



Sunday, January 07, 2024



Welcome to Epworth Worship
Sunday 10 am
in-person and online

10 am [Blended Worship Order](#)
[Calendar](#) & [Announcements](#)
Prayer List
[Staff & Leadership](#)

*VISION: Explore Faith,
Embrace Community*
*MISSION: Inviting, Belonging,
Connecting, Caring*

All Means All

As a [Reconciling Ministries Network](#) congregation, we welcome all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, to share their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.



19285 Holland Glade Rd.
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
302-227-7743 Epworth.faith



We Gather in Worship

Prelude

Doug Yetter, organ

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

BLESSED ASSURANCE

Fanny J. Crosby, 1873 / Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.**

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

**Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. {Refrain}**

**Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with His goodness, lost in His love. {Refrain}**

Kid's Time

Gwen Osborne

Announcements

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

Ancient Words

**Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world.
They resound with God's own heart,
O, let the ancient words impart.**

**Words of life, words of hope,
give us strength, help us cope.
In this world where'er we roam,
ancient words will guide us home.**

*Ancient words, ever true,
changing me, and changing you;
We have come with open hearts,
O let the ancient words impart.*

Lesson: *Mark 1:4-15*

Lynne Wilmer, reader

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. And a voice came

from the heavens, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the good news.”

May this scripture inspire us all...

§ to walk in the way that leads to life.

ANCIENT WORDS (cont)

Holy words of our faith
handed down to this age,
came to us through sacrifice;
O, heed the faithful words of Christ;

Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world.
They resound with God’s own heart,
O, let the ancient words impart.

{Repeat Chorus 2x}

TAG: O let the ancient words impart.

We Pray for Our Pastor

Lynne Wilmer

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

Afro-American Spiritual; adapt. by William Farley Smith, 1986

Let us break bread together on our knees,
Let us break bread together on our knees.

*When I fall on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

Let us drink wine together on our knees,
Let us drink wine together on our knees. *{Refrain}*

Let us praise God together on our knees,
Let us praise God together on our knees. *{Refrain}*

Prayer of Confession / Words of Assurance

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to You,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth...

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...And so, with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise Your name and join their unending
hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and
might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed are those who come
in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the high-
est.**

...as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

...Through your Son, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory are Yours, Almighty God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Spoken

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

It Is Well with My Soul

Horatio G. Spafford, 1873 / Philip P. Bliss, 1876

**When peace, like a river, attends me on my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll.**

**Whatever my lot, you have taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."**

*It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

**My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
{Refrain}**

**And, Lord, haste the day when my faith will be
sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll.
The trumpet will sound, and the Lord will de-
scend,
even so, it is well with my soul. {Refrain}**

Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of December 31, 2023

Sympathy:

To family and friends of Jane Forgie on her death last week.

CONCERNS:

