

April 21, 2024 + 11 AM + Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Gathering

Ringing of the Hour, Welcome, & Community News

Tanging of the 110th, welcome, & Community 14cms

"Restored" Bells of Praise

Sandra Eithun

+ Call to Worship

Prelude

We come to God, our holy shepherd, as we come to a green meadow.

God prepares a place for us, and we give glory in God's presence.

How excellent is this dwelling place under the eyes of God's care.

We turn to God in joy. Our good shepherd provides for all our needs.

+ Opening Prayer

Providing God, in our journey of faithfulness, we graze in the pastures you lead us to each day. As we move along, our steps may seem aimless, yet you keep watch and never leave. When we are tired, you prepare for us a table. When we are thirsty, your cup of goodness and mercy overflows. When we are lost, you seek us out. And oh, how our hearts leap when you call to us, for we know your voice and feel your love. Dearest God, we are so grateful that your staff of righteousness leads us home. Amen.

+ Opening Hymn #620 "Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven"

Confession & Pardon

Even in the joy of resurrection, we do not forget the anguish of our sins. We pray together in confession and lament:

Risen One, we confess our silence amid the persecution of others, silence that has often complied with oppression and brought harm. What can we do to eradicate poverty, hunger, and homelessness? Help us to hear your voice above

all others, and teach us how to care for our neighbor, feed the hungry, and clothe and care for those in need, for as we do these things unto one another, we do them also unto you. Amen. (Silent Prayers)

In joy of resurrection, we claim the victory of Christ over the power of sin. God has rolled away the stone to reveal our salvation. We look inside the tomb, and where Jesus once lay lifeless, we find the gifts of God's grace and forgiveness. Go and tell the world! **In Christ we are forgiven. Amen!**

+ Hymn #240 "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks!" (refrain)

+ Passing the Peace of Christ

The Word

The Word in Song

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" arr. Valerie W. Stephenson Bells of Praise

The Children's Sermon

Barb Bayers

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 23:1-6 (p. 435)

Gospel Reading

1 John 3:16-24 (p. 990)

Response

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

Sermon

"Truth"

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

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.

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

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 Thanksgiving

With gratitude for all that we have and all that we are, we bring our gifts and ourselves to you, Loving God. Receive them and receive us with your abundant and life-giving grace. In the name of Christ, our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

The Sending

- + Closing Hymn #625 "O Lord My God" ("How Great Thou Art")
- + Benediction

Postlude

Meditation on "How Great Thou Art" Traditional Swedish and S.K. Hine arr. Albert Zabel

+ Please stand as you are willing and able

Announcements

Participants: Jimmy Gray (Lay Leader), Jim Hutchison (Livestream)

In the event of pastoral care needs while Pastor Mark is away, please contact Karen joseph in the church office (302-734-3313) or Julia-Wheeler Dean (862-266-6175).

Rev. Dr. Len Hedges-Goettl

April 21 Guest Preacher

Len Hedges-Goettl is a retired Presbyterian Minister and retired Doctor of Clinical Psychology. He lives in Rehoboth Beach with his wife Barbara who is also a minister serving the Makemie Church in Snow Hill MD. In addition to doing pulpit supply, Len works with Presbytery on COMC, Vital Congregations Planning and provides boundaries training for the Presbytery. He also serves as consultant to Churches that experience difficult events and provides pastoral care for pastors as requested. Len and Barb have four grown children and four grandsons. Len enjoys acting, music and comedy!

Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in praise for our many blessings, by Betsy & Jimmy Gray.

Worship Credits: Prayer of Illumination liturgy from *Book of Common Worship*, Prayer of Thanksgiving liturgy comes from Rev. Dr. Mark E. Parsons II; all other liturgy from *Call to Worship*. Reprinted/streamed with permission under One License #A-716734, CCLI SongSelect License #21953553, and CCLI Streaming License #21953546.

Upcoming Events at The Presbyterian Church of Dover

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 21	April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26	April 27
Pastor Mark's Sabbatical April 10-May 8	Della of Daries			NA		
Worship with Rev. Dr. Len Hedges- Goettl 11 AM	Bells of Praise 6 PM (choir room) KCC Gathering			6:15 PM (social hall) Chancel Choir		
Capital Ringers "Springtime in Paris" Concert 4 PM (sanctuary) Reception to follow	6:30 PM (sanctuary)			7 PM (choir room)		
(social hall)						

Prayer Requests

Please *email* requests to the church office by *Tuesdays at 2 PM* so we can keep track of prayers.

- 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 Brendan Ward (Addy Babus' grandson), Terry Bone (Marsha Wycoff's brother), Harriet DiChiara, Ellen Estus, Naomi Adom, Pat Franze's granddaughter Emma, Evie Schlauch, Martha Eisenberger, Barbara Trent, Jeffrey Sytsma-Sherman, and Beverly Sisson (Laurie Cummins' friend).
- The citizens of Israel, Gaza, 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, Kathleen Boone, Claire Bradley, Marianne Leavitt, Charlie Lohrmann, Betty Maine, Charlotte Massey, Hank & Sandy Rhodes, and Eva Ritter.

The Presbyterian Church of Dover

www.doverpresbyterian.org

54 South State Street, Dover, DE 19901-7312, 302-734-3313

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Parsons II, Pastor, 304-532-3628, revdrparsons@gmail.com Karen Joseph, Office Manager, predvr@verizon.net Betsy Gray, Handbell Choir Director and Interim Choir Director Barb Bayers, Media Technology Coordinator and Interim Organist Office Hours 8:30 AM – 1 PM, Mon.-Thurs.



Check out the latest news here!