

The logo for Pentecost Methodist Church, featuring a stylized white dove with its wings spread, positioned above the text "Pentecost Methodist Church" in a serif font.

Pentecost  
Methodist  
Church

12 JUN 2022

# RESTORING THE WORSHIP

NEHEMIAH 11 & 12

REV COLLIN SEE

# Nehemiah 12:27 – 47

27 For the dedication of the new wall of Jerusalem, the Levites throughout the land were asked to come to Jerusalem to assist in the ceremonies. They were to take part in the joyous occasion with their songs of thanksgiving and with the music of cymbals, harps, and lyres.

28 The singers were brought together from the region around Jerusalem and from the villages of the Netophathites.

# Nehemiah 12:27 – 47

29 They also came from Beth-gilgal and the rural areas near Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers had built their own settlements around Jerusalem.

30 The priests and Levites first purified themselves; then they purified the people, the gates, and the wall.

31 I led the leaders of Judah to the top of the wall and organized two large choirs to give thanks. One of the choirs proceeded southward along the top of the wall to the Dung Gate.

# Nehemiah 12:27 – 47

32 Hoshaiah and half the leaders of Judah followed them,

33 along with Azariah, Ezra, Meshullam,

34 Judah, Benjamin, Shemaiah, and Jeremiah.

35 Then came some priests who played trumpets, including Zechariah son of Jonathan, son of Shemaiah, son of Mattaniah, son of Micaiah, son of Zaccur, a descendant of Asaph.

# Nehemiah 12:27 – 47

36 And Zechariah's colleagues were Shemaiah, Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah, and Hanani. They used the musical instruments prescribed by David, the man of God. Ezra the scribe led this procession.

37 At the Fountain Gate they went straight up the steps on the ascent of the city wall toward the City of David. They passed the house of David and then proceeded to the Water Gate on the east.

# Nehemiah 12:27 – 47

38 The second choir giving thanks went northward around the other way to meet them. I followed them, together with the other half of the people, along the top of the wall past the Tower of the Ovens to the Broad Wall,

39 then past the Ephraim Gate to the Old City Gate, past the Fish Gate and the Tower of Hananel, and on to the Tower of the Hundred. Then we continued on to the Sheep Gate and stopped at the Guard Gate.

# Nehemiah 12:27 – 47

40 The two choirs that were giving thanks then proceeded to the Temple of God, where they took their places. So did I, together with the group of leaders who were with me.

41 We went together with the trumpet-playing priests—Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, and Hananiah—

# Nehemiah 12:27 – 47

42 and the singers—Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malkijah, Elam, and Ezer. They played and sang loudly under the direction of Jezrahiah the choir director.

43 Many sacrifices were offered on that joyous day, for God had given the people cause for great joy. The women and children also participated in the celebration, and the joy of the people of Jerusalem could be heard far away.



# Nehemiah 12:27 – 47

44 On that day men were appointed to be in charge of the storerooms for the offerings, the first part of the harvest, and the tithes. They were responsible to collect from the fields outside the towns the portions required by the Law for the priests and Levites. For all the people of Judah took joy in the priests and Levites and their work.

# Nehemiah 12:27 – 47

45 They performed the service of their God and the service of purification, as commanded by David and his son Solomon, and so did the singers and the gatekeepers.

46 The custom of having choir directors to lead the choirs in hymns of praise and thanksgiving to God began long ago in the days of David and Asaph.

# Nehemiah 12:27 – 47

47 So now, in the days of Zerubbabel and of Nehemiah, all Israel brought a daily supply of food for the singers, the gatekeepers, and the Levites. The Levites, in turn, gave a portion of what they received to the priests, the descendants of Aaron.

# Book of Nehemiah (1-12)

- Chapter 1- 6 Restoring the Wall
- Chapter 7 to 10 Restoring the People
- Chapter 11 Restoring the City
- Chapter 12 – Restoring the Worship

# Restoring the Worship

- 1) People
- 2) Purification
- 3) Provision

# 1) Restoring the worship involved the gathering of His People



# Conducting Worship unto God



# Nehemiah 11:22

- <sup>22</sup> The chief officer of the Levites in Jerusalem was Uzzi son of Bani, son of Hashabiah, son of Mattaniah, son of Mica, a descendant of Asaph, whose family served as singers at God's Temple.



# Nehemiah 12:27-29

- <sup>27</sup> For the dedication of the new wall of Jerusalem, the Levites throughout the land were asked to come to Jerusalem to assist in the ceremonies. They were to take part in the joyous occasion **with their songs of thanksgiving and with the music of cymbals, harps, and lyres.** <sup>28</sup> **The singers were brought together** from the region around Jerusalem and from the villages of the Netophathites. <sup>29</sup> They also came from Beth-gilgal and the rural areas near Geba and Azmaveth, for the **singers had built their own settlements** around Jerusalem.



