



EPWORTH REHOBOTH BEACH

Worship Order, Announcements & Prayers

Epworth.faith

Sunday, August 23, 2026



Welcome to Epworth Worship
Sunday 9:50 am
in-person and online

9:50 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 ~

I Will Follow

Chris Tomlin, Reuben Morgan, & Jason Ingram

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Praise Team

Where You go, I'll go. Where You stay, I'll stay.

When You move, I'll move. I will follow.

Oh, oh, oh.

All Your ways are good, all Your ways are sure.

I will trust in You alone.

Higher than my sight, high above my life,

I will trust in You alone.

Where You go, I'll go. Where You stay, I'll stay.

When You move, I'll move. I will follow You.

Who You love, I'll love. How You serve, I'll serve.

If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah,

I will follow You, yeah.

Light into the world, light into my life,

I will live for You alone.

You're the one I seek, knowin' I will find

all I need in You alone, in You alone. {Refrain}

In You there's life everlasting,

in You there's freedom for my soul.

In You there's joy, unending joy,

and I will follow.

Where You go, I'll go. Where You stay, I'll stay.

When You move, I'll move. I will follow.

Who You love, I'll love. How You serve, I'll serve.

If this life I lose, I will follow.

Where You go, I'll go. Where You stay, I'll stay.

When You move, I'll move. I will follow You.

Who You love, I'll love. How You serve, I'll serve.

If this life I lose, I will follow You, yeah,

I will follow You, yeah.

I will follow You, yeah.

I will follow You, yeah.

After All (Holy)

David Crowder, Mark Waldrop, Mike Dodson, & Matt Maher

©2012 WorshipTogether.com Songs

Praise Team / Chancel Choir

I can't comprehend

Your infinitely beautiful and perfect love.

Oh, I've dreamed dreams

of majesty as brilliant as a billion stars,

But they're never bright enough after all.

You are holy, oh, holy, oh, holy, oh, holy, oh,

I will sing a song for You, my God,

with ev'rything I have in me,

But it's never loud enough after all.

You are holy, oh, holy, oh, holy, oh, holy, oh.

Heaven and earth are full,

full of Your glory, Your glory.

My soul, it overflows,

full of Your glory, Your glory.

Oh, blessed is He who reigns,

full of Your glory, Your glory.

My cup it can't contain all

of Your glory, Your glory.

Hosanna, we are found after all.

You are holy, oh, holy, oh, holy,

oh, holy, oh, holy, oh, holy. Oh.

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I can't comprehend; You're infinitely beautiful.

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Announcements

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

The God Who Stays

Matthew West, Jonathan Smith, & AJ Prius

©2019 Two Story House Music

Chancel Choir / Praise Team

If I were You, I would've given up on me by now.
I would've labeled me a lost cause,
'cause I feel just like a lost cause.

If I were You,
I would've turned around and walked away.
I would've labeled me beyond repair,
'cause I feel like I'm beyond repair.
Oh, but somehow You don't see me like I do.
Somehow, You're still here.

*You're the God who stays,
You're the God who stays.
You're the one who runs in my direction
when the whole world walks away.
You're the God who stands with wide open arms,
and You tell me nothing I have ever done
could separate my heart
from the God who stays.*

I used to hide ev'ry time I thought I let You down.
Always thought I had to earn my way,
but I'm learning You don't work that way.
'cause somehow You don't see me like I do.
Somehow, You're still here. *{Repeat Chorus}*

My shame can't separate, my guilt can't separate,
my past can't separate; I'm Yours forever.
My sin can't separate, my scars can't separate,
my failures can't separate; I'm Yours forever.
No enemy can separate,
no pow'r of hell can take away.
Your love for me will never change.
I'm Yours forever. *'Cause {Repeat Chorus 2x}*

Kid's Time

Joy Gordy-Stith

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Edward H. Plumptre, 1865 / Arthur H. Messiter, 1889

Congregational Hymn

Rejoice, ye pure in heart;
rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your glorious banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ Your King.
*Rejoice, (Rejoice), rejoice, (rejoice),
rejoice, give thanks and sing.*

Your clear hosannas raise,
and alleluias loud;
while answering echoes upward float,
like wreaths of incense cloud. *{Refrain}*

Praise God who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost,
one God forevermore. *{Refrain}*

