

THE DOVER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
45 West Canal Street, Dover, PA 17315
Eva O'Diam, Pastor

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2020

WELCOME FRIENDS!

*"I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me" (Psalm 13:6 NRSV).
We welcome you as we, too, sing to the Lord because of his goodness to us.*

PRELUDE:

"Voluntary in F"

Lau

***Our time of worship begins as the prelude is played.
Please maintain a meditative silence.***

WELCOME

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The goodness of the Lord passes before us;

All: The name of the Holy One is proclaimed for all to hear.

One: God is gracious and merciful to whomever God chooses;

All: Show us your glory, O Lord, we pray!

+ GATHERING PRAYER

One: Mighty God, you spoke to your people in the pillar of cloud as they walked together in the wilderness. Speak to us through your Word today, that we may hear you calling us out of the wilderness places in our lives and into new places you have promised to show us. In the name of Christ, we pray.

All: Amen.

TIME WITH THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Inspired by Exodus 33, Matthew 22:15-22)

One: God of mercy, we place our trust in tangible things—things we can see and touch—and question whether you are really there. Forgive us, Holy One, when we fail to recognize that you are always nearby, patiently waiting for us to recognize your presence and your glory. Help us when we lose our way, and forgive us when we forget to whom we truly belong.

(Moment of Silence)

All: Lover of justice, open our eyes to see you; open our ears to hear you; open our hearts to love you; and open our hands to serve you.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

(Inspired by Exodus 33:14, Psalm 99)

One: When we cry to God, looking for favor in God's sight, God answers: "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

All: In the power of the Spirit and in the name of Jesus, we are forgiven! We will rest in God's mercy!

COLLECT

One: Let us pray. Jesus, we come to you in worship that you may come to us. As you walked among us in your earthly ministry, walk among us this day. As you revealed your will to those who dared to listen to you, reveal your will to us today. In asking the gift of your presence among us, we know that we are taking a big risk. Not everything you said to those who first heard you pleased them. Still, we are bold to pray: speak to us this day, Lord. We want to worship you, Lord. Enable us, in this time of worship, to listen, to receive, and then to follow.

All: Amen.

One: God is still speaking!

All: We will listen!

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 99 (NRSV)

Praise to God for His Holiness

- ¹ The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
- ² The Lord is great in Zion;
he is exalted over all the peoples.
- ³ Let them praise your great and awesome name.
Holy is he!
- ⁴ Mighty King, ^[a] lover of justice,
you have established equity;
you have executed justice
and righteousness in Jacob.
- ⁵ Extol the Lord our God;
worship at his footstool.
Holy is he!
- ⁶ Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel also was among those who called on his name.
They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.
- ⁷ He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;
they kept his decrees,
and the statutes that he gave them.
- ⁸ O Lord our God, you answered them;
you were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.
- ⁹ Extol the Lord our God,
and worship at his holy mountain;
for the Lord our God is holy.

Matthew 22:15-22 (NRSV)

The Question about Paying Taxes

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

One: God is still speaking!

All: **We will seek to live into that which God teaches us!**

MESSAGE

Pastor Eva

SPECIAL MUSIC

"The Power of Your Love"

Arr. Bullack

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

MISSION MOMENT (Offering will be received next week)

Neighbors in Need

INVITATION TO GIVE

One: We are partners with one another in this land and beyond, seeking to share the benefits of God's creation with all God's children. We join our offerings with our personal efforts to do God's will

INTERLUDE OF MUSIC WHILE OFFERING IS PRESENTED

+ UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

As we offer our gifts and lives in this moment, may we become imitators of you, gracious God, who holds nothing back from us, but is generous and gracious with all that is yours. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY

+ BENEDICTION

+ POSTLUDE

The Altar Flowers are placed to lives lost due to injustice by Don and Sharon Gardner.

(+All Who Are Able Are Invited to Stand)

Today's Greeter: Anna Gladfelter and Carol Stayrook

Elevator Operator: Neil Stayrook

Reader: Tonia Reinert

**4 Helpers are needed during worship service
on Sunday mornings!**

**We need 2 greeters (masked and gloved) to hand out bulletins and offer hand
sanitizer.**

An elevator operator - A reader.

A celebration of Harvest Home - October 25



We will be collecting all types of food for Harvest Home, but we would like boxed potatoes of any kind, stuffing, boxed desserts, such as cake mix, brownie mix, gingerbread etc. We would like to have desserts to add to their Thanksgiving baskets. Of course any food will be greatly appreciated. Harvest Home donations will be given to the New Hope Ministries. Only commercially prepared or fresh foods can be accepted. Help fill the display in the front of the Sanctuary all through the month of October with any food items you wish to donate. Be generous with your donations and help others who are turning to New Hope for assistance. Donations can be brought to the church beginning Sunday, October 4 and will be blessed and taken to New Hope on October 26.