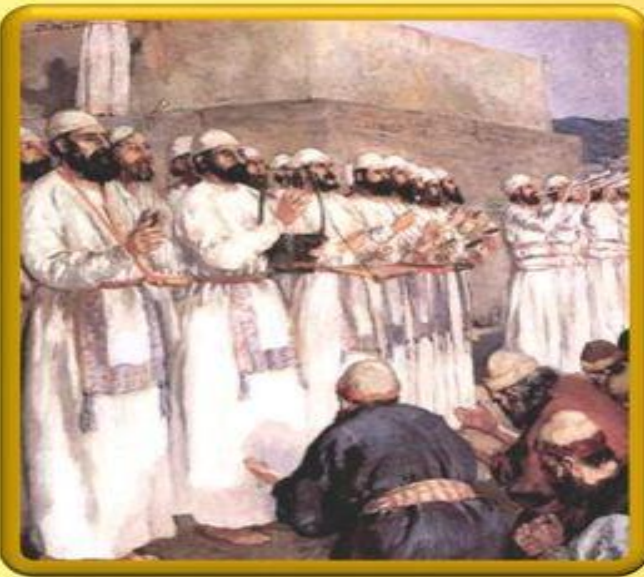
# THE TWO CHOIRS

"So the two thanksgiving choirs stood in the house of God [...] The singers sang loudly with Jezrahiah the director."  
(Nehemiah 12:40, 42)

**Two large choirs took different ways along the wall:**

1. Ezra led the first choir.
2. Nehemiah went with the second one.

**After coming down the wall, both choirs came together to enter the Temple.**



**The people followed them and joined in worship. They bowed down to pray.**

**Music has always been a tool to raise our thoughts towards God. It can enhance our worship experience.**

**We will continue praising God with music in Heaven and in the New Earth.**



## Nehemiah 12:35-36

<sup>35</sup> Then came **some priests who played trumpets,** including Zechariah son of Jonathan, son of Shemaiah, son of Mattaniah, son of Micaiah, son of Zaccur, a descendant of Asaph. <sup>36</sup> And Zechariah's colleagues were Shemaiah, Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah, and Hanani. **They used the musical instruments prescribed by David,** the man of God. Ezra the scribe led this procession.

# Nehemiah 12:40-42

<sup>40</sup> The two choirs that were giving thanks then proceeded to the Temple of God, where they took their places. So did I, together with the group of leaders who were with me. <sup>41</sup> We went together with the **trumpet-playing priests**—Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, and Hananiah— <sup>42</sup> **and the singers**—Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malkijah, Elam, and Ezer. They played and sang loudly under the direction of **Jezrahiah the choir director**.



