



**PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH**  
**June 19, 2022**

*Connecting with the Community,  
Growing Disciples, and Serving Jesus Christ*

*Our Worship can be viewed on our website  
[PantherValleyChurch.org](http://PantherValleyChurch.org)*

**FRIENDS ~ FAMILY ~ FAITH**

## PRELUDE

*We invite you to begin your personal preparation at the beginning of the prelude.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: What brings us joy?

**All: What slows us down?**

One: What gives us hope?

**All: What makes us think?**

One: What invites us to wonder?

**All: What makes us change?**

One: Might it have something to do with the Holy?

**All: Let us worship God.**

## OPENING PRAYER

**Lord, it's scary to change. It's frightening to let go of what we know so well and step into the unknown. However, we forget sometimes that we are not stepping out alone. Nor are we stepping into an unsafe place, we are going where you guide and where you are. Help us to trust in you even when we feel unsure or scared. Help us to trust in your plans of change. Thank you for being there for us in this way & thank you for this opportunity to worship your name. Amen.**

## HYMN

Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us

Savior like a shepherd lead us  
Much we need thy tender care  
In thy pleasant pastures feed us  
For our use thy folds prepare  
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus  
Thou hast bought us thine we are

Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus  
Thou hast bought us thine we are  
We are thine do thou befriend us  
Be the guardian of our way  
Keep thy flock from sin defend us  
Seek us when we go astray  
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus  
Hear O hear us when we pray  
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus  
Hear O hear us when we pray

Thou hast promised to receive us  
Poor and sinful though we be  
Thou hast mercy to relieve us  
Grace to cleanse and pow'r to free  
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus  
Early let us turn to thee  
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus  
Early let us turn to thee

Early let us seek thy favor  
Early let us do thy will  
Blessed Lord and only Savior  
With thy love our beings fill  
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus  
Thou hast loved us love us still  
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus  
Thou hast loved us love us still

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God, we know that you created us in love, to enjoy this world and You, to serve your creation and your children. And we know that we do not do your will.**

**With clenched hands, we can neither give nor receive.  
With eyes tight shut, we cannot see pain or beauty.**

**With feet of clay, we cannot dance in joy or run to help.  
We ask for your help and your power to change.  
We ask for your forgiveness at our stubbornness and moments in which  
we close ourselves off to your will for our earthly desires.  
Open our hands and eyes, move our feet, toward grace and hope and trust  
in You.  
This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **SCRIPTURE**

## **MESSAGE**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**People: The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God  
with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow, and  
courage to continue the journey.**

**Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.**

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*We invite you to pray the prayer in the language you are used to speaking.*

**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; and lead us not  
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## **MINUTE FOR MISSION**

Lynne Moore

## **THE OFFERING**

We invite you to take this time to express your gratitude to God for all that you  
have been given by dedicating your time, talents, witness, service, and resources.

The gifts you give are helping God build the community of love in this place and in our world. We offer several ways that you can give your fiscal pledge: dropping it into the “church” located in the Narthex, by mail, through our website, or add PVEC to your online bill pay. Thank you for your generosity.

### **OFFERATORY PRAYER**

Living God,

We come with no great gifts to offer, we are ordinary people yet what we have we bring to you to make your love felt in other people’s lives.

We offer you our time and our talents at home, at work and in the community.

Use us fully so that your love may shine through us, and the light of your kingdom may illuminate the world. Amen.

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, we came into this place this morning to offer the sacrifice worship. We have had an awesome time. Thank you for speaking to us. Some of us came into this place with broken hearts, but you have mended them. Others came depressed; you were their only hope. Father, you have shown yourself strong in their lives. Guide us as we go back to our homes. Show us the right way to follow throughout the week, and when we come back, we shall testify the great things that you have done in our lives. In Jesus’ name, we believe and pray, Amen.

### **BENEDICTION**

May you leave this time together changed.

May the promises you have made to yourself about who you want to be feel closer to the reality of who you are right now. Do not be afraid of change for it is Christ’s hand that guides us. May you share this feeling of transformation here in this church wherever you go. Spread it into words, deeds, thoughts and interactions until we are all changed, transformed and transforming together, becoming better versions of ourselves and the best version of the Church.

