

INVITATION TO FELLOWSHIP

***HYMN**

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

Hymnal #422

***BENEDICTORY PRAYER**

***POSTLUDE**

WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

Sunday: 7:00 am Del Dios Vivo Church Worship
10:00 am English Worship 11:00 am Coffee Hour
11:30 am Korean Service
5:00 pm Del Dios Vivo Church Worship
Tuesday: 6-8:30 pm Soup & Cinema

*The flowers in church this morning are from John Winant
in memory of his mother, Peg Winant.*

HELPING YOU THIS MORNING

Coffee Hour: **Everyone's Coffee Hour** Ushers: **Greater Consistory**

MISSIONS COOKIE SALE ~ Proceeds from the February 17th cookie sale total \$267. \$300 will be sent to Church World Service for their blankets plus program. Thank you to all the bakers and buyers!

TUESDAY EVENING SOUP & CINEMA – We will be meeting every Tuesday evening during Lent beginning February 20 at 6 – 8:30 pm to share soup and a movie. A sign-up sheet for soup is on the bulletin board.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

~March 10 Everyone's Coffee Hour
~March 10-16 Men Winter Shelter
~March 10 Ann Hays preaching – Rev Shepler at retreat in NY
~March 13 Consistory Meeting (April & March Postponed to 4/20)
~ March 17 Kiwanis visit/Special Coffee hour hosted by
Kathleen & Tom Williamson
~March 20 Five Loaves Food Delivery
~March 24 Palm / Passion Sunday/Last day to order Easter plants
~March 28 Maundy Thursday Seder with Communion – Signup sheet on bulletin brd
~March 29 Good Friday – Noon Passion readings with Service of Healing prayer
~March 31 Easter Sunday – Special Coffee Hour hosted by **Ellie & Walt Holz**
~April 20 Spring Consistory Retreat Pancake breakfast 8am – Noon



EASTER PLANT ORDER FORMS

Forms are located on the tables in the foyers. Last day to order is Sunday, **March 24th**.

THRIFT STORE NEWS - The Thrift Store has been producing up to \$75 per week in sales. The shop is only open Saturdays from noon till 6pm. All proceeds from the shop go back into the purchase of food for the food pantry. The shop carries clothing for all sizes, sexes and ages. Plus, there is jewelry, accessories, kitchen items, toys, games, books, and shoes. Volunteers are needed to sort through bags of donated goods and then to price and shelve the items. Please contact Jacqueline Stagg if you are interested in helping. Free clothing is made available through the food pantry ministry – there is always an over-abundance of clothing to be made available. Contributions of goods are welcome – but we suggest that you contact Jacqueline before leaving the items at the church.

PRAYERS

INCLEMENT WEATHER If we are cancelling Sunday worship service, a message will be on the answering machine no later than 8 am Sunday morning. Please also check your emails. When in doubt, call the church office with the most latest updates. A consistory member may also call you using the phone number listed in the most recent church telephone directory. If there are any changes, please let Kathy know in the church office.

BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY - *\$110 collected so far in 2013!*

The first Sunday of each month we will be collecting for missions. Currently, we do not have a budget for any mission monies to be used for outside of Second Church ministries. Envelopes will be available on the foyer tables or place your check in the offering plate and write in the memo section of your check, "Benevolence Sunday". We will not be collecting on the 1st Sunday of the month in ***March, November or December***. Instead, there will be special (holiday) designated collections. The next collection will be on Easter Sunday, **March 31st**.

EASTER SUNDAY SPECIAL COLLECTION

We will have a special collection for Easter. All monies will benefit repairing the Second Church organ. Envelopes will be provided in your bulletin on Palm Sunday and on both foyer tables though **April 7th** for your convenience.