

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

First Sunday after Epiphany

January 10, 2021

*WELCOME FRIENDS!*

“Rejoice in hope... persevere in prayer.”

*Romans 12:12 (NRSV)*

PRELUDE

“O Jesus, King Most Wonderful”

Giamanco

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME

CONSIDER THIS...

+ GATHERING PRAYER

One: God of Light and Love, in this very moment the star still beckons. Gather us and let the star call us to new ways of healing and hope, restoration and renewal, as we discover again Christ's call to discipleship.

**All: Amen.**

TIME WITH THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*(The leader stands in front of an un-lit candle)*

One: Sometimes we feel lost and even consumed by darkness. We wonder if we are loveable. Our actions dim the value and worth of others, and ourselves.

**All: Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

One: Sometimes we feel lost in shadows of unclear choices. Which way will lead to justice? To transformation? To peace? We are afraid to risk a step out, unsure of the path.

**All: Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

*(The leader lights the candle)*

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

One: But in Christ, God has given us a new Light, unconditional love for us, and showing us a well-lit path to wholeness and forgiveness; to courage and clarity.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Musical Interlude

COLLECT

One: Holy and Just God, You have shown us what is right and good. Open us this day to a vision of the world made all-right so that we might follow your ways and know the peace of your reign on earth as it is in heaven.

**All: We praise you for your steadfast presence, holding our lives together in love.  
Amen.**

One: God is still speaking.

**All: Are we listening?**

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

## Prayer for Guidance and Support for the King Of Solomon

- <sup>1</sup> Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to a king's son.
- <sup>2</sup> May he judge your people with righteousness,  
and your poor with justice.
- <sup>3</sup> May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,  
and the hills, in righteousness.
- <sup>4</sup> May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the needy,  
and crush the oppressor.
- <sup>5</sup> May he live<sup>[a]</sup> while the sun endures,  
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
- <sup>6</sup> May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
like showers that water the earth.
- <sup>7</sup> In his days may righteousness flourish  
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
  
- <sup>10</sup> May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles  
render him tribute,  
may the kings of Sheba and Seba  
bring gifts.
- <sup>11</sup> May all kings fall down before him,  
all nations give him service.
- <sup>12</sup> For he delivers the needy when they call,  
the poor and those who have no helper.
- <sup>13</sup> He has pity on the weak and the needy,  
and saves the lives of the needy.
- <sup>14</sup> From oppression and violence he redeems their life;  
and precious is their blood in his sight.

### RESPONSE TO THE WORD

One: The Word of our Still-Speaking God.

**All: We will listen!**

### A SPECIAL PSALM SONG

### REFLECTION

Pastor Eva

### A SELAH MOMENT

*"Seek Ye First"*

- Lafferty Arr. Wilson

### SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

#### 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.**

### INVITATION TO GIVE

+ OFFERING OF PEACE

One: Weave, weave, weave us together,  
Weave us together in unity and love.  
Weave, weave, weave us together,  
Weave us together, together in love.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you!

**All: And also with you.**

One: Open your hearts, your mouths, your lives to the Holy One.

**All: We long for this communion.**

One: Let us give our great thanks in the company of the beloved.

**All: It is a good and joyful thing to give our thanks and praise.**

One: Gift of Life...we open so we may love.

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

**All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

One: Weave, weave, weave us together,  
Weave us together in unity and love.  
Weave, weave, weave us together,  
Weave us together, together in love.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

+ BENEDICTION

+ CHORAL AMENS

+ POSTLUDE

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The Altar Flowers are placed by Bill and Karen Plappert,  
in loving memory of Mary Plappert, Bill's mother.

