

New Covenant Presbyterian Church - PCA

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Prelude

Choral Introit

Welcome and Announcements Mr. Robert Smith

Call to Worship Mr. Robert Smith

*Hymn No. 252 *Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

Scripture Reading Isaiah 11:1-3 Dr. Paul A. Brown

*Hymn No. 8 *Praise to the Lord, The Almighty*

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Responsive Scripture Reading Luke 1:67-79 Mr. Robert Smith

The Anthem

*Doxology

Sermon Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

WALKING INTO THE PATH OF PEACE

Luke 1:67-80

God is in Control ... When we are Spirit Filled

*Hymn No. 377 *Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

Offering of Thanks and Praise Mr. Robert Smith

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn No. 247 *Spirit of the Living God*

Sermon Continued

Benedictus

Song of Response

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction No. 259 *Breath on Me, Breath of God* (v. 3)

*Postlude

WALKING INTO THE PATH OF PEACE

Luke 1:67-80

- I. Zechariah, filled with the Holy Spirit, begins to speak: (67)
 - A. **John:** Filled with the Holy Spirit from his birth (1:15)
 - B. **Mary:** The Holy Spirit came upon her. (1:35)
 - B. **Elizabeth:** Filled with the Holy Spirit at Mary's visit. (1:41)
 - C. **Zechariah:** Filled with the Holy Spirit - *restored* (1:67)
 - D. They were yielding to God's control in their life - *and we are called to do the same.*

- II. The Prophecy in Song: – *Benedictus* (Latin - 'Praise Be')
 - A. God is praised for two reasons: (68-75)
 1. He has **come** and has **redeemed** his people (statement of faith) (68)
[*Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.* – Heb. 11:1]
 2. He has **raised up a 'horn of salvation'** from enemies and all who hate. (69-75)
 - A. Showing mercy to our fathers. (72)
 - B. Remembering His holy covenant. (72-73)
 - C. Rescuing *us* from enemies. (74)
 - D. Enabling *us* to serve without fear. (74-75)
 - B. Zachariah dedicated his son to God. (76)
 1. Called a prophet: Your ministry = ***prepare the way.***
 2. Called to prepare the way: Your message = ***the Gospel.***
 - C. Zachariah described the value of the Gospel: (78-79)
 1. God treats us with His tender mercy.
 2. He sent Christ to shine on those living in darkness.
 3. Christ will guide our feet **into** the path of peace.

- III. The result: The dedicated child was free to prepare for ministry. (80)
 - A. John grew and became strong in spirit.
 - B. He lived in the desert until he appeared publically to Israel.

Prelude

Choral Introit

Welcome and Announcements

Mr. Robert Smith

Call to Worship

Mr. Robert Smith

*Hymn No. 252 *Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know that it's the presence of the Lord.

Sweet, Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, Filling us with Your love;
And for these blessings, We lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,
When we shall leave this place.

*Scripture Reading Isaiah 11:1-3

Dr. Paul A. Brown

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

²The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of power,
the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD—

³and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

*Hymn No. 8 *Praise to the Lord, The Almighty* (vs. 1 & 4)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again:
Gladly for aye we adore Him!

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on 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 Scripture Reading Luke 1:67-79 Mr. Robert Smith

L: ⁶⁷ His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

⁶⁸“Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people. ⁶⁹He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David ⁷⁰(as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), ⁷¹salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us—

C: ⁷²**to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, ⁷³the oath he swore to our father Abraham: ⁷⁴to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear ⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.**

L: ⁷⁶And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, ⁷⁷to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, ⁷⁸because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven ⁷⁹to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

⁸⁰And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he lived in the desert until he appeared publicly to Israel.

(Let us pray this Scripture back to our Lord)

A: **Lord, we thank you for your mercy, we thank you for**

rescuing us from the enemy so that we can serve you without fear. May your Spirit enable us to live holy and righteous lives. Please remove the darkness and shine on us because as live in the shadow of death. Please guide our feet today into the path of peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, our horn of salvation, we pray. A-men.

The Anthem

*Doxology

Sermon

Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

WALKING INTO THE PATH OF PEACE

Luke 1:67-80

God is in Control ... When we are Spirit Filled

*Hymn No. 377 *Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

Jesus, I my cross have taken, All to leave and follow Thee;
Destitute, despised, forsaken, Thou, from hence, my all shalt be.
Perish every fond ambition, All I've sought, and hoped, and known;
Yet how rich is my condition, God and Christ are still my own!

Let the world despise and leave me, They have left my Savior, too;
Human hearts and looks deceive me; Thou art not, like man, untrue;
And, while Thou shalt smile upon me, God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate, and friends disown me;
Show Thy face, and all is bright.

Man may trouble and distress me, 'Twill but drive me to Thy breast;
Life with trials hard may press me, Christ will bring me sweeter rest.
O 'tis not in grief to harm me, While Thy love is left to me;
O 'twere not in joy to charm me, Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Haste then on from grace to glory, Armed by faith and winged by prayer;
God's eternal day's before thee, God's own hand shall guide thee there.
Soon shall close thy earthly mission, Swift shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition, Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

Offering of Thanks and Praise

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn No. 247

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me,
Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me,
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me.

Sermon Continued

Benedictus

Song of Response

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction No. 259 *Breath on Me, Breath of God* (v. 3)

Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
Until this earthly part of me glows with Thy fire divine.

*Postlude