The Presbyterian Church of Dover

May 21, 2023 + 11 AM + Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Gathering

Preparation for Worship

How have you shared kindness lately? How have others shared kindness with you?

Ringing of the Hour, Welcome, & Community News

Prelude "Catch the Spirit" Sandra Eithun
Bells of Praise

+ Call to Worship from Psalm 118

The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.
There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;
The right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.
I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.
I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

+ Opening Prayer

O God, we thank you for the power of your light and that the darkness cannot overcome it. For all who bear witness to your light, we give you thanks. Help us to speak the truth, to show acts of love, to have understanding as we relate to others, to be kind and gracious in our homes, and to be seekers for justice in our society. Make us more like Jesus Christ our Lord, and may his light illuminate our own darkness. Amen.

+ Opening Hymn #490 "Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters"

Confession & Pardon

We come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children. With the confidence of children of God, let us humbly confess our sin.

O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel, but we remain silent in the presence of evil. You call us to be reconciled to you and one another, but we are content to live in separation. You call us to seek the good of all, but we fail to resist the powers of oppression. You call us to fight pretensions and injustice, but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near. Forgive us, O Lord. Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit, and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen. *(Silent Prayers)*

Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith. Beloved people of God, believe the good news: through the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Amen.**

+ Response Hymn #591 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!"

+ Passing the Peace of Christ

The Word

The Word in Song "Gabriel's Oboe" arr. Kevin McChesney
Bells of Praise

The Children's Sermon

Prayer for Illumination

Great and Loving God, tend the soil of our hearts as we receive your Word today so that we will bear the fruit of kindness in our being and in our doing. Amen.

Old Testament Reading Micah 6:6-8 (p. 757)

Epistle Reading Titus 3:1-7 (p. 969)

Gospel Reading Luke 6:32-36 (p. 838)

Response This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon "Good Fruit: Kindness" Rev. Dr. Mark E. Parsons II

The Response

+ Affirmation of Faith An excerpt from "A Brief Statement of Faith"

In life and in death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God... We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father… We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life... In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

+ Hymn #205 "Live in Charity"

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

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.

** Please use whichever words and language you prefer.*

Receiving of the Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

+ Doxology #606 & Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives. Let us be a sacrifice of thanksgiving in union with the risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever. Amen.

The Sending

+ Closing Hymn #70 "What Does the Lord Require of You?"

+ Blessing

Postlude "Gloria Tibi Trinitas" Thomas Tallis

+ Please stand as you are willing and able

Announcements

Next week is Pentecost Sunday! Remember to wear red!

Participants: Lynn Linscott (Lay Leader), Tim Dean & Heather Thomson (Videographers)

The Flowers are given to God's glory and in honor of our wonderful Bells of Praise by Betsy & Jimmy Gray

Worship Credits: Opening Prayer liturgy from *Let Us Pray*, Prayer of Dedication liturgy from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*, all other liturgy from *Book of Common Worship*. Reprinted/streamed with permission under One License, License #A-716734 and St. James Music Press License #3407.

This Week at The Presbyterian Church of Dover

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 21	**May 22**	**May 23**	**May 24**	**May 25**	**May 26**	**May 27**
Worship 11 AM Deacons 12:15 PM Assembly Room	Karen Out - Vacation Faith-Filled Aging 10:30 AM (library)		Prayer Shawl 1 PM (library) Session Meeting 7 PM (library/Zoom)	NA 6:15 PM (social hall)		

Prayer Requests

Please submit requests to the church office by *Tuesdays at 2 PM*.

- Family members in the service at home and abroad, the homeless, those suffering from COVID-19 and variants, those adversely affected by natural and unnatural disasters, those in the hospital and/or Hospice care, those dealing with life-threatening issues.
- Those with health concerns, specifically, Wilma Hall and the DIMH shelter team (adjusting to their new setting), Ray & Hannah Iplenski (family health concerns), Dorothy Aldrich (Cindy Takacs' sister), Nancy Murray (recovering from an illness), John Dumas (in rehabilitation), Brendan Ward (Addy Babus's grandson), Pam & Jim Wilson (their daughter, 18, was recently killed in a car accident), Terry Bone (Marsha Wyckoff's brother), Sharman Robinson (friend of Fred & Janet Ruben), and Addy Babus' daughter Dawn (heart issues).
- The citizens of Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, and others who are impacted by wars and violence around the world.
- The families of those killed and injured in mass shootings in our country and all those who live with physical, emotional, mental, and financial repercussions related to mass shootings.
- The homebound members and friends of the church, specifically, Dot Bishoff, Kathleen Boone, Claire Bradley, Marianne Leavitt, Betty Maine, Charlotte Massey, and Tonny Verwijs.
- Friends and family of the recently deceased, specifically, Neal Halliday (Mary Halliday's brother), and Lauren Callahan (long-time PCD janitor).

The Presbyterian Church of Dover

www.doverpresbyterian.org

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Barb Bayers, Media Technology Coordinator • Betsy Gray, Handbell Choir Director

Office Hours: 8:30 AM – 1 PM, Mon.-Thurs.