



EPWORTH REHOBOTH BEACH

Worship Order, Announcements & Prayers

Epworth.faith

Sunday, September 20, 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* ~

How Deep the Father's Love

Stuart Townend, 1995

Praise Team

How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure.
That he should give his only Son
to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss
the Father turns His face away.
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
my sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life –
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

River of Life

Ethan Hulse, Jonathan Smith, & Mac Powell

©2021 *Cashagamble Jet Music*

Praise Team / Chancel Choir

*Brothers, sisters, come on down to that river.
Guaranteed you'll never be the same.
There's a fountain flowing
from the heart of the Savior.
Bring your sins and all your guilty stains.
(*By the love of Jesus, everything will change)
Let that River of Life wash it all away.*

If you've been searching, carrying burdens,
if you've been lost and looking for a home.
If you've been drifting, if something is missing,
you should know that you are not alone.

{Repeat Chorus}

Whoa. Come on down to the river. Whoa.

Come as you are, no time to waste.
Open your heart, don't be afraid.
Jump on in, the water is fine.
There's healing in the River of Life.
{Repeat Section / Chorus}

Whoa. Come on down to the river.
Whoa. Come on down to the river.
Whoa. Come on down to the river.

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Whoa. Let that River of Life wash it all away.

**Last chorus only*

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Announcements

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

Open Up the Heavens

*Jason Ingram, Stuart Garrard, Andi Rozier, James MacDonald,
& Meredith Andrews ©2012 Sony / ATV Music*

Praise Team / Chancel Choir

We waited for this day, we're gathered in Your name,
calling out to You.

Your glory like a fire, awakening desire,
will burn our hearts with truth.

You're the reason we're here.

You're the reason we're singing.

Open up the heavens; we want to see You.

*Open up the floodgates, a mighty river
flowing from Your heart,
filling ev'ry part of our praise.*

Your presence in this place, Your glory on our face,
we're looking to the sky.

Descending like a cloud,

You're standing with us now.

Lord, unveil our eyes.

You're the reason we're here.

You're the reason we're singing.

{Repeat Chorus twice}

Show us, show us Your glory.

Show us, show us Your power.

Show us, show us Your glory, Lord. *{Repeat section}*

We want to see You, we want to see You!

{Repeat Chorus twice}

TAG: We sing, sing!

Kid's Time

Blessed Jesus, At Thy Word

Tobias Clausnitzer, 1663 / Johann R. Ahle, 1664

Congregational Hymn

Blessed Jesus, at thy word

we are gathered all to hear Thee;

let our hearts and souls be stirred

now to seek and love and fear Thee,

by thy teachings sweet and holy,

drawn from earth to love Thee solely.

All our knowledge, sense and sight

lie in deepest darkness shrouded,

till thy spirit breaks our night

with the beams of truth unclouded.

Thou alone to God canst win us;

thou must work all good within us.

Glorious Lord, thyself impart!

Light of light, from God proceeding,

open thou our ears and heart;

help us by thy spirit's pleading;

hear the cry thy people raises;

hear, and bless our prayers and praises.

Introduction and Presentation
of Candidate for Baptism

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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 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 [NAME] in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example (s)he may be guided to accept God's grace for (her)himself, to profess (her)his 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.**

Blessed Assurance

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

**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}**

Prayers of the People

Jane Okma

God of Love, whose presence inspires and consoles,
You continue Your promise
from generation to generation.

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With the dawning light of day
You awaken creation to the wonders that await.
As the sun sets You pause on the mountain-top
to offer a vision of what lies ahead.

Loving presence of God,
whose living amongst creation continues to inspire
that we might live in the promise of God
and mark our lives with a love
that reaches beyond emotion:
for Your love asks for activity,
in worship and service.

Embracing Spirit of God,
whose embrace offers both impetus & consolation,
You provoke within us
the recognition of our need of forgiveness.
With your overwhelming grace
we recognize the many ways in which
we fail to demonstrate your love from within.

Forgive us when we are demanding of attention,
and want to know the answers now;
when we are reluctant to stand alongside those
in need of our support;
when we have not been willing
to allow others to speak on our behalf.

