



# EPWORTH REHOBOTH BEACH

Worship Order, Announcements & Prayers

[Epworth.faith](http://Epworth.faith)

Sunday, August 17, 2025



**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](http://Epworth.faith)



~ *We Gather in Worship* ~

**Need You Now**

*Christa Wells, Luke Sheets, & Tiffany Arbuckle Lee*

©2010 Shoecrazy Publishing

Praise Team / Chancel Choir

Well, ev'rybody's got a story to tell,  
and ev'rybody's got a wound to be healed.

I want to believe there's beauty here.

'Cause oh, I get so tired of holding on.

I can't let go, I can't move on.

I want to believe there's meaning here.

*How many times have You heard me cry out,  
"God, please take this?"*

*How many times have You given me strength  
to just keep breathing?*

*Oh, I need You. God, I need You now.*

Standing on a road I didn't plan,  
wond'ring how I got to where I am,  
I'm trying to hear that still, small voice.

I'm trying to hear above the noise. *{Refrain}*

Though I walk, though I walk through the shadows,  
and I, I am so afraid.

Please stay, please stay right beside me  
with ev'ry single step I take.

How many times have You heard me cry out?

How many times have You given me strength? *{Refrain}*

**TAG:** *I need You now. Oh, I need You.*

*God, I need You now.*

*I need You now. I need You now.*

**For Everyone Born**

*Shirley Erena Murray / Brian Wren ©1998 Hope Publishing*

Praise Team / Chancel Choir

For everyone born, a place at the table.

For everyone born, clean water and bread.

A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,  
for everyone born, a star overhead.

*And God will delight*

*when we are creators of justice*

*and joy---, compassion and peace:*

*Yes, God will delight*

*when we are creators of justice, justice and joy.*

For young and for old, a place at the table.

A voice to be heard, a part in the song.

The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,  
for young and for old, the right to belong.

*{Repeat Chorus}*

For gay and for straight, a place at the table.

A covenant shared, a welcoming space.

A rainbow of race and gender and color.

For gay and for straight, the chalice of grace.

*{Repeat Chorus twice}*

**TAG:** Of justice, justice and joy!

Of justice, justice and joy!

Of justice, justice and joy!

**Welcome**

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

**Announcements**

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

## Come to the Table

*Ben Glover, Ben McDonald & Dave Frey ©2015 9Tone Songs  
Praise Team / Chancel Choir*

We all start on the outside,  
the outside looking in.  
This is where grace begins.  
We were hungry, we were thirsty,  
with nothing left to give.  
Oh, the shape that we were in.  
And just when all hope seemed lost,  
Love opened the door for us. He said:

*Come to the table.*

*Come join the sinners who have been redeemed.*

*Take your place beside the Savior.*

*Sit down and be set free.*

*Come to the table.*

Come meet this motley crew of misfits,  
these liars and these thieves;  
There's no one unwelcome here.  
And that sin and shame  
that you brought with you,  
you can leave it at the door  
and let mercy draw you near.

*So, come to the table.*

*Come join the sinners who have been redeemed.*

*Take your place beside the Savior.*

*Sit down and be set free.*

*Come to the table. Come to the table.*

To the thief and to the doubter,  
to the hero and the coward,  
to the pris'ner and the soldier,  
to the young and to the older,  
all who hunger all who thirst,  
all the last and all the first,  
all the paupers and the princes,  
all who fail, you've been forgiven,  
all who dream and all who suffer,  
all who loved and lost another,  
all the chained and all the free,  
all who follow, all who lead,  
anyone who's been let down,  
all the lost, you have been found,  
all who've been labeled right or wrong,  
to ev'ryone who hears this song:

*Come to the table.*

*Come join the sinners; you have been redeemed.*

*Take your place beside the Savior.*

*Sit down and be set free.*

*Sit down and be set free.*

*Come to the table, come to the table.*

*Sit down and be set free. Come to the table.*

**Kid's Time**

Joy Gordy-Stith

### **Introduction and Presentation of Candidate for Baptism**

#### **Questions for Parents and Congregation**

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin? **I do.**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves? **I do.**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your

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whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races? **I do.**

Will you nurture Kallea in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example she may be guided to accept God's grace for herself, to profess her faith openly, and to lead a Christian life? **We will.**

