



The Presbyterian Church of Dover

September 10, 2023 + 11 AM + Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Gathering

Ringing of the Hour, Welcome, & Community News

Prelude

“We Praise and Bless the Lord”

Lani Smith

+ Call to Worship

Out of the fullness of the lives God has given us, we have come to worship and praise.

With thanks we offer to God the creativity of our minds, the warmth of our hearts, and the joy of our spirits.

We love because God has first loved us, freeing us from the power of sin and death.

With glad hearts, let us join together in singing praise to God: Creator, Word, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

+ Opening Prayer

Gathered in your name, O God, we ask you to bless our worship. May this be an occasion in which kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss.

Through the communion of the Holy Spirit, give us new life that we may rejoice in your goodness. Embolden us to make real in daily living what we experience within this fellowship of your love. Amen.

+ Opening Hymn #744

“Arise, Your Light Is Come!”

Confession & Pardon

Trusting in the abundant and immeasurable love of God, we are bold to confess our sins:

Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of you and for ignoring your immensity and greatness. Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that you rule the nations and our small lives. Holy Spirit, we offend you in minimizing your power and squandering your gifts. We confess that our blindness to your glory, O Triune God, has resulted in shallow confession, tepid conviction, and only mild repentance. Have mercy upon us. In Jesus' name. Amen. *(Silent Prayers)*

Hear the good news! As far as the east is from the west, the north from the south, God has removed our sins from us and set us free. **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Glory be to God! Amen.**

+ **Response #240** “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks” (refrain only)

+ **Passing the Peace of Christ**

The Word

The Word in Song

“Come, Sing Alleluia”

Lynn Shaw Baily &
Becki Slagle Mayo

The Children’s Sermon

Prayer for Illumination

God, the more we know you, the more it is that joy dances in our souls. So, as we open the pages of our family’s history, show yourself in its words. Whisper your love in our ears. Draw us into the embrace of your arms. Let our hearts beat a little faster, as we hear the sound of your voice so near. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Romans 13:8-14 (p. 923)

Sermon

“Up & Ready”

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Parsons II

The Response

+ **Affirmation of Faith (Apostles Creed)**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Reception of New Members

Beth Griffin, Thomas Hall, Dee Johnson, Carrie & Stuart Knapp, Susan Lindberg, Hannah Morgan, Victor Nadler, Anthony & Dolores Pietracatella, David & Jeffrey Sytsma-Sherman, and Heather Thomson

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

Holy God, we give ourselves, captive and free, shaped by forces beyond our control, yet open to the power of your Spirit. Through us, and our gifts, may others know that when anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation, and that the old ways end, and new life begins for everyone. Amen.

The Sending

+ Closing Hymn #377 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

+ Charge & Benediction

Postlude

"Baroque March"

David P. Ruhl

+ Please stand as you are willing and able

Announcements

Congregational Meeting will be held on September 17, 2023, immediately following worship for the purpose of adjusting the pastor's housing allowance.

Hearing Assistance Devices are available for the Worship Service. Please see an usher.

Participants: Debbie Johnson (Lay Leader), Marjorie Ramsey (Videographer), Chris Case (Greeter/Usher)

The Flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the revitalization of our congregation by the Worship Committee.

Worship Credits: Call to Worship & Opening Prayer liturgy from *Chalice Worship*; Call to Confession & Assurance of Pardon liturgy from Mark E. Parsons II; all other liturgy from *Worship & Song: Worship Resources*. Reprinted/streamed with permission under One License, License #A-716734, St. James Music Press License #3407, CCLI SongSelect License #21953553, and CCLI Streaming License #21953546.

This Week at The Presbyterian Church of Dover

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sept. 10	Sept. 11	Sept. 12	Sept. 13	Sept. 14	Sept. 15	Sept. 16
Worship 11 AM	Office closing @ 12 Noon	CDIA Lunch 11:30 AM (off-site)	NC Presbytery 10 AM (social hall)	NA 6:15 PM (social hall)	Wilma Hall's Celebration of Life (Sanctuary) followed by a reception (social hall)	KCC Dress Rehearsal 10 AM (sanctuary)
Celebration Sunday 12 PM (social hall)	Faith-filled Aging 10:30 AM (library)		Prayer Shawl 1 PM (library)			
	Bells of Praise 6 PM (choir room)	Worship Committee 6 PM (zoom)	Property Committee 1 PM (alcove)	Chancel Choir 7 PM (choir room)		
	KCC Rehearsal 7 PM (sanctuary)	IMPJ 7 PM (Zoom)	Administration Committee 5 PM (Zoom)	KCC Rehearsal 7 PM (sanctuary)	KCC Rehearsal 7 PM (sanctuary)	
			P.E.O. 5 PM (library)			

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 Gil Neild, Brendan Ward (Addy Babus' grandson), Terry Bone (Marsha Wycoff's bother), Sandy Rhodes, Ed Gazze, and Eva Ritter.
- 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, and Charlotte Massey.
- Family and friends of the recently deceased, specifically Wilma Hall, Irene Demeter (Marsha Wycoff's lifelong friend), and Tonny Verwijis.

The Presbyterian Church of Dover

www.doverpresbyterian.org

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Dr. Heather A. Hamilton, Director of Music and Organist, hamiltonpcdmusic@gmail.com

Karen Joseph, Office Manager, predvr@verizon.net

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

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