Prayers of the People

Mike Tyler

God of life and of truth,

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Jesus invites us to see the world through your eyes
 and we find ourselves disoriented:
 You bless the poor, You bless the meek.
 You bless the pure in heart.
 You turn our world and its values upside down.
 We have signed on to follow Jesus,
 but this is strange territory.
 It doesn't look anything like the life we
 have been taught to yearn for, to work for,
 to believe will bring us happiness.
 Yet, You know the despair that besets
 so many of our young people
 who fear that their future has been mortgaged
 by our greed and carelessness.
 You hear the cries of those who
 have traded their souls for power and money
 and now have emptiness as a friend.
 You see those who are caught in lives
 that lead only to weariness and anxiety.
 Set us at Jesus' feet
 so we can learn to judge our lives differently.
 Awaken in us that hunger and thirst for you
 which will lead us to your will and your peace.
 Open our eyes to see your unexpected blessings.
 Open our hearts to welcome you
 when you come to us in strange ways.
 Then make us into a community of blessedness
 that beckons this neighborhood into your joy.
 We ask these things in the name of Jesus
 who blesses us with your living presence
 and fills our lives with your life-changing truth. **Amen.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

Sung Responsively

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Edwin Hatch, 1878 / Robert Jackson, 1888

Congregational Hymn

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
 fill me with life anew,
 that I may love what You would love
 and do what You would do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
 until my heart is pure,
 until with You I will one will, to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
 till I am wholly thine,
 till all this earthly part of me
 glows with Your fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
 so shall I never die,
 but live with You the perfect life of Your eternity.**

Lesson: Ruth 1:6-18

Joy Gordy-Stith, reader

Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the
 country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that
 the Lord had considered his people and given them food. So she
 set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two
 daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land
 of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back
 each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with

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you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.” Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, “No, we will return with you to your people.” But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters. Why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me.” Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

So she said, “Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” But Ruth said,

“Do not press me to leave you,
to turn back from following you!
Where you go, I will go;
where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people
and your God my God.
Where you die, I will die,
and there will I be buried.
May the Lord do thus to me,
and more as well,
if even death parts me from you!”

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

May this scripture inspire us all...

§ to walk in the way that leads to life.

A Pure Heart

*Words by Pamela Martin / Music by Craig Courtney ©2011
Chancel Choir Anthem*

**My heart has wandered from Your presence,
now I long for You again.**

**My spirit grieves; my soul is burdened
beneath the weight of all my sin.**

I now return to You for pardon,

Your face alone is all I seek.

Out of Your love and great compassion,

O Lord, show mercy unto me.

O now create in me a pure heart,

clean and spotless from all sin,

A heart that lives in full surrender

where You may enter in.

I now return to You in sorrow,

I am restless, without peace.

My heart so wounded deep within me,

I fall before You on my knees.

This heart of stone has now been broken.

I yearn for You to make it whole

and undivided in devotion,

a heart that beats for You alone.

**Lord, do not cast me from Your presence,
refine me in Your fire.**

**O now create in me a pure heart
where You are my desire,**

Where You shall be my one desire. My one desire.

Prayer for Our Pastor

Joy Gordy-Stith

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Trust and Obey

John H. Sammis, 1887 / Daniel B. Towner, 1887

Congregational Hymn

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His word,
what a glory He sheds on our way!

While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

*Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.*

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
but our toil He does richly repay;
not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
but is blessed if we trust and obey. *{Refrain}*

But we never can prove the delights of His love,
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor He shows, for the joy He bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey. *{Refrain}*

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet,
or we'll walk by His side in the way;
what He says we will do, where He sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey. *{Refrain}*

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

I'm So Blessed

Logan Cain, Matthew West, Taylor Matz, Jonathan Smith,

& Madison Cain Johnson ©2023 Logan Cain Music

Praise Team / Chancel Choir

Trouble knocking at my door today,
I ain't gonna let it in.

And worry wanna steal my joy away,
but I ain't gonna let it win.

'Cause on my best day, I'm a child of God,
on my worst day, I'm a child of God.

Oh, every day is a good day,
and You're the reason why.

I'm so blessed, I'm so blessed,

got this heartbeat in my chest.

No, it doesn't matter about the rest,

if I got You Lord, I'm so blessed.

And when I count the problems that I see,
hope look all but gone.

But when I count the ways You're good to me,

You got me counting all day long. *{Repeat Chorus 2x}*

On my best day, I'm a child of God,
on my worst day, I'm a child of God.

Oh, every day is a good day,

and You're the reason why. *{Repeat Chorus 2x}*

On my best day, I'm a child of God,
on my worst day, I'm a child of God.