Let us be still for a moment to reflect on the state of our souls.

Loving Lord, in your forgiveness
You answer our questions of how
and who to love,
drawing the breadth of your community wider.
So as we find our place within Your community
we unite our prayers
in the words that Jesus taught...

Our Father...

The Lord's Prayer

Spoken

Lesson: *Hebrews 10:23-25* Gwen Osborne, reader

Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

May this scripture inspire us all...

§ to walk in the way that leads to life.

As God Has Loved Us

Words by J. Paul Williams; Music by Benjamin Harlan ©1990
Chancel Choir Anthem

**Love, for this is God's command,
to love each other as God loves us.
Let them know, let the world know
we belong to God.**

**This is God's commandment,
this is God's commandment,
That we love as God has loved us!
We are your disciples. Lord, we follow you.
You will be our beacon, leading all to you.**

**We are your disciples. Lord, we follow you.
You will be our beacon, leading all to you.**

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Love, love is the only way
to show the people of the world God cares.
God sent his son, sent Him to die.
Calv'ry proved God's love.

Follow God's commandment,
follow God's commandment,
That we love as God has loved us!
We are your disciples. Lord, we follow you.
You will be our beacon, leading all to you.

We are your disciples. Lord, we follow you.
You will be our beacon, leading all to you.

Rise up, O church of God!
Have done with lesser things;
Give heart and mind and soul and strength
to serve the King of kings.
Amen, amen, amen...

We Pray for Our Pastor

Gwen Osborne

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Standing on the Promises

R. Kelso Carter, 1886

Congregational Hymn

Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
through eternal ages let His praises ring.
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.

*Standing, standing,
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.*

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God. *{Refrain}*

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
bound to Him eternally by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
standing on the promises of God. *{Refrain}*

Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God. *{Refrain}*

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

My Feet Are on the Rock

Josh Bronleewe, Abbie Parker, Lindsey Sweat & Matthew Hein

©2018 All Essential Music

Praise Team / Chancel Choir

I can see the clouds roll in,
I can feel the winds they try to shake me.
I will not be moved,
my feet are on the Rock.
I can feel the waters rise,
I can hear the howling lies that haunt me.
Fear won't hold me now,
my feet are on the Rock.

*When I feel my hope about to break,
I will cling to Your unchanging grace.
Let the waters come and the earth give way,*

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*I'll be dancing in the rain.
My feet are on the Rock.*

I can see the morning light,
I can feel the joy on the horizon.
Here my faith is found.
I stand on solid ground.

{Repeat Chorus}

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand.
All other ground is sinking sand.
So stomp your feet and clap your hands,
our feet are on the Rock.

{Repeat Bridge 2x}

*When I feel my hope about to break,
I will cling to Your unchanging grace.
Let the waters come and the earth give way,
I'll be dancing in the rain.*

*When I feel my hope about to break,
I will cling to Your unchanging grace.
Let the waters come and the earth give way,
I'll be dancing in the rain.
My feet are on the Rock.
My feet are on the Rock.
My feet are on the Rock.*

*Alter Flowers—Presented in loving memory of our
parents Ruby and Robert Thoman and Margaret
Saunders by Bob Thoman and Mark Saunders*

Annual Worship Theme

September 13 - October 18, 2026

Love Boldly Through Covenant Discipleship



Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of September 20, 2026

SYMPATHY

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

Clay Family

Nicolette Coffey

Larry Collins

Connie

Donna and Bill Crnkovich

Jeanny Delaspira

Sue Dickerson

Tom Donnachie

Renee Downs

Sue Doyle

*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

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Patricia Kelley
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 Safrit
*Carl Schloegel
*Loretta Smith
*Susie Spencer
Melanie and John Steinmetz
Carol Streets
Laurie Sunderland
Tony
Owen Thompson
Rene Toney
Steven Trantum
*Rose Verona
Lee Ann Walling
Peggy Waltersdorf
Hudson Walton
Donald Walton

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*Deb Weber
*Suzanne Weidner
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)

Custodian: [Pamela Callier](#)

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](#)