

Welcome to the Panther Valley Ecumenical Church

We are glad you are worshiping with us today!



PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH

August 14, 2022

Worship in the Episcopal Tradition

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

Our Worship can be viewed on our website

PantherValleyChurch.org

FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FRIENDS

10th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ.

HYMN # 79

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Verse 1

Holy God we praise Thy name
Lord of all we bow before Thee
All on earth Thy sceptre claim
All in heaven above adore Thee
Infinite Thy vast domain
Everlasting is Thy reign.

Verse 2

Hark the glad celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising
Cherubim and Seraphim
In unceasing chorus praising
Fill the heavens with sweet accord
Holy, holy, holy Lord

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

LEADER: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

ALL: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

LEADER: Lord, open our lips.

ALL: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

LEADER: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us adore him.
Let us now say together:

VENITE Psalm 95:1-7

O come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,

and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

O come, let us worship and bow down,

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture,

and the sheep of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!

COLLECT (see insert)

THE LESSONS

LEADER: The first lesson is from the Old Testament: Isaiah 5:1-7.
(see insert)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80: 1-2, 8-18 (see insert)

LEADER: The second lesson is from Hebrews 11:29 - 12:2.
(see insert)

LEADER: The Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: ALL STAND, Luke 12:49 - 56
(see insert)

LEADER: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

ALL: Glory to you Lord Christ.

LEADER: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you Lord Christ.

SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;***

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

***He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.***

***He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.***

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,***

*the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

LORD'S PRAYER

And now as our Lord Jesus Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LEADER: Show us your mercy, O Lord;

ALL: And grant us your salvation.

LEADER: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

ALL: Let your people sing with joy.

LEADER: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

ALL: For only in you can we live in safety.

LEADER: Lord, keep this nation under your care;

ALL: And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

LEADER: Let your way be known upon earth;

ALL: Your saving health among all nations.

LEADER: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

ALL: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

LEADER: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

ALL: And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;

for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTES FOR MISSION

Communications

Jim Visco

THE OFFERING

Ascribe to the Lord and bring honor and gifts unto His name.

SPECIAL MUSIC

All the Time in the World

Diane Van Dongen

THE DOXOLOGY

(unison)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

HYMN # 79

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Verse 4

Holy Father, Holy Son
Holy Spirit: Three we name Thee
Though in essence only One
Undivided God we claim Thee
And adoring bend the knee
While we own the mystery.

BENEDICTION

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

LEADER: Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Credits: Image by Ninabeth Metcalf.

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Announcements & Upcoming Events

Please pray for:

The Family & Friends of Jaynie Newshauser, The Grillo Family, Maryann Boatman's Family, Ann, Helen, Joann, Michelle, Lori & Doris, Candy, Gordon, Lois, Sally

Once again **Christian Outreach** will be supporting Allamuchy School with the collection of school supplies. The school has notified us that the following items are needed:

- pocket folders
 - 1-subject spiral notebooks
 - mechanical pencils
 - markers
 - water bottles - basic refillable
 - boys underwear - sizes 4T, 6, 8 and 10
 - snacks - individually packaged snacks such as goldfish, pretzels, crackers, etc.
- All food items must be peanut/tree nut free and processed in a facility that is peanut/tree nut free.**

Collection boxes are in the narthex and by the office door. **We will be collecting the supplies until August 21st.** The school has quite a few supplies left from last year. *They do not need any backpacks.* Thanks in advance for your generosity!

\$5 Chicken Dinner on Thursday, August 18th. Menu: Crispy Oven-Roasted Chicken Leg Quarters, Corn on the Cob (Donated by Tranquility Farms), Asian Cashew Salad, Hawaiian Roll/Brownie. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO BAKE BROWNIES PLEASE.**

To Our VBS Volunteers & Families,

Thank you for a wonderful week of singing, learning and celebrating Jesus during our Hay Day VBS program. We had fun learning about little Zacheus and being reminded about God's ultimate love for us.

We are thankful to our volunteers who helped with crafts (Michelle), provided snacks for our kiddos (Diane), or assisted moving from area to area (Donna). Without this team we would not have had the success we did. Our Pre-K kids were blessed to be led by Lynn & Kathy through a week of crafts, fun and more!

A special shout out to Liz & Ashley for the pre and post set up, tear down and organization. The church looked truly transformed into a farm. Then it was turned back into our church with teamwork and Liz's cleaning efforts.

Thank you families for trusting us and letting your kids join us for such a fun & wet week during one of the hottest weeks of the year. We cannot wait until next year!

Dan Ledwith

MINUTES FOR MISSION

During Sunday worship service, we have had volunteer speakers representing PVEC's committees and commissions. Published below is important information from the last 2 weeks that will make you smile - and hopefully consider!

Buildings & Grounds by Connor Samanns

My name is Connor and I'm here today to speak about The Building and Grounds Commission. My dad, John Samanns, is the chairman of The Building and Grounds Commission. Members include Kathy and Bob Zinckgraf, and I guess I'm on it too.

Building and grounds is charged with maintaining our beautiful facility. This includes contracting lawn care, HVAC maintenance, plumbing , electrical repair and let's not forget the dreaded snowplowing.

We try to do the simple things ourselves, like painting, trimming bushes, landscaping, and changing light bulbs. That reminds me, does anyone know how many buildings and grounds people it takes to change a light bulb in this church?

So far, Kathy and Bob along with my dad have been keeping all this fun to themselves.

My dad drags me with him sometimes and to be honest, it doesn't seem like much fun to me. He tells me it has to be done by someone and it builds character. I'm not sure what he means by that. I do know that if we find brownies leftover from Donna's chicken dinner, it makes the job bearable.

