

Sunday, January 28, 2024









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

10 am <u>Blended Worship Order</u>

<u>Calendar</u> & <u>Announcements</u>

<u>Prayer List</u>

Staff & Leadership

<u>VISION</u>: Explore Faith, Embrace Community <u>MISSION</u>: Inviting, Belonging, Connecting, Caring

#### All Means All

As a <u>Reconciling Ministries Network</u> 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 <u>Epworth.faith</u>



## We Gather in Worship

#### Chain Breaker

Mia Fieldes, Jonathan Smith, & Zach Williams ©2015 Anthems of Hope Publishing Praise Team / Chancel Choir

If you've been walking the same old road for miles and miles,

If you've been hearing the same old voice tell the same old lies,

If you're trying to fill the same old holes inside,

there's a better life, there's a better life.

If you've got pain, He's a pain taker.
If you feel lost, He's a way maker.
If you need freedom or saving,
He's a prison-shaking savior.
If you've got chains, He's a chain breaker.

We've all searched for the light of day in the dead of night.

We've all found ourselves worn out from the same old fight.

And we've all run to things we know just ain't right.

And there's a better life, there's a better life. {Refrain}

If you believe it, if you receive it, if you can feel it, somebody testify. If you believe it, if you receive it, if you can feel it, somebody testify, testify. If you believe it, if you receive it,

if you can feel it, somebody testify. {Refrain}

He's a prison-shaking savior. If you've got chains, oh, He's a chain breaker.

TAG: Oh, if you need freedom or saving,

## God is On the Move

Cliff Williams, Ian Eskelin, Mikey Howard, & Tony <u>Wood ©2015 Wordspring Music</u> Praise Team / Chancel Choir

Anytime a heart turns from darkness to light,

anytime temptation comes and someone stands to fight, anytime somebody lives to serve and not be served,

I know, I know, I know; I know:

God is on the move, on the move, Hallelujah!

God is on the move in many mighty ways. God is on the move, on the move, Hallelujah!

God is on the move, on the move today.

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Anytime in weakness someone falls upon their knees or dares to speak the truth that sets us free, anytime the choice is made to stand upon the Word, I know, I know, I know: {Refrain}

I see a generation standing on the truth. In each and ev'ry nation, God is on the move.

Anytime the gospel stirs a searching soul, and someone says, "Send me. Here I go." I know, I know, I know: {Refrain twice}

I see a generation standing on the truth. In each and ev'ry nation, God is on the move.

#### Welcome

Todd Popham, Lay Leader

#### House of the Lord

Phil Wickham & Jonathan Smith ©2021 Be Essential Songs Praise Team / Chancel Choir

We worship the God who was.

We worship the God who is.

We worship the God who evermore will be.

You opened the prison doors.

You parted the raging sea.

My God, You hold the victory, yeah.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.

And we won't be quiet,

we shout out Your praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

Our God is surely in this place.

And we won't be quiet,

we shout out Your praise.

Oh, oh, we shout out Your praise.

We sing to the God who heals.

We sing to the God who saves.

We sing to the God who always makes a way.

'Cause You hung upon that cross,

then You rose up from that grave.

My God's still rolling stones away.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

There's joy in the house of the Lord today.

And we won't be quiet,

we shout out Your praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

Our God is surely in this place.

And we won't be quiet,

we shout out Your praise.

We were the beggars, now we're royalty.

We were the pris'ners, now we're running free.

We are forgiven, accepted,

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redeemed by Your grace.

Let the house of the Lord sing praise.

'Cause we were the beggars, now we're royalty.

We were the pris'ners, now we're running free.

We are forgiven, accepted,

redeemed by Your grace.

Let the house of the Lord sing praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.

And we won't be quiet,

we shout out Your praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

Our God is surely in this place.

And we won't be quiet,

we shout out Your praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

There's joy in the house of the Lord today.

And we won't be quiet,

we shout out Your praise. There's joy in the house of the Lord.

Our God is surely in this place.

And we won't be quiet,

we shout out Your praise. We shout out Your praise!

Kid's Time

Todd Popham

**Announcements** Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

## All Creatures of Our God and King

Francis of Assisi, ca. 1225 / Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,

O praise ye! Alleluia!

O Brother Sun with golden beam,

O Sister Moon with silver gleam!

O praise ye! O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear Mother Earth, who day by day unfolds your blessings on our way, Alleluia! Alleluia!

The flowers and fruits that in thee grow, let them God's glory also show! {Refrain}

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship God in humbleness, O praise ye! Alleluia! Praise the Creator, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One! {Refrain}

## Prayers of the People Mickey Hoffman

The Apostle Paul tells us that what is most essential in our conduct as Christians is not knowledge, but love.

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And that what we know is less important than our being known by God. So, we confess...

The times when we have used knowledge in ways which put people down rather than build them up. God, source of all knowledge, forgive us.

When we see people being exploited because of lack of knowledge, and do nothing. God, source of all goodness, forgive us.

When we have idolized knowledge at the expense of loving and caring for others. God, source of all love, forgive us.

When we have ridiculed others for having a weak and feeble faith because they appear to lack wisdom; God, source of all wisdom, forgive us.

Let us join in a time of silence for personal confession...

