

*I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will;
put me to doing, put me to suffering;
let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,
exalted for you, or brought low for you;
let me be full,
let me be empty,
let me have all things,
let me have nothing:
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal.
And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours. So be it.
And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen.*

WESLEY COVENANT PRAYER

Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church

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ENTRANCE

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Agnus Dei
Beautiful One
Jesus, All for Jesus

OPENING PRAYER:

- L. O God, searcher of all our hearts, you have formed us as a people and claimed us for your own, As we come to acknowledge your sovereignty and grace, and to enter anew into covenant with you, reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us. Let your Spirit impress your truth on our inmost being, and receive us in mercy, for the sake of our Mediator, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING:

- L. Let us give thanks for all of God's mercies.
O God, our Covenant Friend, you have been gracious to us through all the years of our lives. We thank you for your loving care, which has filled our days and brought us to this time and place.
- R. *We praise your holy name, O God.***
- L. You have given us life and reason, and set us in a world filled with your glory. You have comforted us with family and friends and ministered to us through the hands of our sisters and brothers. **R.**
- You have filled our hearts with a hunger after you, and have given us your peace. You have redeemed us, and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus. You have given us a place in the fellowship of your Spirit and the witness of your Church. **R.**
- You have been our light in darkness and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation. You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys and the all-sufficient reward in all our labors. **R.**
- You remembered us when we forgot you. You followed us even when we tried to flee from you. You met us with forgiveness when we returned to you. For all your patience and overflowing grace. **R.**

PROCLAMATION

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| HEBREW BIBLE LESSON: | Isaiah 60:1-6 | Pew Bible 738 |
| HYMN OF RESPONSE: | “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” | No. 206 |
| GOSPEL LESSON: | Matthew 2:1-12 | Pew Bible 956 |
| HYMN OF PREPARATION: | “What Child is This?” | No. 219 |
| REFLECTION: | | ~ <i>Pastor Adrienne</i> |

RESPONSE TO THE WORD: THE COVENANT SERVICE

INVITATION:

- L. Sisters and brothers in Christ, the Christian life is redeemed from sin and consecrated to God. Through baptism, we have entered this life and have been admitted into the new covenant of which Jesus Christ is the Mediator. He sealed it with his own blood, that it might last forever.

On the one side, God promises to give us new life in Christ, the Source and Perfecter of our faith. On the other side, we are pledged to live no more for ourselves but only for Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us.

From time to time we renew our covenant with God, especially when we reaffirm the Baptismal Covenant and gather at the Lord’s table. Today, however, we meet, as the generations before us have met, to renew the covenant that binds us to God. Let us make this covenant of God our own.

Commit yourselves to Christ as his servants. Give yourselves to him, that you may belong to him. Christ has many services to be done. Some are more easy and honorable, others are more difficult and disgraceful. Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests, others are contrary to both. In some we may please Christ and please ourselves. But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. It is necessary, therefore, that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ.

Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

- P. Let me be your servant, under your command. I will no longer be my own. I will give up myself to your will in all things.***

- L. Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.
- P. *Lord, make me what you will. I put myself fully into your hands: put me to doing, put me to suffering, let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and with a willing heart give it all to your pleasure and disposal.***

- L. Christ will be the Savior of none but his servants. He is the source of all salvation to those who obey. Christ will have no servants except by consent; Christ will not accept anything except full consent to all that he requires. Christ will be all in all or he will be nothing. Confirm this by holy covenant.

To make this covenant a reality in your life, listen to these admonitions:

First, set apart some time, more than once, to be spent alone before the Lord; in seeking earnestly God's special assistance and gracious acceptance of you; in carefully thinking through all the conditions of the covenant; in searching your hearts whether you have already freely given your life to Christ.

Consider what your sins are. Consider the laws of Christ, how holy strict, and spiritual they are, and whether you, after having carefully considered them, are willing to choose them all. Be sure you are clear in these matters, see that you do not lie to God.

