

***New Covenant Presbyterian Church - PCA***

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February 3, 2013

Prelude

Choral Introit

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

\*Hymn No. 25 *Immortal, Invisible*

\*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Responsive Reading

The Anthem

Sermon

Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

***WHEN YOU NEED A FRIEND***

Luke 1: 39-56

Friends in a Time of Uncertainty

\*Hymn No. 89 *Our Great Savior*

Offering of Thanks and Praise

Offertory

Sermon Continued

Mary's Response ... A Song

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn No. 430 *I Must Tell Jesus* (v. 1)

Sermon Concluded

The Rest of the Story

Song of Response

\*Benediction

\*Choral Benediction No. 286 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

\*Postlude

***WHEN YOU NEED A FRIEND***

Luke 1: 39-56

- I. The setting: (1:39-41)
- II. It is good to have a friend in a time of uncertainty. (1:42-45)
  - A. A friend is **accepting** - not judgmental.  
<sup>42</sup>"...Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!
  - B. A friend is **humble** - makes you feel important.  
<sup>43</sup> But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
  - C. A friend is **spiritually discerning** - they see you through God's eyes..  
<sup>44</sup> As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.
  - D. A friend is **spiritually encouraging** - they give you hope.  
<sup>45</sup> Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!"
- III. Mary responds to Elizabeth with a song ... *a psalm* (1:46-55)
  - A. Glorify the Lord!
    1. God sees value in the humble. (46-48)
    2. God's blessings are obvious to all. (48b-49)
  - B. Look at all the blessings that are available to those who fear God. (50-55)
    1. God performs mighty deeds without difficulty. (51)
    2. God scatters the proud ... He knows their inmost thoughts. (51)
    3. God humbles rulers ... and lifts up the humble. (52)
    4. God provides for the hungry but the rich have nothing to trade. (53)
    5. God is helpful and merciful. (54)
    6. God fulfills every promise. (55)
- IV. Mary's visit with Elizabeth lasted three months.  
*(Why do you think Mary stayed that long?)*

Mary was a \_\_\_\_\_

Prelude  
Choral Introit  
Welcome and Announcements  
Call to Worship

\*Hymn No. 25 *Immortal, Invisible*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from  
our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious—Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting,  
Thou rulest in might; Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring  
above Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest—to both great and small; in all life Thou  
livest—the true life of all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on  
the tree, and wither and perish—but naught changeth Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, Thine angels adore  
Thee all veiling their sight; all praise we would render—  
O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

\*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth,  
as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, for ever.  
Amen.

Responsive Reading

Luke 1:47-55

P: "My soul glorifies the Lord. <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God  
my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has been mindful of the humble state of  
his servant.

C: **From now on all generations will call me blessed, <sup>49</sup>for the  
Mighty One has done great things for me— holy is his  
name.**

P: <sup>50</sup>His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation  
to generation.

C: <sup>51</sup>**He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has  
scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.**

P: <sup>52</sup>He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted  
up the humble.

C: <sup>53</sup>**He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent  
the rich away empty.**

P: <sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be  
merciful <sup>55</sup>to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as  
he said to our fathers."

The Anthem

Sermon

Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

***WHEN YOU NEED A FRIEND***

Luke 1: 39-56

Friends in a Time of Uncertainty

\*Hymn No. 89 *Our Great Savior* (1, 2, 3, 5)

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul.  
Friends may fail me, foes assail me;  
He, my Savior, makes me whole.  
*Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.*

Jesus! what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him;  
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,  
He, my strength, my victory wins.  
*Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.*

Jesus! what a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll,  
even when my heart is breaking, He, my comfort, helps my soul.

*Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.*

Jesus! I do now receive Him; more than all in Him I find;  
He hath granted me forgiveness; I am His, and He is mine.

*Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.*

Offering of Thanks and Praise

Offertory

Sermon Continued

Mary's Response ... A Song

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn No. 430 *I Must Tell Jesus* (verse 1)

I must tell Jesus all of my trials;  
I cannot bear these burdens alone:  
In my distress He kindly will help me;  
He ever loves and cares for His own.

**Chorus:**

I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus!  
I cannot bear my burdens alone; I must tell Jesus!  
I must tell Jesus! Jesus can help me, Jesus alone.

Sermon Concluded

The Rest of the Story

Song of Response

\*Benediction

\*Choral Benediction No. 286 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

Blest be the tie that binds, Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds — Is like to that above.

\*Postlude