

Covenant Congregational Church

Third Sunday after Christmas

Worship Gathering

January 14, 2018

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE	I Am Thine, O Lord	arr. McDonald
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS		Sheri Anderson
INTROIT	Come Into His Presence	Anonymous

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 19)

Come into this sacred space to worship God

whose teaching is perfect;

whose directions are sure.

Come into this holy place to worship God

whose standards are right;

whose commandment is clear;

whose judgements are true.

*Come with holy fear to be given life, and made wise,
to have your heart stirred and your eyes opened wide.*

Come, let us worship God.

**Let the words of our mouths and the whispering of our hearts
be according to Your will, O God. Amen.**

*SONG We Are Part of God's Creation Hymn #710

PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION (based on Psalm 19)

*Your glory, O God is declared in the holy silence of the heavens,
and told in the silent succession of day and night.*

No speech, or word or voice is heard;

yet they speak to all the world,

and their words reach to the ends of the earth.

*The sun joyfully leaps across the sky,
from one end of the heavens to the farthest reaches,
and nothing is hidden from its heat or light.*

**So nothing that we do or say or whisper in our hearts
is hidden from You, Lord God.**

Release us from darkness we hide deep within our lives.

Let our lives be radiant with holy fear;

delighting in your teaching,

receiving insight from Your commandments

and wisdom from Your encouraging.

*Enliven our desire for Your everlasting judgements, over wealth or fame:
**to enjoy the sweet drippings of the honeycomb, that are to be found
in right relationship with those around us, and with you. Amen.***

(Copyright © 2000 Jeff Shrowder)

CHOIR ANTHEM	The Light of the World	arr. Price/Besig
		Guitars: Jason Mohn, Bob McIlhatten
		Ukulele: Dave Sproul
		Lead Singer: Gordon Mears

THE WORD OF GOD Sam Schumacher

Old Testament Reading Nehemiah 1:1-11 (NRSV) O.T. Page #430

1 The words of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah. In the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, while I was in Susa the capital, **2** one of my brothers, Hanani, came with certain men from Judah; and I asked them about the Jews that survived, those who had escaped the captivity, and about Jerusalem. **3** They replied, "The survivors there in the province who escaped captivity are in great trouble and shame; the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been destroyed by fire."

4 When I heard these words I sat down and wept, and mourned for days, fasting and praying before the God of heaven. **5** I said, "O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments; **6** let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Both I and my family have sinned. **7** We have offended you deeply, failing to keep the commandments, the statutes, and the ordinances that you commanded your servant Moses. **8** Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples; **9** but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are under the farthest skies, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place at which I have chosen to establish my name.' **10** They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great power and your strong hand. **11** O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man!"

At the time, I was cupbearer to the king.

Response: The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON *Who God Uses for Spiritual Renewal* Pastor Jason

*RESPONSE SONG *Here I Am To Worship* Insert

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Let It Rain* arr. Kans

*Doxology 48

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

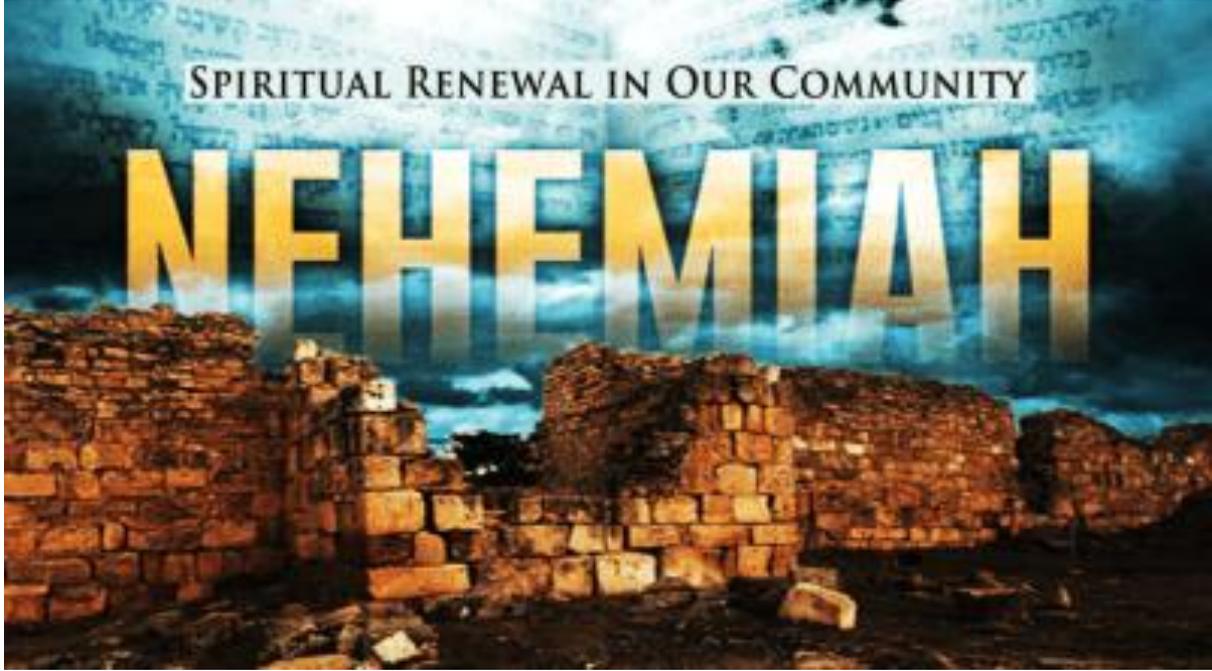
*Prayer of Dedication

*BENEDICTION Pastor Jason

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *May God's Love Be Fixed above You* Hymn #669

*POSTLUDE *Joyful Hymn of Praise* arr. Lopez

*Please stand in praise to God, if able
CCLI #982653



Thank you for participating in our worship gathering! We are glad that you are here this morning and pray that this might be a meaningful faith-building experience for you and/or your family. To go deeper in relationship with this church family, we invite join in on the fellowship and light refreshments after services today in the Fireside Room.

Welcome to Covenant Congregational Church
204 Center Street, North Easton 02356 ☩ (508) 238-6423
www.ecovchurch.org