A celebration of Harvest Home - October 25 - We are collecting all types of food for Harvest Home, but would like boxed potatoes of any kind, stuffing, boxed desserts, (i.e. cake mix, brownie mix, gingerbread etc.). We would like to have desserts to add to their Thanksgiving baskets. Of course any food will be greatly appreciated. Harvest Home donations go to the New Hope Ministries. Only commercially prepared or fresh foods can be accepted. Let's fill the display in the front of the Sanctuary through the month of October with any food items you wish to donate. Be generous and help others who are turning to New Hope for assistance. Donations will be blessed and taken to New Hope on October 26.

The Congregation is encouraged to attend... Mark your calendars for the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 15 at 11:15 a.m. Please note: Meeting minutes and agenda will be available Sunday, November 1.

**Welcome to Dover United Church of Christ,
an Open and Affirming Church.**

The congregation of Dover United Church of Christ, in the spirit of Christ's invitation, "Look, I have set before you an open door," welcomes all who seek to know and share God's love. We affirm the dignity and worth of every person and celebrate the diversity in which God created us, each in God's image and loved by God. We declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation, welcoming persons of every race, language, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ability, and economic status into full membership and participation in the life, worship, rites and sacraments of this church. We commit to model a community of faith that works toward openness and understanding, offering justice, reconciliation, healing and wholeness of life for all people.

*Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.
(Romans 15:7)*

**Large print worship materials are available.
Please see an usher.**

This Week at Dover UCC:

**TODAY Adult Faith Formation – 9:00 a.m. in person
CROP WALK following worship**

Monday 6:30 pm – Council
Last day to register for upcoming election

Tuesday 11:00 a.m. Bible Study – in person in the sanctuary or by Uberconference - call
717-297-0750

5:30 PM – Book Club, in person or by Zoom, reading *American Dirt* by Jeanine
Cummins

Thursday ONA – 5:30 p.m. – In person – or by Zoom.

Next Sunday **Adult Faith Formation – 9:00 a.m. in person at Dover UCC or by zoom.
Contact the Pastor if you would like the zoom connection
IN PERSON WORSHIP – 10:00 a.m. – as well as live stream on Facebook and
uberconference**

Pastor Eva's cell phone number is 717-418-9627. Please call any time for pastoral emergencies. Her office hours: Tuesdays., Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. E-Mail: pastor@doverducc.org.

Sunday Morning Adult Discussions continue! Our Sunday morning Faith Formation class is discussing a study of Jim Wallis' *Christ in Crisis?: Why We Need to Reclaim Jesus*. This book was written in 2019 and is designed to focus on eight key questions Jesus asked that we all must answer today. Wallis believes that our cultural and spiritual crisis stems from how the American church has become disconnected with the teachings of Jesus. We will address the Neighbor question, the Image question, the Truth question, the Power question, the Fear question, the Caesar question, the Peacemaker question and the Discipleship question. Each session will be based on a chapter of the book. Books are available from Amazon.com ranging in price from \$13 to \$18 plus tax. Let Pastor Eva know if you would like for her to order a book for you.

Do you have a prayer concern? Call Nancy Schubert at 717-292-2113.

UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONAL MAGAZINES ARE AVAILABLE
ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX.

“Fall Back”

Daylight Savings time ends - Sunday, November 1 at 2:00 a.m.

ALL SAINTS OBSERVANCE

On Sunday, November 1, we will observe All Saints Day. If you've lost a loved one and would like to have them included in a special remembrance, please contact the church office and give us their name, date of death and picture. **Reminder: this is also the day Daylight Savings Ends.**

TUESDAY 11:00 AM Bible Study! Join us!

Either in person at the church or by Uberconference by calling 717-297-0750. Your choice!

<p>Evening Bible Study, Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. for one hour beginning in September IF there is interest. If you would like to be part of this, please contact Stephanie Brown at 717-683-4814.</p>
--

CROP Walk IS TODAY!

CROP Walk this year, like so many things, will be virtual. Oh, they aren't going to zoom us as we walk...no we are free to walk whenever we would like. Dover UCC will have a team walking in the Crop Walk on Sunday, October 18, following worship. If you would like to contribute to CROP (a program of Church World Service) that works to end hunger worldwide One Step At A Time...see Tonia Reinert, Sue McNeely, Annette Masenheimer or Pastor Eva to contribute or join them and walk!

October 18, 2020