Second, be serious and in a spirit of holy awe and reverence.

Third, claim God's covenant, rely upon God's promise of giving grace and strength, so you can keep your promise. Trust not your own strength and power.

Fourth, resolve to be faithful. You have given to the Lord your hearts, you have opened your mouths to the Lord, and you have dedicated yourself to God. With God's power, never go back.

And last, be then prepared to renew your covenant with the Lord. Fall down on your knees, lift your hands toward heaven, open your hearts to the Lord, as we pray:

COVENANT PRAYER:

- P. *O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, see me as I fall down before you. Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will, for you have promised mercy to me if I turn to you with my whole heart.***

- L. God requires that you shall put away all your idols.
- P. ***I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all, covenanting with you that no known sin shall be allowed in my life. Against your will, I have turned my love toward the world. In your power I will watch all temptations that will lead me away from you. For my own righteousness is riddled with sin, unable to stand before you.***
- L. Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again if you would let God.
- P. ***Before all heaven and earth, I here acknowledge you as my Lord and God. I take you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion, and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as your servant to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.***
- L. God has given the Lord Jesus Christ as the only way and means of coming to God.
- P. ***Jesus, I do here on bended knees accept Christ as the only new and living Way, and sincerely join myself in a covenant with him. O blessed Jesus, I come to you, hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked, unworthy even to wash the feet of your servants. I do here, with all my power, accept you as my Lord and Head. I renounce my own worthiness, and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom and take you for my only guide. I renounce my own will, and take your will as my law.***
- L. Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.
- P. ***I do here covenant with you, O Christ, to take my lot with you as it may fall. Through your grace I promise that neither life nor death shall part me from you.***
- L. God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.
- P. ***I do here willingly put my neck under your yoke, to carry your burden. All your laws are holy, just, and good. I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts and actions, promising that I will strive to order my whole life according to your direction, and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.***
- L. The almighty God searches and knows your heart.
- P. ***O God, you know that I make this covenant with you today without guile or reservation. If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it aright. And now, glory be to you, O God the Father, whom I from this day forward shall look upon as my God and Father. Glory be to you, O God the Son, who have loved me and washed me from my sins in your own blood, and now is my Savior and Redeemer. Glory be to you, O God the Holy spirit, who by your almighty power have turned my heart from sin to God. O mighty God, the Lord omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you have now become my Covenant Friend. And I, through your infinite grace, have become your covenant servant. So be it. And let the covenant I have mad on earth be ratified in heaven. Amen.***

You are advised to make this covenant not only in your heart, but in word; not only in word, but in writing. Therefore, with all reverence, lay the service before the Lord as your act and deed. Bring it to the altar. Pray and offer yourself. And when you have done this, sign it. Then keep it as a reminder of the holy agreement between God and you that you may remember it during doubts and temptations.

COMMUNION COVENANT & OFFERING

Please place your offering in the plate when you come to receive communion.

Amazing Grace

SENDING FORTH

CLOSING HYMN:

“Here I Am, Lord”

No. 593

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

And may the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven.

Welcome to Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us today! Please join us in Fellowship Hall after worship for coffee. If you are new to us feel free to take one of the brochures in the pews and see other information that is available on the literature racks in the sanctuary entrance of the church and across from Fellowship Hall.

We want to be your family of faith. We hope that you feel at home in our church family, and we encourage those interested in membership to mark the Attendance Sheets "Wish to Join." If you wish to learn more about our congregation, please write "more info."

Please sign the Attendance Sheet found on the inside of the center aisle pews each Sunday, and pass it to your neighbor.

Everything you always wanted to know about being a church leader – The NY-CT District Leader to Leader Training has been rescheduled to Saturday, February 11, 2016, from 9:30 am- Lunch at Stamford First UMC, Stamford, CT. If you were elected to a committee, this is a great opportunity to mingle with your counterparts from local Methodist churches and learn about effective leadership. So, save the dates! More details will follow. The Sunday, January 29 workshop at Goshen UMC remains the same, 3 – 6 pm.