I sure wish there were a few more people involved. Then my dad wouldn't drag me along as much.

Anyway, thanks for listening to me and please consider contacting my dad, John, if you'd be interested in helping with any projects, big or small. Thank you.

Worship by Carol Phillips

TODAY YOU WALKED INTO CHURCH, SAID HELLO TO THOSE AROUND YOU AND TOOK YOUR SEAT BEFORE SERVICES BEGAN. BUT DID YOU EVER LOOK AT THE BANNERS, THE ALTAR FLOWERS OR THE COMMUNION TABLE AND THINK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED PRIOR TO YOUR ARRIVAL? WORSHIP COMMISSION HAPPENED.

THE WORSHIP COMMISSION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR A VARIETY OF THINGS THAT GO INTO MAKING EACH SUNDAY A MEANINGFUL WORSHIP EXPERIENCE FOR YOU. WE ARRANGE FOR SCRIPTURE READERS. (IF YOU'D LIKE TO READ, PLEASE LET ANNE CUFF KNOW.) THERE IS ALSO A SHEET ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX TO SIGN UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS TO COMMEMORATE A SPECIAL EVENT IN THE LIFE OF YOUR FAMILY OR FRIENDS.

THE BANNERS ARE CHANGED ACCORDING TO THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR AND ON COMMUNION SUNDAYS WE PREPARE AND TAKE DOWN THE COMMUNION TABLE. WE ALSO ASSIST THE PASTOR WITH SPECIAL REQUESTS AND ARRANGE FOR PULPIT COVERAGE ON ANY SUNDAY WHEN THERE ISN'T A PASTOR TO LEAD WORSHIP SERVICE.

WE SUPPORT DIANE AND FAYE IN PROVIDING THE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC YOU HEAR FROM THE CHOIR AND OUR HANDBELL CHOIR. IT TAKES MANY WEEKS AND HOURS OF PREPARATION TO PLAN INSPIRING WORSHIP SERVICES FOR EASTER AND CHRISTMAS AND THE DAYS LEADING UP TO THEM. WE TRY OUR VERY BEST TO COME UP WITH INNOVATIVE WAYS TO ENRICH WORSHIP. WE WANT YOU TO HAVE THAT WORSHIP "WOW" FACTOR AND BECAUSE OF THIS WE CAN ALWAYS USE YOUR HELP. WE ARE OPEN TO FRESH IDEAS AND NEW WAYS OF DOING THINGS TO IMPROVE WORSHIP FOR YOU.

THE OLD ADDAGE ABOUT MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK REPRESENTS HOW A TOUGH TASK CAN BECOME EASIER AND QUICKER WHEN MULTIPLE PEOPLE HELP. IT'S OFTEN USED AS AN ENCOURAGING STATEMENT TO HELP MOTIVATE PEOPLE TO COMPLETE A BIG PROJECT. HENRY, BETTY, ZOE, ANNE CUFF AND I ENCOURAGE YOU TO BECOME PART OF THE WORSHIP COMMISSION. WE WELCOME YOUR SUPPORT AND INPUT AND WANT TO OFFER YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE LIGHT WORK OF THIS VITAL COMMISSION IN OUR CHURCH. IF THERE IS SOMETHING PARTICULAR, LIKE COMMUNION FOR EXAMPLE, THAT YOU THINK YOU'D LIKE TO HELP WITH THAT'S FINE. WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR THAT TASK. I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK BACK TO CYLVIA'S INSPIRING MESSAGE WHEN WE BEGAN THE MINUTES FOR MISSION ABOUT STEPPING UP. THIS IS YOUR CHURCH AND IT NEEDS YOUR HELP. I ENCOURAGE YOU TO GET INVOLVED IN A COMMISSION HERE AT PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE, LAST CHRISTMAS WORSHIP COMMISSION - IN CONJUNCTION WITH CHRISTIAN OUTREACH AND ALLAMUCHY SCHOOL - HELD A PAJAMA AND BOOK DRIVE. WE DONATED THOSE ITEMS TO CASA. I WAS ABLE TO DELIVER THOSE ITEMS TO THE CASA OFFICE IN LEBANON. IT WASN'T UNTIL I WALKED INTO THEIR OFFICE AND SAW THE SUITCASES AND BACKPACKS FOR THE CHILDREN THAT THE IMPACT HIT ME. MANY TIMES CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE LEAVE WITH NOTHING MORE THAN THE CLOTHES ON THEIR BACKS. I HAD THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING A CASA VOLUNTEER FOR SOME TIME BUT KEPT PUTTING IT OFF. VISITING THAT OFFICE PROMPTED ME TO MOVE AHEAD WITH IT. FOR THOSE WHO AREN'T FAMILIAR WITH CASA, YOU ARE A COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE AND YOUR JOB IS TO ADVOCATE FOR THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD IN FOSTER CARE WITH THE COURT. YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT DOOR WILL OPEN BY YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN A COMMISSION HERE AT CHURCH. I STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO GET INVOLVED.

**VOLUNTEERS
DO NOT
NECESSARILY
HAVE THE TIME;
THEY HAVE
THE HEART**

ASK NOT
what your church can do for you,
**ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO
FOR YOUR CHURCH**

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.

Guest Preacher: Rev. Deacon Jeanette Hile

Music Director: Diane Van Dongen

Church Administrator: Nikki Nicinski

Email: pvecsecretary@gmail.com

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

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FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FRIENDS