Do you, Epworth family, as Christ's body, reaffirm your commitment to Jesus as our Lord? **We do.**

Will you nurture one another in Christian love and practices and include these families before you in your love and care? **We will.**

Will you live as a community of love and forgiveness so that all around you will see the grace of Jesus in you? **We will.**

Will you pray for these families that they may grow into disciples who walk in the way that leads to life? **We will.**

### Congregational Creed

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God. We are called to be the church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,  
to be grateful for God's unending love  
and, in turn, to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our redemption and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### O God, Each Day You Bless Us

*Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2016 / Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864*

Congregational Hymn

**O God, each day you bless us  
with gifts of Your shalom;  
You give us peace and justice,  
You welcome lost ones home.  
You care for Your creation  
and set Your people free;  
You offer us salvation and build community.**

**You make us sons and daughters,  
baptized and reconciled!  
You show us each peacemaker  
is blest as Your own child.  
We'll worship, pray and study,  
to learn new skills for peace;  
We'll work as one strong body so justice will increase.**

**We'll build new global friendships,  
seek peace in ev'ry land,  
protect the earth You gave us  
and give with outstretched hand.  
O give Your church a vision, a way of life, a prayer;  
Your will is done in heaven;  
now bring in Your reign here!**

### **Prayers of the People**

Tim Bush

Knowing that our God walks with us in our confusion,  
our doubts, our failings, our struggles,  
we now come humbly before God  
to ask for mercy and forgiveness.

For the times we fail to offer hospitality  
to those in our world who suffer injustice, oppression,  
and poverty, we pray:

***God, have mercy on your people***

For the times we lack courage to address the causes  
of injustice, oppression and poverty, we pray to our God:

***God, have mercy on your people***

For the times we give in to despair and resignation  
when confronted with the injustice of our world,  
we pray to our God:

***God, have mercy on your people***

For the times we allow our fears to triumph  
over the call to solidarity, we pray to our God:

***God, have mercy on your people***

Merciful God,

Heal the brokenness in our hearts and in our world  
caused by injustice, indifference, selfishness and fear.  
Open our hearts to hear the cries of your suffering people.  
Support us as we seek to respond  
in solidarity and with hospitality. Amen.

*And now with the confidence of the Children of God,  
let us sing the prayer Christ taught us:*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*Spoken*

### **Showers of Blessings**

Fanny Crosby, 1888 / John Robsen Sweney, 1888

Congregational Hymn

**Here in Thy Name we are gathered,  
Come and revive us, O Lord;  
"There shall be showers of blessing,"  
Thou hast declared in Thy Word.**

***Oh, graciously hear us,  
Graciously hear us, we pray:  
Pour from Thy windows upon us  
Showers of blessing today.***

**Oh! that the showers of blessing,  
Now on our souls may descend,  
While at the footstool of mercy  
Pleading Thy promise we bend! *{Refrain}***

**"There shall be showers of blessing,"  
Promise that never can fail;  
Thou wilt regard our petition;  
Surely our faith will prevail. *{Refrain}***

**Showers of blessing, we need them,  
Showers of blessing from Thee;  
Showers of blessing, oh, grant them,  
Thine all the glory shall be. *{Refrain}***

**Lesson:** *Ezekiel 16:13, 46-49, 53-55*

Joy Gordy-Stith, reader

The word of the Lord came to me: Mortal, make known to Jerusalem her abominations and say: Thus says the Lord God to Jerusalem: Your origin and your birth were in the land of the Canaanites; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.

Your big sister is Samaria, who lived with her daughters to the north of you; your little sister, who lived to the south of you, is Sodom with her daughters. You not only followed their ways

and acted according to their abominations; within a very little time you were more corrupt than they in all your ways. As I live, says the Lord God, your sister Sodom and her daughters have not done as you and your daughters have done. This was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease but did not aid the poor and needy.

I will restore their fortunes, the fortunes of Sodom and her daughters and the fortunes of Samaria and her daughters, and I will restore your own fortunes along with theirs, in order that you may bear your disgrace and be ashamed of all that you have done, becoming a consolation to them. As for your sisters, Sodom and her daughters shall return to their former state; Samaria and her daughters shall return to their former state, and you and your daughters shall return to your former state.

May this scripture inspire us all...