The 2017 Flower Chart is posted in the Narthex. If you would like to donate Altar Flowers on a Sunday, sign the chart on the date you wish to have your flowers on the Altar, and complete the yellow form indicating if the flowers are in memory of, or in honor of a friend, relative or a special occasion. Also, please indicate if you will or will not take the flowers after second service. The flowers are \$45.00. Checks should be made payable to PUMC and Altar Flowers noted on the memo line. Questions, call the church office at 452-2933.

Friendship Circle Come and join us at our annual luncheon to be held at Coppola's, South Rd., Monday, January 9th, at 12:30. Menu choices at the luncheon: Chicken Marsala, Eggplant Rollatini, or Baked Cod with seasoned bread crumbs. All entrees include salad, pasta, ice cream dessert, and coffee or tea. The cost is \$19.00, including tax and gratuity. To reserve, please call Doris Stahl at 462-1922, or see her in church. Checks should be made out to Doris Stahl, (5 Daisy Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603) and received before January 2nd.

Adult Studies:

Life Lessons with Max Lucado – Book of Galatians, includes lessons filled with intriguing questions, inspirational storytelling, profound reflections, and space for journaling. Please contact Bob or Anne Ciraulo at 845-462-5582 or bobeepbeep@hotmail.com for more information. Room 32

Mom's Sunday School - gathering mothers of infants to elementary-age children. Join us as we study the "I AM" statements of Jesus in the book of John, share, laugh and serve together. Room 35.

There will be NO Pastor's Bible Study, next week, January 4 and 5.

Last Call: Are you interested in Disciple Bible Study? If so, please contact the church office to indicate your interest and preferred day/time (Wednesday afternoon, Thursday morning, or Thursday evening). One of the pastor's Bible Study sessions will be converted to a

Disciple study if there is sufficient interest; however 8-12 people are needed to make for a productive time together.

Upcoming Youth Events

| | | | |
|---------|-----------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Sat | Jan 7 | 6:30pm-9:30pm | Christmas Ball |
| Sun | Jan 8 | ----- | No Youth Fellowship |
| Fri-Sun | Jan 13-15 | 7pm-12pm | Young Adult Group Retreat |
| Sun | Jan 15 | 6pm-8pm | Youth Fellowship (Youth Service practice/MLK) |

MFUGE / Mexico Mission Trips - The MFUGE application to provide a week of service in the Philadelphia and the MEXICO application to provide a week of VBS in Ensenada are available on the youth bulletin board and church website (under Youth / Parent tabs). Please submit the application and associated fee by January 15th so that the team meetings and activities can be planned.

Young Adult Group - We have a Young Adult Group for graduating seniors, college students both in and out of town, and anyone else 18-29 who is interested. The group is meeting each Friday 7pm-9pm but due to events, days/times may fluctuate so please contact Bridget Marrine ([845-380-4350](tel:845-380-4350)) for information/questions so you can get on the distribution and stay informed.

The Youth Group is collecting non-perishable, not opened, new food for Dutchess Outreach, such as beans, canned pastas, Mac and Cheese, etc. Please place the food in one of the bins, either in Fellowship Hall or the Narthex and Sarah Hicks will see that it gets delivered.