## POSTLUDE

*Credits:* Hymn: CCLI Song # 24078: Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us by Dorothy Ann Thrupp, Words: Public Domain William Batchelder Bradbury, Music: Public Domain.

### **Stewardship Snippet**

(Second Sunday after Pentecost - Year C) June 19, 2022

Galatians 3:27-29 (NIV)

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

We are one in Jesus, we are a community of God's people, God loves each of us the same, we are equal to each other.

It's important to note that this teaching is not based on the current climate of the culture. It is not liberal, conservative, or political. It is the direct result of the gospel. When we go to the grocery store, a restaurant, or the movies, we think like consumers and satisfy our needs and desires. As members of God's church we need to change our thinking and consider not only what we need, but what we can give to others...That's the definition of stewardship in God's world. Donna Weinberg

### **Announcements & Upcoming Events**

#### **Please pray for:**

The Ukrainian People & Our World, Refugees Everywhere, Our Church, The Family of Eloise Mial in her passing, Bettina Samanns having knee surgery on 6/30, Ron McKinnon, Steve, Ellen, Stephanie & Ryan, Rob, Cecelia, Billy, Dylan, Rick

Eloise Mial, formerly Eloise Mae (Poe) Marlatt of Port Murray, NJ passed away peacefully at the age of 96 on June 13, 2022 at Abington Manor in PA. She resided many years prior at Heath Retirement Village in Hackettstown, NJ.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at the Cochran Funeral Home in Hackettstown, NJ on Saturday, June 25, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. with visitation beginning at 10:00.

Interment will follow at Pequest Cemetery in Great Meadows, NJ. Donations may be made in Eloise's name to the American Cancer Society.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Cochran Funeral Home, 905 High Street, Hackettstown, NJ 07840. For those wishing to leave online condolences, please visit, [www.cochranfuneral.com](http://www.cochranfuneral.com)

## CHANGES TO CHURCH OFFICE HOURS FOR SUMMER

*Mondays*            9am - 2pm  
*Tuesdays*        9am - 2pm  
*Wednesdays*    OFFICE CLOSED but Nikki works remotely from home  
*Thursdays*       9am - 2pm  
*Fridays*            9:30 - 11:30am, then Nikki works remotely until 2pm

### **A Note from the Discernment Team**

The Discernment Team has created a survey for the congregation to fill out regarding competencies (qualities) that you personally would like to see in our new pastor. Please help us by having every adult in your household fill out the survey and return it to church by June 30. The survey will be emailed to all members and there will also be copies available at church. Your name at the end will help us to know who has replied. Though your responses will be tallied, your name will not be recorded. We will tabulate the results and include the most highly rated competencies in our "Call" for the new pastor. Thank you for your help in this important project.

**The Clothing & Shoes Donations Bin** has arrived. It is in the upper parking lot.

**THANK YOU, bakers, and Fish & Chips helpers!!**

There are **lots of pictures** in this Friday's e-news from Ninabeth's celebration after worship last Sunday.



## **PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH**

1490 Route 517 Hackettstown, NJ 07840

~Welcome—we were built for you!~

Panther Valley Ecumenical Church is a multi-denominational church serving northwest New Jersey since 1969. We are formally affiliated with:

The Episcopal Church, The United Church of Christ,  
The Presbyterian Church USA, and The United Methodist Church.

We are a congregation of many Christian traditions who worship together in accordance with Christ's prayer: "that they may all be one."

May God's Blessing go with you this week.

**Pastor:** TBA, transition period

Email: [pvecpastor@gmail.com](mailto:pvecpastor@gmail.com)

**Music Director:** Diane Van Dongen

**Church Administrator:** Nikki Nicinski

Email: [pvecsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:pvecsecretary@gmail.com)

**Office hours:** Mon. – Fri. 9:00am – 2:00pm

Website: <http://www.panthervalleychurch.org>

Tel: 908-852-5444

Email: [panthervalleychurch@gmail.com](mailto:panthervalleychurch@gmail.com)

**FAMILY ~ FAITH ~ FRIENDS**