

New Covenant Presbyterian Church - PCA

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Prelude

Choral Introit

Welcome and Announcements

The Call to Worship

*Hymn No. 51 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

*Invocation

The Nicene Creed

The Anthem

*The Doxology

Scripture Reading Luke 5:17-26

*Hymn No. 381 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

Offering of Thanks and Praise

Offertory

Sermon Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO HOME

Luke 5:17-26

Pastoral Prayer

*Hymn No. 382 *Be Thou My Vision*

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Benediction

*Choral Benediction No. 409 *I Know Whom I Have Believed*
(refrain)

But I know whom I have believed, And am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed Unto Him against that day.

Postlude

TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO HOME

Luke 5:17-26

- I. A summary of the narrative.
 - A. Jesus
 - B. Pharisees and Teachers of the Law (from all over)
 - C. A paralyzed man on a mat ... lowered into the home where Jesus was teaching.
 - D. Jesus forgave the man's sin (Why? The faith of his friends.)
– an illustration of intercessory prayer/evangelism.
 - E. Push back from the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law
 - F. Timeless question: Which is easier: proclaiming forgiveness or healing?
 - G. The Son of Man healed to prove that he had the authority to forgive.

- II. A spiritual lesson for us.
 - A. We can all personally identify with one of the three main characters interacting with Jesus.

Some:

 1. Pharisees and Teachers of the Law: Those who questioned Jesus' authority and left calling Jesus a blasphemer.

Some:

 2. The friends of the paralyzed man – Those who had faith to bring their friend to Jesus.

Prayerfully all of us:

 3. The paralyzed man – One who was forgiven and healed – even though he did nothing.
 - B. We all hear the message of the Gospel:
 1. The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sin.
 2. Jesus Christ can remove the paralysis caused by sin ...
... take up your mat (all that reminds you of where you have been)
... go home (to your place of security, relationship, and acceptance)
 - C. We all must respond to what we have experienced:
 1. Filled with awe ... praising God
 2. Rejecting Christ ... left in a spiritual paralysis.

- III. Application: As we gather around the Lord's Table today:
 - A. Thank & praise God for those who 'carried us' into the presence of the Son of Man.
 - B. Thank & praise God for His forgiveness.
 - C. Thank & praise God for giving us the ability to 'take up our mat and go home.'

Prelude
Choral Introit
Welcome and Announcements
The Call to Worship

*Hymn No. 51 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim thru this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty
Hold me with Thy powerful hand:
Bread of Heaven, Bread of Heaven, feed me till I want no more.
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar ~ lead me all my journey through;
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
be Thou still my strength and shield.
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Bear me thru the swelling current; land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee.
I will ever give to Thee.

*Invocation
The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven;
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary;
and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures;
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom will have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified; who spoke by the Prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.
And we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Anthem

*The Doxology

Scripture Reading Luke 5:17-26

¹⁷ One day as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there. And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick. ¹⁸ Some men came carrying a paralytic on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. ¹⁹ When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

²⁰ When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

²¹ The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

²² Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? ²³ Which is easier: to say,

‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’? ²⁴ But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins...” He said to the paralyzed man, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” ²⁵ Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. ²⁶ Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, “We have seen remarkable things today.”

*Hymn No. 381 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;
open my eyes—illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
and while the wave-notes fall on my ear, ev’rything false will disappear. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God,
Thy will to see; open my ears—illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth
ev’rywhere. Open my heart and let me prepare – love with Thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God,
Thy will to see; open my heart—illumine me, Spirit divine!

Offering of Thanks and Praise

Offertory

Sermon

Dr. Paul A. Brown, Pastor

TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO HOME

Luke 5:17-26

Pastoral Prayer

*Hymn No. 382

Be Thou My Vision

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart.
Nought be all else to me save that Thou art:
Thou my best thought, by day or by night

waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true Son
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven’s joys,
O bright heaven’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Benediction

*Choral Benediction No. 409 *I Know Whom I Have Believed*
(refrain)

But I know whom I have believed, And am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I’ve committed Unto Him against that day.

Postlude