Homeless Shelter Meals: Volunteers are needed to prepare and/or serve the meal for February at the Dutchess County Coalition for the Homeless Overnight Shelter. If you cannot serve the meals, perhaps you can prepare dishes for others to serve. There is a sign-up sheet on the Missions bulletin board near the restrooms. Receipts can be submitted for reimbursement of food costs. Contact Laurie/Larry Wilson laurielanewilson@yahoo.com or the Church Office for more information.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, January 1, 2017

New Year's Day

10:00 am One Service
No Sunday School
2:00 pm Parkside Alcoholics Anonymous

MONDAY, January 2, 2017

7:00 pm Gamblers Anonymous

TUESDAY, January 3, 2017

9:00 am Men's Bible Study
9:30 Strength and Balance
1:00 pm Art Group
5:30 Primary Purpose Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00 Board of Trustees

WEDNESDAY, January 4, 2017

7:30 am Prayers and Communion
7:00 pm Youth Bible Study
Voices in Praise

THURSDAY, January 5, 2017

9:30 am Strength and Balance
2:00 pm Collate Bulletins
5:30 Primary Purpose Alcoholics Anonymous
7:00 Chancel Choir

FRIDAY, January 6, 2017

6:00 pm Set-up for Christmas Ball
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

SATURDAY, January 7, 2017

8:30 am Men's Breakfast
6:30 pm Youth Christmas Ball

SUNDAY, January 8, 2017

8:30 am Contemporary Service
9:30 Fellowship Time
9:45 Sunday School – 3 years – 12th grade and Adult Studies
10:45 Traditional Service
Sunday School – 3 years – 7th Grade
11:45 Fellowship Time
2:00 pm Parkside Alcoholics Anonymous

HELPING IN WORSHIP

| | | |
|----------|------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 10:00 am | Head Usher | Will Cass |
| | Ushers | David Kiesling, Earllyn Kiesling, Joseph Norman |
| | Acolyte | |
| | Liturgist | Brian Lundin |

OUR FAITHFULNESS LAST SUNDAY

Worship One Service 10 am 84

REMEMBERED IN OUR PRAYERS

Our members: Ruth Arnfield, Barbara Bates, Gladys Bierce, Catherine Carroll, Frank Cassidy, Bill Close, Sr., Janet Cole, Sandra DeGuzman, Irene Feller, Irene Firner, Bryan Foy, Dana Jones, Danny Jones, Jim Little, Joe Michaloski, Marge Michaloski, Yvonne Morrow, Bea Northway, Karla Quinlan, George Sherban, Gloria Sherban, Hilary Stamper, Meegan Veeder-Shave, Kerianne Wendover, Marilyn Zier.

Friends of our church in your prayers: Richard Allen, David Andujar, Jay Bacchiochi, Donald Brooks, Jim Chermak Rev. Robert Dorsey, Judy Ebling, Dr. James Elsbree, Sally Farkas, Jordan Fidler, Inez Fryar, Daniel Granger, Doreen Hochlowski, Jason, Jeanmarie Jacques, David and Lori Mocknick, Mary Moody, Michelle Morrow, Dianne Myers, Kelly O’Conner, Patrick Pisanelli, Peter, Colin Reilly, Bill Robertson, Patricia Schmidt, Jackie Triguero, Ava Vinson, Bob and Lois Wells, Jeffrey Wendover, Jr., Clifford Zier.

Members of the military, active and/or retired, in your prayers: D. J. Wiley, Iraq. If you have a loved one or friend whose name you would like included, call the church office. (452-2933).

Our Staff is Here to Help You

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|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Minister..... | Every Participant in the Life of the Church |
| Senior Pastor | Rev. Adrienne Brewington |
| Visitation Pastor | Rev. Jin Kim |
| Director, Children’s Ministry | Marcy Conners |
| Director, Youth Ministry | John Marrine |
| Traditional Music Director and Organist | Polly James |
| Contemporary Praise Director | Anne Ciraulo |
| Secretary | Louise Dalton, Karyn Millham |
| Editor, Newsletter..... | Joseph Norman |
| Bookkeeper | Matt Regan |
| Financial Secretary | Steve Allen |
| Treasurer | Tony Hagin |
| Director, Community Nursery School..... | Diana Collello |
| Director, Harriet Tubman Academic Skills | Megan Joslin |

Large print bulletins are available, please speak to an usher.