Forgive us, O God, for seeing good only in what we understand and accept as your truths. Remind us of Paul's words 'If I have all knowledge but do not have love, I am nothing.' Touch us, teach us, heal us, and make us newly aware of your love and forgiveness. Amen.

And now let us sing the prayer Christ taught us to pray...

# The Lord's Prayer

Sung Responsively

Lesson: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Gwen Osborne, reader Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge, but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists" and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords— yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol, and their conscience, being

weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge the weak brother or sister for whom Christ died is destroyed. But when you thus sin against brothers and sisters and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never again eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall

May this scripture inspire us all...

 $\S$  to walk in the way that leads to life.

## Be Thou My Vision

Ancient Irish; Arr. by Alice Parker ©1976 Chancel Choir

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.

Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;

I ever with Thee, and Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, I thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,

Thou mine inheritance, now and always; Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Prayer for Our Pastor

Gwen Osborne

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

## Jesus, United By Your Grace

Charles Wesley, 1742 / Gesangbuch der H.W.Hofkapelle, 1784 Jesus, united by Your grace and each to each endeared,

with confidence we seek Your face and know our prayer is heard.

Help us to help each other, Lord,

each other's cross to bear; let all their friendly aid afford and feel each other's care.

Up unto You, our living Head, let us in all things grow; till You have made us free indeed and spotless here below. Touched by the lodestone of Your love, let all our hearts agree, and ever toward each other move, and ever move toward Thee.

To You, inseparably joined, let all our spirits cleave;
O may we all the loving mind that was in You received.
This is the bond of perfectness, Your spotless charity;
O let us, still we pray, possess the mind that was in Thee.

#### Benediction

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

## House of the Lord

There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.
There's joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.

We were the beggars, now we're royalty.
We were the pris'ners, now we're running free.
We are forgiven, accepted,
redeemed by Your grace.
Let the house of the Lord sing praise.
'Cause we were the beggars, now we're royalty.
We were the pris'ners, now we're running free.
We are forgiven, accepted,
redeemed by Your grace.
Let the house of the Lord sing praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.
There's joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord. There's joy in the house of the Lord today. And we won't be quiet, we shout out Your praise.

#### **Our Church Family**

Lay Leader: Todd Popham ... Lead Pastor: Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith
Pastor of Community & Communications: Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith
Deacon: Kristin Weschler ... Minister of Music: Doug Yetter
Coordinator of Caring Ministries: Mickie McManamon
Coordinator of Belonging Ministries: Gwen Osborne
Office Manager: Tammy Zhang ... Business Administrator: Darlene Ford
Lead Interpreter: Sandy Roca ... Sound Tech: Shaun Redick
Production Team: Mike Duer / Thomas Vyas / Bryan Warner / Noah Ryan
Director of Youth Services: Joy Gordy-Stith
Preschool Director: Betsy Plowman ... Kitchen Sexton: Cara Wenke-Wilson
Facilities Manager: John Hilt ... Cemetery Superintendent: Jay Stevenson

## Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of January 28, 2023

## <u>Sympathy</u>

#### Concerns:

People in conflict of Israel and Gaza Strip

People of Ukraine

Deaf People of Ukraine

Gary Bacon

David Bendekovits

Cathy Benson

Brad Bingaman

Annabelle Boire

Jeff Bond

Diaz Bonville

Andy Brangenberg

Tim Bush

Judy Buchanan Jennifer Eden Family

David Caffier

Joelle Colleta

Sylvie Drew

Sherri Ealy

Carol Fehrenbach

Deb Ferlitto

Finn

Marion Ford

Tom Groff

Kathy Hill

Ray Hilt Barb Hoffman

Mickey Hoffman

Carolyn Horn

Deb Hunt

Juliano Family Kathleen Kattigan

Sandra Kennedy.

Ted Kerwin

Chloe Kincade-Crean

Kris Koch

Nancy Krupa

Duncan Leet

Eton Lewis

Jerry Mahon

Missy Mehring Pam Mehring

Brenda Milbourne

Joy Mitchell

Steve Mosteller

Ann Paulen

Ron Paxton

Glenn Pierce

Richard Pioli

Annette Predeaux

Constance Quillen

Frank Quillen

Charlie Reynolds

Dallas Reynolds

Barbara Simpson

John Riley Spillane

Jana Raup

Judy Reich

Victoria Reinholt

Charlie Reynolds Dallas Reynolds

Beth Rinker Betty Robbins

Sandy Roca

Wilmarie Rodriguez

John Sadler Irene & Tom Saffrit

Mark Saunders

Ed Scarborough

Jan Silbaugh

Joan and Henry Simpson

Fred and Sharyn Smith

Ray Sonderfan

Paul Streit

Scott Strickler

Mark Thompson

Mike Tibets

Ryan Talumello

Susanne Truitt

Harvey and Peggy Waltersdorf

Wanda Walton-Hummel

Tim Weschler

Michael Wills, Sr

Carol Wine

Dan Wine

Lorrie Witcher

Jack Witmer

Charlotte Woods

Claire Worrall

Susan Yates Jean Young

## 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

#### <u>Servicemen/Women:</u>

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

**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) Financial Manager: **Darlene Ford** (x105)

Facilities Manager: John Hilt

Cemetery Superintendent: <u>Jay Stevenson</u> 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