Oh, every day is a good day,

and You're the reason why. *{repeat section + Chorus}*

Annual Worship Theme

July 19 - September 6, 2026

The Beatitudes



Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of August 23, 2026

SYMPATHY

To Brenda Baker, family and friends, on the death of her friend
Don Ziegler

CONCERNS

Those impacted by shootings

Conflict in middle east

People of Ukraine

Deaf People of Ukraine

Arletta

Marie Ahern

Barcus Family

Rev. Meg Barnhouse

Charlie Barnes

Toni Barnes

*Linda Benderhilt

*Cathy Benson

Michael Bedard

*Jeff Bond

Boshart Family

Brint and Lynne

Brooke and Ralph

*Tim Bush

Dave

David Caffier

Bill Casey

Nicolette Coffey

Larry Collins

Connie

Donna and Bill Crnkovich

Jeanny Delaspira

Tom Donnachie

Renee Downs

*Jane Drapper

Sylvie Drew

*Jennifer Eden Family

Carilyle Erich

Katherine Erlanger

Victoria Farrell

Deb Ferlitto and Mother

Ron Fagnilli

Coleson Alexander Fillmore

Marion Ford

Carol Anne Fowler

*Sterling Green

Greenan

Calvin Griffiths

*Tom Groff

Toni Groff

*Clella Harp

Jerich Hasieber

Sheila Hass

Kathy Hertley

Ryan Johnson

Martha Kallaher

Mark Gruber-Lebowitz

*Jimmy/Linda Hess

Ray Hilt

Connie Ann Holms-Tatom

Diane Kelly

Patricia Kelley

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Mary Ann King
Anya Klein
Stacy Kotch-Jester
*Barb Kurtz
Lauren
*George Leet
*Rob Linder
Val Linder
*Donna Lipscomb
Leonard Logan
Carolyn Lorenzo
Bob Luedel
Janis Lunn
Mo Madden
*Loretta Mahan
Patrick Mahan
Donald Mahon
Jerry Mahon
*Marv Malone
*Stephanie Manos
Karen Mascola
Bob Mazur
Sean and Adrienne McCullough
Kaitlyn McCutcheon
Ellen McKeon
*Missy Mehring
Tai Mercer
Josh Mikalowski
Frank Milligan
Robert Morris
Russ Mullen
*Ron Paxton
*Bob Paulen
*Kevin Pelland
Wayne Perry
*Sandy & Glenn Pierce
Price Family
Quinn Family
Gary Ralph
Deb Rhodes
*Janene Riley-Spillane
*Keith Riley-Spillane
*Bill Robbins
Bill Roche
Marty Rockey
Emmalea Ruff
John Ruff
*John Sadler
Jean Safrin
*Carl Schloegel
*Loretta Smith
*Susie Spencer
Melanie and John Steinmetz
Carol Streets
Tony
Owen Thompson
Rene Toney
Steven Trantum
*Rose Verona
Lee Ann Walling
Peggy Waltersdorf
Hudson Walton
Donald Walton
*Deb Weber
*Suzanne Weidner

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Wendy
*Tim Whaley
*Tina Whaley
Michael Wills, Sr
*Lynne Wilmer
*Carol Woodcock
*Charlotte Woods
*Claire and Tom Worrall
*Michelle Yates
*Linda Miniscako & Jeanne Drake
Mary Beth and Luke
Bob and Dick
Rob
Tom and Pat
Wesley
Tom

***Church Members**

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

*Ann Chambers, The Moorings
Leon Cromer, Harbor Health
Ken Gilson- Hospice Vermont
*Nancy Hecker Hospice Salisbury
*Debra Leiss -Hospice Home
*Linda Rooney
*Fred and Sharyn Smith
Quinn Smith
*Charlotte Woods
Elaine Trexler
*Janet Yabroff
Maddie
Luke
Phillip

Servicemen/Women:

Michael Sakurai Wills, US Army Ft. Jackson, Alaska
Hailye Wilson, USCG Mobile, AL
Luke Wilson, USCG Pascagoula, MS
Zeb Wilson, USAF Dover AFB, DE
Stephanie Wilson, USCG, New London, Conn
Jacob Hudson, USMC Camp Pendleton, CA
Andrew Hudson, US Army, Ft. Bliss, TX

College/Grad Students

Callie Juliano, U Conn
Cole Thomas Juliano, UD
Noah Ryan, Delaware Tech
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—[Murray Archibald](#)

Lay Leader—[Doreen Hartley](#)

Finance Chair—[David Hagelin](#)

Staff-Parish Relations Chair—[Dan Hoffman](#)

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

Scheduling/Rentals & DOVs: [Tammy Zhang](#)

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](#), [Jane Okma](#), [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](#) and [Laurie Smandra](#)