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**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:**

<b>TODAY</b>	<b><i>DUCC Digest deadline</i></b>
Monday	<b>Dover UCC Council meeting – 6:30 p.m. – in person or by zoom. The congregation is welcome to attend, if you would like the zoom connection, please contact Pastor Eva.</b>
Tuesday	10:00 a.m. Bible Study – in-person or by Uberconference by calling 717-297-0750. 5:30 PM – Book Club, in person or by Zoom; reading <i>A Promised Land by Barack Obama</i>
Wednesday	Bible Study – 7:00 p.m. - You may join us in person OR by zoom. Contact Pastor Eva for the zoom link to those interested.
Next Sunday	<b><i>MISSION MOMENT: Heritage Senior Center</i></b> Adult Faith Formation – 9:00 a.m. Dover UCC by zoom. Contact the Pastor if you would like the zoom connection. WORSHIP – 10:00 a.m. live stream on facebook and uberconference ONLY

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](mailto:pastor@doverducc.org).**

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

*A Thank you...*

Thank you for the beautiful poinsettia and lovely fruit basket. We are enjoying apples, oranges, tangelos, tomatoes and candy. Especially during this Covid-19 time, we appreciate your warm thoughts. Best wishes to all for a better 2021. Happy New Year to all.

"Life is what we are alive to. It is not length but breath... Be alive to... goodness, kindness, purity, love, history, poetry, music, flowers, stars, God and eternal hope." Mattie Babcock

Mary and Eva.

## **TUESDAY 10:00 AM Bible Study! Plan to Join us in January 2021!**

We will meet on Tuesday, either in person at the church or by Uberconference by calling 717-297-0750. Your choice!  
Hope to see you there!

**Evening Bible Study to Begin in January** - Starting on Wednesday, January 13, an evening Bible Study will begin. Let's look at some of Paul's letters to churches. The early church did not have traditions and history...they were just beginning as groups following Jesus. Paul was teaching them how to be the community of Christ! We will begin with Galatians, then move to Ephesians and then see where we are led next! We will discuss what Paul is trying to say, what speaks to us, and with what words might we struggle. We will begin at 7:00 p.m. You may join us in person OR by zoom. Each week, Pastor Eva will send out a zoom link to those interested. Join us every week or as you are able. We will have a good time looking at the Word and sharing our thoughts about God and God's love!

The Adult Faith Formation has begun, each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. by zoom. We will be studying ***When Things Fall Apart: Heart Advice for Difficult Times*** by Pema Chodron. The chapters are short and very readable and is available on Amazon.com or BetterWorldBooks.com. It is in print form, on CD, or download to your Kindle. Don Gardner and Pastor Eva will lead this book. This is a book that Don Gardner has testified has changed his life and again and again he returns to glean more from the pages. Pema Chodron is an American Buddhist nun and will demonstrate how order can come to disordered lives. Included in the book are:

- ways to use painful emotions to cultivate wisdom, compassion and courage
- ways to communicate that lead to openness and true intimacy with others
- practices for reversing our negative habitual patterns
- methods for working with chaotic situations
- ways to cultivate compassionate, energetic social action

Join us for this interesting discussion! Pastor Eva will send out the zoom link the week before. If you do not receive it, and would like to be part of the class, please let her know.

### ***A Promised Land by Barack Obama Book Club's Next Read***

This is how the New York Times describes this book, "Presidential memoirs are meant to inform, to burnish reputations and, to a certain extent, to shape the course of history, and Obama's is no exception. What sets it apart from his predecessors' books is the remarkable degree of introspection. He invites the reader inside his head as he ponders life-or-death issues of national security, examining every detail of his decision-making; he describes what it's like to endure the bruising legislative process and lays out his thinking on health care reform and the economic crisis. An easy, elegant writer, he studs his narrative with affectionate family anecdotes and thumbnail sketches of world leaders and colleagues. "A Promised Land" is the first of two volumes — it ends in 2011 — and it is as contemplative and measured as the former president himself." We thought it would be fun to look at what goes on inside the thinking of a President of the United States. This book is available from BetterWorldBooks.com or Amazon or can be downloaded to your kindle or found at the library. Join us on Tuesday, January 19 at 5:30 pm, at the church, in person or by zoom to share your thoughts...

UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONAL MAGAZINES ARE AVAILABLE  
FOR PICK-UP DURING REGULAR CHURCH OFFICE HOURS.  
PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF INTERESTED.

**DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY 2021 DIGEST IS TODAY!**

January 10, 2021