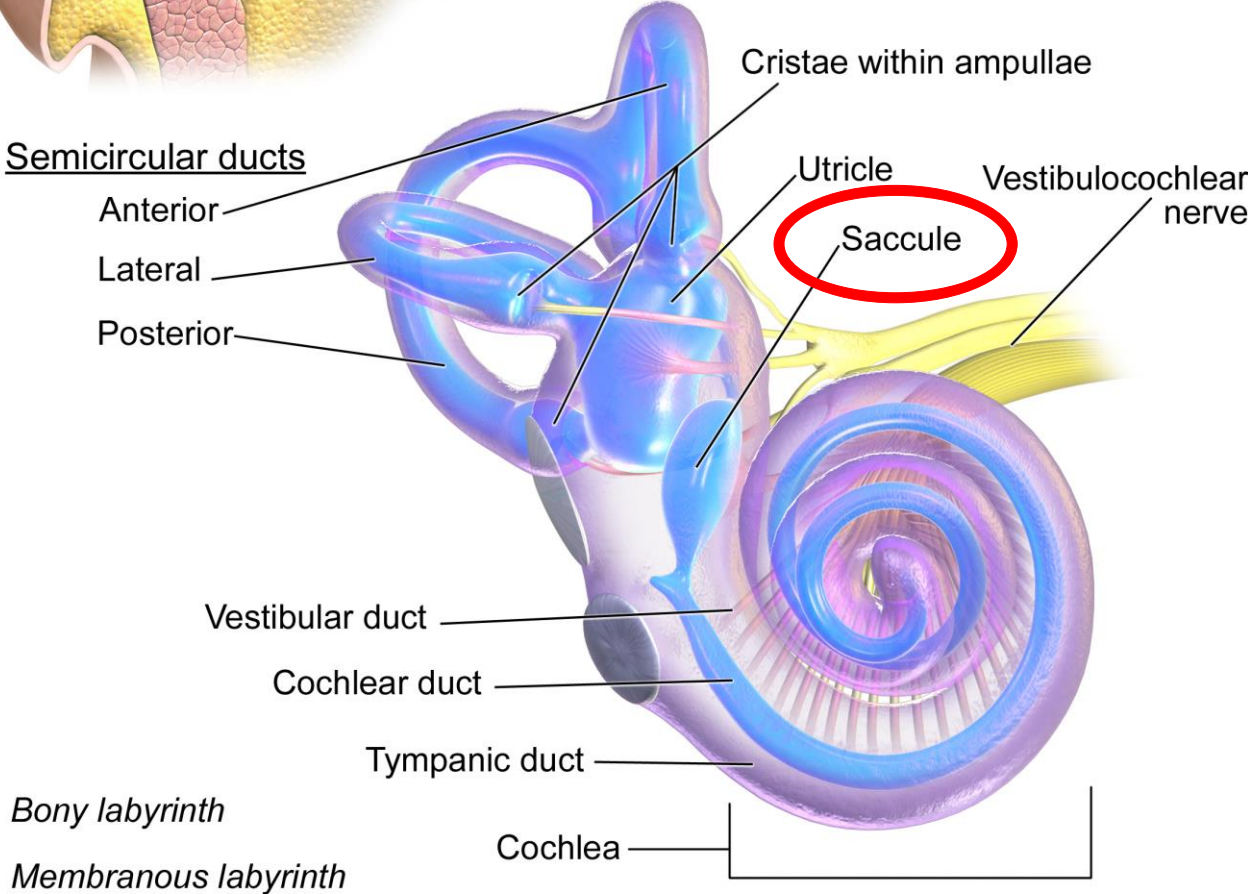
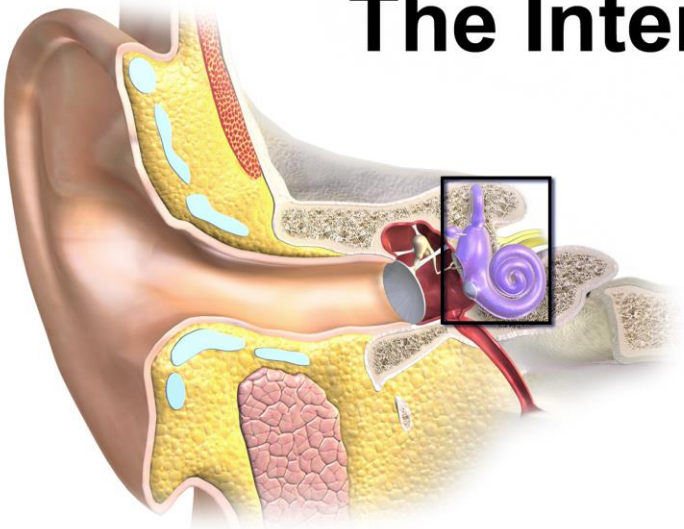
# Ephesians 5:19

- So let us not stop, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord,

# Nehemiah 11:17

- <sup>17</sup> Also Mattaniah son of Mica, son of Zabdi, a descendant of Asaph, who led in **thanksgiving and prayer**. Also Bakbukiah, who was Mattaniah's assistant, and Abda son of Shammua, son of Galal, son of Jeduthun.