**§ to walk in the way that leads to life.**

## **Canticle of Hope**

*Words by J. Paul Williams / Music by Joseph M. Martin*

Chancel Choir Anthem

**Lord, you are God, perfect in holiness.**

**Lord, you are God of the needy and the poor.**

**A sure defender, You are our refuge.**

**You are the Giver. You are Jehovah.**

**You are the God who restores.**

**Lord, you are God, reigning in righteousness.**

**Lord, you are God in the time of our distress.**

**We call on You, our sure salvation.**

**Lord, you are faithful.**

**You are the God who restores.**

**Lord, you are God, ruling in gentleness.**

**Lord, you are God. You wipe away each tear.**

**You hear our ev'ry prayer. You give us comfort.**

**You touch our hearts and calm our fears.**

**You are eternal. Alpha, Omega.**

**We place our hope in you alone.**

**Lord, you are God, perfect in holiness.**

**Lord, you are God.**

**In our darkness You are everlasting light.**

**A sure defender, You are our refuge.**

**You are the Giver. You are Jehovah.**

**You are the God who restores.**

**Great is Thy Faithfulness!**

**Great is Thy Faithfulness!**

**Great is Thy Faithfulness!**

**You are the God who restores.**

**Your love restores.**

**Prayer for Our Pastor**

**Joy Gordy-Stith**

**Sermon**

**Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith**

## **We Seek a Mighty Nation**

*Terre Johnson, 2020*

**We seek a mighty nation where no one lives in fear,  
where strength is found in mercy  
and kindness is revered.**

**We seek a gentle nation where no one is alone,  
and those in need of shelter  
are gladly welcomed home.**

**We seek a caring nation that nourishes the weak,**

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where all the sick and needy find comfort and relief;  
Where wealth is found in giving,  
prestige through acts of love,  
and those who are aggressors  
are taught to humbly serve.

We seek a shining nation, a beacon to the world  
of grateful, humble freedom, of justice freely served.  
We seek to leave a nation to children yet to be  
whose greatest attribution is centuries of peace.

**Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

### **God is Good (All the Time)**

*Don Moen & Paul Overstreet ©1995 Integrity's Hosanna!*

Praise Team / Chancel Choir

*God is good all the time –  
He put a song of praise in this heart of mine.  
God is good all the time –  
through the darkest night His light will shine.  
God is good, God is good all the time.*

If you're walking through the valley  
and there are shadows all around,  
Do not fear, He will guide you;  
He will keep you safe and sound.  
He has promised to never leave you  
or forsake you, and His word is true. *{Refrain}*

We were sinners, so unworthy –  
still for us He chose to die.  
Filled us with His Holy Spirit;  
now we can stand and testify  
that His love is everlasting,  
and His mercies, they will never end.  
*God is good all the time –  
He put a song of praise in this heart of mine.  
God is good all the time –  
through the darkest night His light will shine.  
God is good, God is good,  
God is good – He's so good,  
God is good, God is good all the time!*