People in conflict of Israel and Gaza Strip

People of Ukraine

Deaf People of Ukraine

Steve Ackeret

Cody Arbuthnot

Mirta Araz0za

David Bendekovits

Cathy Benson

Jason Bezman

Brad Bingaman

Annabelle Boire

Diaz Bonville

Tom Bradley

Andy Brangenberg

The Browning Family

Diane Bruce

Tim Bush

Judy Buchanan

Fran Colavita

Miles Carhartt

Carolyn Cattafi

Sylvia Clair

Kris Coch

Lou Ann Daniels

Lori Derespina

Max Dick

Jeanne Drake

Jennifer Eden Family

David Caffier

Sylvie Drew

Andrea Esarey

Dorothy Fedorka

Carol Fehrenbach

Darlene Ford

Marion Ford

Michael Frome

LeAnne Funk

Tom Groff

Jim Handy

Susan Hargrave

Clella Harp

Elizabeth Hart Family

Joan Heckel

Kathy Hill

Ray Hilt

Barb Hoffman

Mickey Hoffman

Carolyn Horn

Lorraine Hudson
Deb Hunt
Carol Davis Garber
Janet Idema
Kara
Ted Kerwin
Chole Kincaid Kream
Nancy Lathbury
David & Sue Laverty
Duncan Leet
Cary Lewis
Tyler Lewis
Robert Lewis
Annette Licitra
Karen McCauley
Lorretta Mahan
Jerry Mahon
Ryan Martin
Steve Meadors
Jack Mears
Missy Mehring
Pam Mehring
Brenda Milbourne
Laura Miller
Payton Miller
Joy Mitchell
Karen Mitchell
Ann Paulen
Ron Paxton
Leslie Petty
Glenn Pierce
Sandy Pierce
Richard Pioli
Bruce Powell
Annette Predeaux
Presley
Constance Quillen
Barbara Simpson
Joanne Smith
John Riley Spillane
Jana Raup
Vernon Redding
Victoria Reinholt
Charlie Reynolds
Holly Reynolds
Carl Richards
Beth Rinker
Betty Robbins
Sandy Roca
Pete Roche
Wilmarie Rodriguez
Sandi Russell
Dorothy & John Sadler
Irene & Tom Saffrit
Mark Saunders
Ed Scarborough
Dianne Shearon
Susan Shollenberger

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Linda Simms
Henry Simpson
Michael & Anna Skiles
Fred and Sharyn Smith
Ray Sonderfan
Rob Socorso
Paul Streit
Scott Strickler
Michael Stugard
Mark Thompson
Beth Toney
Renee Toney
Susanne Truitt
Harvey and Peggy Waltersdorf
Amy Wall
Wanda Walton-Hummel
Tim Weschler
Michael Wills, Sr
Carol Wine
Dan Wine in Beebe
Jack Witmer
Denise Wolfe
Charlotte Woods
Claire Worrall
Susan Yates
Jean Young

More Names on Back of Paper

**Continued Prayers for those in Assisted Living,
Homebound, Hospice or in Long Term Care**

Donna Blomquist, The Moorings
Ann Chambers, The Moorings
Leon Cromer, Harbor Health
Carolyn Robinson-Brandywine
Linda Rooney
Quinn Smith
Elaine Trexler

Servicemen/Women:

Michael Sakurai Wills, US Army Ft. Jackson, Alaska
Hailye Wilson, USCG Key West
Luke Wilson, USCG Key West
Zeb Wilson, Travis AFB
Jacob Hudson, Quantico
Andrew Hudson, UT ROTC

College Students

Autumn Reynolds-Cedar Crest College
Kristina Alexander, UD
Cole Thomas Juliano, Elon
Wade Stout-
Alex Tamburello, Delaware College of Art and Design
Thomas Vyas, Delaware Tech
Griffin Barrows, Marist

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Epworth Ministry Organization



Staff & Leadership

Church Office: 302-227-7743 (plus extension)

Lead Pastor: [Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith](#) (x102)

Pastor of Community & Communication:

[Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith](#) (x103)

Minister of Music: [Doug Yetter](#) (x106)

Caring Minister: [Mickie McManamon](#) (x104)

Belonging Minister: [Gwen Osborne](#) (x108)

Youth Minister: [Joy Gordy-Stith](#)

Minister to Deaf and Hard of Hearing: [Sandy Roca](#)

Preschool Director: [Betsy Plowman](#) (x107)

Bookkeeper: [Darlene Ford](#) (x105)

Facilities Manager: [John Hilt](#)

Cemetery Superintendent: [Jay Stevenson](#)

Office Manager: [Tammy Zhang](#) (x100)

Governing Board Chair—[Linda Kauffman](#)

Lay Leader—[Todd Popham](#)

Finance Chair—[David Hagelin](#)

Staff-Parish Relations Chair—[Sandy Pierce](#)

Board of Trustees Chair—[Bunny Maher](#)

Scheduling/Rentals & DOVs: [Susan Jimenez](#)

Inviting Leadership Team

(Inclusive Ministries, Food Ministries, Ecumenical/Interfaith, Social Justice)

[Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith](#) and [Bob Joynson](#)

Belonging Leadership Team

(Small Groups, New Members/Belongings, Sunday School, Youth & Adult Groups)

[Gwen Osborne](#), [Linda BenderHilt](#), [Loretta Mahan](#),

[Cathie Lewis](#) and [Teri Moore](#)

Connecting Leadership Team

(Worship, Music, Arts)

[Doug Yetter](#) and [Murray Archibald](#)

Caring Leadership Team

(Missions, Pastoral Care Team, Care Ministries)

[Mickie McManamon](#), [Dee Speck](#) and [Holly Reynolds](#)