# The Internal Ear





Don Francisco

Nehemiah's Song

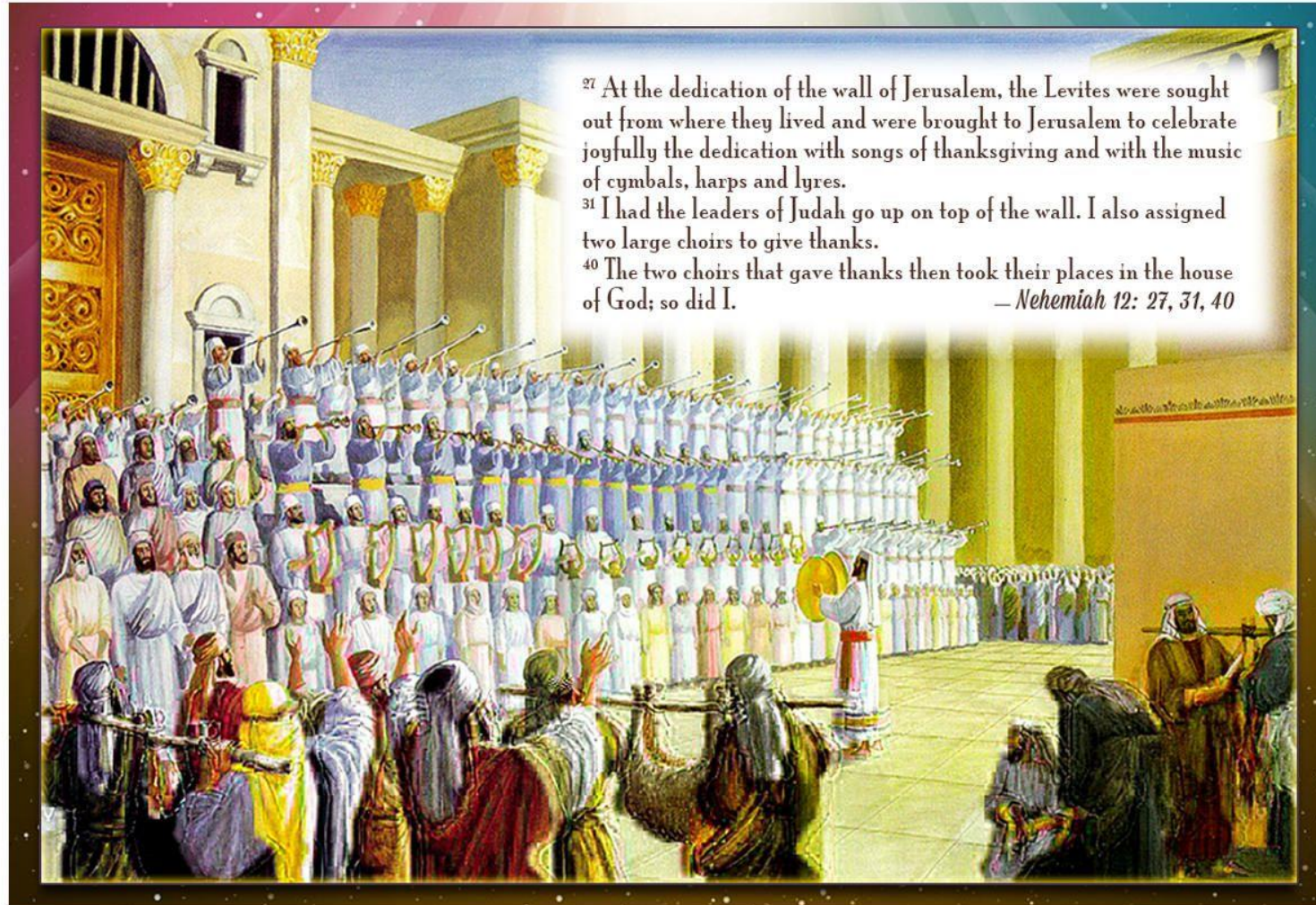
✓ Audio file

Since way before King David  
Every city had a wall  
Built of stone cut carefully  
Wide and smooth and tall  
To protect from the invader  
The raider and brigand  
To keep the people safe at night  
From the lawless in the land

Now the city of Jerusalem  
Had been a joy for all to see  
The people turned to evil  
And to great iniquity  
And in judgment we were exiled



## 2) Restoring the worship begins with Purification of His People and the walls.



<sup>27</sup> At the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem, the Levites were sought out from where they lived and were brought to Jerusalem to celebrate joyfully the dedication with songs of thanksgiving and with the music of cymbals, harps and lyres.

<sup>31</sup> I had the leaders of Judah go up on top of the wall. I also assigned two large choirs to give thanks.

<sup>40</sup> The two choirs that gave thanks then took their places in the house of God; so did I.  
— *Nehemiah 12: 27, 31, 40*

Nehemiah 12:30

The priests and Levites first purified themselves; then they purified the people, the gates, and the wall.

## Matthew 5:8 – Beatitudes

- “Blessed are those who are pure in heart for they will see God.”

# Psalm 51: 10-15

10 Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me from your presence  
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

# Psalm 51: 10-15

13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
so that sinners will turn back to you.

14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,  
you who are God my Savior,  
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

15 Open my lips, Lord,  
and my mouth will declare your praise.

## Psalm 24:4

Only those whose hands and hearts are pure,  
who do not worship idols and never tell lies.

### 3) Provision an important demonstration of our worship



# Nehemiah 12:44-47

- **Provisions for Temple Worship**

- 44 On that day men were appointed to be in charge of the storerooms for the offerings, the first part of the harvest, and the tithes. They were responsible to collect from the fields outside the towns **the portions required by the Law for the priests and Levites**. For all the people of Judah took joy in the priests and Levites and their work.



# Nehemiah 12:44-47

- 45 They performed the service of their God and the service of purification, as commanded by David and his son Solomon, and so did the singers and the gatekeepers. 46 The custom of having choir directors to lead the choirs in hymns of praise and thanksgiving to God began long ago in the days of David and Asaph. 47 So now, in the days of Zerubbabel and of Nehemiah, **all Israel brought a daily supply of food for the singers, the gatekeepers, and the Levites. The Levites, in turn, gave a portion of what they received to the priests, the descendants of Aaron.**

# Exodus 36: 3-7

3 They received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning. 4 So all the skilled workers who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left what they were doing 5 and said to Moses, “The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done.”

6 Then Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: “No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary.” And so the people were restrained from bringing more, 7 because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work.

# Restoring the Worship

- People
- Purification
- Provision

Let your song be your life.