# Annual Worship Theme September 2024—August 2025

## Hospitality



# Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of August 17, 2025

## SYMPATHY

## CONCERNS

People in conflict of Israel and Gaza Strip

People of Ukraine

Deaf People of Ukraine

Jackson and family

Nicole Anderson

Zach & Emma Anderson

Ashley Angstadt

Cody Angstadt

John Astafan and family

Joey Augustine

Matias Baker

\*Michael Beigay

David Bendekovits

Melba Bengston, Hospice @ Home

\*Cathy Benson

Linda Bingnear

\*Jeff Bond

\*Susie Bond

Barbara Bowrin

Mallory Banczar

\*Anita Broccolino Family

Diane Bruce

\*Kathryn Burwin

Donna Bush

\*Tim Bush

David Caffier

Brenda Clarke

Clouspy Family

Mary Jane Colgan

Jose Compos

Ian Cooper

Paula Cosatanzo

Lou Cox

Angela Cregar

Laurene Dalpezzo

Jerry DeLair

Fern Dzielak

Karen Donahoe

\*Jane Drapper

Alan Dzilak

Mya Douglas, 14 yr old in hospice

Ayva Dudley

\*Jennifer Eden Family

Katherine Erlanger

Blaine Fasnacht

\*Roni Fiedler

Horst Fischer

Folderaiuer Family

Marion Ford

Luna and Nathan Franco

Judy Fredrich

Kim Frye

Dayna Fuller

Fran Garside

Dayna Faller

Ken Gilson- Hospice Vermont

Jody Good

Sterling Green

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Ezra Groff  
\*Tom Groff  
Mark Gruber-Lebowitz  
\*Nancy Hecker  
\*Jimmy/Linda Hess  
Sue Higgs  
Dahlia Hill  
Kathy Hill  
Ray Hilt  
Barb Hoffman  
Bobby Horn  
Kate Howells  
Wayne Hudson  
Bonnie Hudson  
Lorraine Hudson  
Eric Jancheimer  
Marly/Bob Jensey  
Eric Johnson  
Charlene Jones  
Matthew Kenworthy  
Mary Ellen King  
\*George Leet  
Debra Leiss  
\*Donna Lipscomb  
\*Loretta Mahan  
Patrick Mahan  
Donald Mahon  
Jerry Mahon  
Larry Mazzoni  
Karen McCauley  
Sean and Adrienne McCullough  
Kaitlyn McCutcheon  
\*Marv Malone  
\*Frances Mason  
Bob Mazur  
Michie Mader  
Karen Monahan  
Aviana Aurora Montano  
\*Nikki Nicholson  
Susan Parsons  
\*Bob Paulen  
\*Ron Paxton  
Kevin Pelland  
Wayne Perry  
\*Sandy & Glenn Pierce  
Lucas Polsinelli  
\*Chris Porter  
\*Dan Potts  
\*Annette Predeaux  
Richard Prichard  
Gail Purcell  
Constance Quillen  
Beth Rinker  
Pete Roche  
\*Gary Ralph  
Jana Raup  
\*Bill Robbins  
Fred Rosado  
Emmalea Ruff  
John Ruff  
Herb Russell  
\*John Sadler  
Eddie & Jean Safrit  
\*Irene & Tom Safrit  
Mark Saunders

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Kamdyn Schauss  
\*Carl Schloegel  
Donna Shannon  
\*Fred and Sharyn Smith  
Bill Smith  
\*Loretta Smith  
\*Chet Sprague and Sue Sprague  
Chet in Excel (Harbor House)  
Mike Sprague  
Mikey Stugard  
\*Cheryl Tarlecky  
\*Mark Thompson  
Dean Tibbetts  
Mike Tibbetts  
Mike & Erin Tibbetts  
Rene Toney  
Nancy Trinkley  
Annie Valenti  
Mary Valenti  
Becky Vye and Family  
Lee Ann Walling  
Peggy Waltersdorf  
Hudson Walton  
Donald Walton  
\*Deb Weber  
\*Tim Whaley  
\*Tina Whaley  
Michael Wills, Sr  
\*Lynne Wilmer  
\*Carol Woodcock  
Joe Wood  
\*Charlotte Woods  
\*Claire Worrall  
\*Tom Worrall  
\*Michelle Yates  
\*Jean Young  
\*Tammy Zhang and family  
Zopfi family  
Tiffany  
Jody  
Lynn and her 3 children

**\*Church Members**

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

\*Ann Chambers, The Moorings  
Leon Cromer, Harbor Health  
Gary Ralph, Polaris Milford  
\*Linda Rooney  
Quinn Smith  
Elaine Trexler  
\*Janet Yabroff  
Jamie  
Bradley

**Servicemen/Women:**

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

### **College/Grad Students**

\*Autumn Reynolds-Grad Student Cedar Crest College

\*Kristina Alexander, Grad Student Western Governor's U

Callie Juliano, U Conn

Cole Thomas Juliano, UD

Noah Ryan, Delaware Tech

\*Thomas Vyas, UD

Griffin Barrows, Marist

Grant Barrows, UNC Charlotte

# 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](#)

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

Bookkeeper: [Bryan Warner](#) (x105)

Facilities Manager: [John Hilt](#)

Kitchen Sexton: [Maureen Knesel](#)

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

Cemetery Superintendent: [Jay Stevenson](#)

Governing Board Chair—[Linda Kauffman](#)

Lay Leader—[Todd Popham](#)

Finance Chair—[David Hagelin](#)

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

Board of Trustees Chair—[Tom Lewis](#)

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

### Inviting Leadership Team

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

[Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith](#) and [Mike Tyler](#)

### 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](#)