



**Welcome to Worship with
Kingston Presbyterian Church**

**We Gather in Spirit. ~ Worship May 30, 2021
Online Only**

***Welcome to a Shared Worship Led by Some Familiar
Faces and New Friends.***

Please join us for online ONLY worship this Sunday on our church Facebook Page, YouTube Channel or on ZOOM. Calling in number 1-929-436-2866 or using Meeting ID: 684 366 329 Passcode: 322123.

Call to Worship

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always! Again, I will say, Rejoice.

People: The Lord is near! Do not worry about anything.

Leader: Do not worry about anything, but let everything be known to God.

People: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Leader: Let us worship God!

Musical Offering: *De Animals a-Comin*

Jean Volk, Robin Rowand, Jeff McBride, John McBride - KPC

Prayer of Confession:

Rev. James Brumm, New Brunswick

Forgive us, Lord, when we take ourselves too seriously, when we don't claim the gladness that is rightfully ours as your children, when we forget that you will have the last laugh in this world. Restore to us the joy of our salvation.

Make us open to the startling, upside-down ways in which you work. Fill us with Easter's laughter; fill us with your healing joy; fill us with the love poured out on us through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: . . . Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Response: *Rejoice in the Lord Always*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! [repeat]

Rejoice! Rejoice! Again I say, rejoice! [repeat]

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture & Sermon

Matthew 25:1-13

The Ten Bridesmaids

DISCIPLES RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Affirmation of Faith:

1 Corinthians 1:25-31, Common English Bible

**[T]he foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,
and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.
Look at your situation when you were called, brothers and sisters!
By ordinary human standards not many were wise,
not many were powerful, not many were from the upper class.
But God chose what the world considers foolish to shame the wise.
God chose what the world considers weak to shame the strong.
And God chose what the world considers low-class and low-life—
what is considered to be nothing—
to reduce what is considered to be something to nothing.
So no human being can brag in God's presence.
It is because of God that you are in Christ Jesus.
He became wisdom from God for us.
This means that he made us righteous and holy, and he delivered us.
This is consistent with what was written:
*The one who brags should brag in the Lord!***

Offering of Tithes & Gifts, Bringing the Kingdom of God Near

Continuing our worship, we will give back to God our offerings, gifts, pledges, and tithes by mail or online so that Christ's ministry may be lived through us. We offer God our hearts, hands, minds and money as an expression of gratitude and our love for God and as a marker of our partnership with God through our churches.

DISCIPLES ARE SENT AND BLESSED TO SERVE GOD

Prayers of the People

Rev. Kathryn Mustaro, Grace of South Brunswick

Risen Christ, our eternal Savior, like the disciples, we are gathered together after Easter: wondering whether it is true, marveling at the possibility, and daring to hope. Like the disciples, we are sometimes afraid, sometimes full of doubt. But in your extravagant generosity, your boundless love, you appear to us in our fear and love us in our doubts and grant us the oceans of your peace. Thank you for loving us, even as we are.

Lord in thanksgiving, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in our society and congregations this morning who have no faith at all or find it difficult to believe. You know that they are not alone: even your own disciples struggled to believe all that they had seen and heard. Loving Christ, it is your presence that removes all fear and erases all doubt: so come, grant them your presence & your peace. And grant to all of us renewed faith, great courage, and your boundless grace.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, awaken all of us to the injustices, racism and violence so prevalent in our culture. Grant us eyes to see those who are overlooked, ears to hear cries for help, and hands to help those in need, offering dignity as well as empathy. May we act out of justice, may we love mercy, and may we walk humbly with you, our Redeemer and Friend.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our government and our leaders, that they would find the courage to set aside their differences, abandoning their customary partisan positions in order to work together to discover real solutions for complex problems; that they would embody faithfully the integrity of their office in serving all the people of this country.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we lift up to you all those good folks known and unknown to us in need of your attention, love and care today, especially those who are struggling during this pandemic. We ask for the comfort of your healing presence with them. Grant them wholeness in your mercy, along with those we lift up to you now in the silence of our hearts. *[Silence]*

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Risen Lord Jesus, let us be baptized by your resurrection light. May we trust in you above all else, hope in you above all else, seek you in all things, find you in every place, meet you among all people, know you through everything, and love you beyond all telling. As your Easter sons and daughters, we pray in your name, living Lord, in the words you gave us, saying, **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, forever. Amen.**

Hymn: *I'm Gonna Clap When the Spirit Says Clap* Dr. Zuckerman, Slackwood

I'm gonna clap when the Spirit says clap. I'm gonna clap when the Spirit says clap.

When the Spirit says clap, I'm gonna clap right along.

I'm gonna clap when the Spirit says clap.

I'm gonna stomp when the Spirit says stomp. I'm gonna stomp when the Spirit says stomp.

When the Spirit says stomp, I'm gonna stomp right along.

I'm gonna stomp when the Spirit says stomp.

I'm gonna pray when the Spirit says pray. I'm gonna pray when the Spirit says pray.

When the Spirit says pray, I'm gonna pray right along.

I'm gonna pray when the Spirit says pray.

Benediction

Passing of the Peace

Postlude: *Fantasia on "Materna"*

Robert J. Hughes, based on a tune by Samuel A. Ward America the Beautiful

I'm Gonna Clap When the Spirit Says Clap, text & music: African American spiritual (P.D.). Text adapt. & music arr., piano & vocal performance by Dr. Shelley Sanders Zuckerman, Slackwood Presbyterian Church, 2020. www.slackwoodchurch.org. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial 4.0 International license. <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/> .