

The Presbyterian Church of Dover



February 23, 2025 + Seventh Sunday After the Epiphany

The Gathering

Welcome, Community News, and Ringing of the Hour

Prelude

“Poor Wayfaring Stranger”

Arr. CE Walz

+ Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

The way of Christ turns the world upside down. **God’s ways are not our ways.**

It moves us beyond retribution and cycles of violence. **God’s ways are not our ways.**

It leads us to enemy-love and scandalous forgiveness. **God’s ways are not our ways.**

It calls us beyond reciprocity into radical giving. **God’s ways are not our ways.**

So let us commit our way to the Lord together,

Until our righteousness shines like the dawn and our justice like high noon.

Let us pray together:

God of resurrection, throughout the generations you have been forging a path to a new life. Though the death-dealing ways of Empire constantly beckon us, you call us forth to a different way, reminding us of the power of resurrection. Free us this day from what tries to steal, kill, and destroy, and restore the joy of our salvation, that we might live secure with you. Amen.

+ Hymn #240

“Alleluia! Alleluia! Give Thanks”

Confession & Pardon

Jesus promised us that God is kind even to the ungrateful and the wicked, even to us. Trusting in God’s kindness and love, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your ways or trusted your promises. We love only those who love us; we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. Forgive us Lord. Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives by your matchless grace. These things we pray through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Children of the Most High God, through Jesus Christ our Lord we have received grace in good measure—spilling out and running over. Now go and live as Christ commands: Be merciful, as God is merciful; do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; but forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. **Thanks be to God!**

+ Response #581

“Glory Be to the Father”

+ Passing of the Peace

The Word

The Word in Song

“Let Me Listen”
The Chancel Choir

Dan Forrest

The Children’s Sermon

Song for Illumination #455 “Listen to the Word that God Has Spoken”

Scripture Reading

Luke 6:27-38 (p. 838)

Response

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

The Art of Hearing Series: “Hearing One Another”

Pastor Mark

The Response

+ Affirmation of Faith

from Scots Confession

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God’s promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

Song of Prayer #753

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

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.*

Offering Our Gifts to God

Offertory

“If the Savior Stood Beside Me”
Jeff Taylor & Pastor Mark, vocal duet

Sally DeFord

+ Doxology #606

+ Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of grace and God of glory, you are the giver of all gifts—gifts of life, grace, talent, and treasure. Teach us to mirror your generosity for the transformation of the world. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

The Sending

+ Closing Hymn #372

“O For a World”

+ Charge & Benediction

Postlude

“Love One Another” L. C. Fox/Arr. Clay Christiansen
+ Please stand as you are willing and able.

Announcements

Participants: Sue Lindberg (Lay Leader), Tom Worley (Livestream), Darrell & Ellen Sams (Greeters/Ushers)

Ash Wednesday Worship will be held Wednesday, March 5, at 12 PM and 6 PM. The 6 PM service will be livestreamed.

2025 Per Capita: \$30.00 per person.

Worship Credits: Call to Worship & Opening Prayer from *Call to Worship, Year C*; Prayer of Confession from *Feasting on the Word, Year C, Vol. 1*; Prayer of Thanksgiving by Rev. Dr. Mark E. Parsons II. "If the Savior Stood Beside Me" used with permission from the composer. Reprinted/streamed with permission under One License #A-716734, CCLI SongSelect License #21953553, and CCLI Streaming License #21953546.



Pastor's Lent Study Group "Practice Spiritual Disciplines"

Mondays, 7 PM, March 10 - April 7

Registration Required. \$10 fee for book that will be provided.

Email Pastor Mark or Karen in the church office to register.

Upcoming Events at The Presbyterian Church of Dover

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
Feb. 23	Feb. 24	Feb. 25	Feb. 26	Feb. 27	Feb. 28	Mar. 1
Worship 11 AM (sanctuary)	Bells of Praise 6 PM (CR) KCC Rehearsal 7 PM (sanctuary)	Presbytery Round Table Meeting 4:30 PM (Zoom)	Pastor Mark Annual Bay Retreat Set-up 2/26 – 2/27 Prayer Shawl 1 PM (library) Chancel Choir 7:30 PM (CR)	NA 6:15 PM (social hall)	Pastor Mark Annual Bay Retreat 2/28 – 3/1 Dewey Beach, DE	

Prayer Requests

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

- Military service personnel, the homeless, those suffering from COVID-19, those affected by natural and unnatural disasters (especially the people of California), those in the hospital and care facilities, those with life-threatening issues, those impacted by gun violence, those working to repair broken systems of injustice, those impacted by war and violence around the world, especially in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, and Armenia.
- Those with health concerns, specifically Ellen Estus, Addy Babus, Chris Case, Dawn (Addy Babus' daughter), Pat Franze, Brendan Ward (Addy Babus' grandson), the Manigar family, Linda Connolly (Pat Franze's cousin), Carolyn Sanborn (Pastor Mark's grandmother), Sam Beharry, family of Ted Street, Daniel Johnson, Mike Denham, the Johnson family, Cindy Fitzharris (Betsy Gray's sister-in-law), Lisa Bishoff, Larry France, and Joyce Sutcliffe.
- Homebound members and friends, specifically, Kathleen Boone, Claire Bradley, Marianne Leavitt, Charlie Lohrmann, Betty Maine, Charlotte Massey, Chuck Mater, Hank & Sandy Rhodes, and Eva Ritter.
- Family and friends of the recently departed, specifically, Laurie Connolly (Pat Franze's cousin) and Muriel Kline, a longtime church member and Chancel Choir member.
- We celebrate with Liz Osborne (Mary Herrera's sister) who is now cancer free.

The Presbyterian Church of Dover

www.doverpresbyterian.org

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



Check out the
latest news here!