

Welcome to the Panther Valley Ecumenical Church

We are glad you are worshiping with us today!



# PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH

**September 4, 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](http://PantherValleyChurch.org)*

**FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FRIENDS**

## 13<sup>th</sup> 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 # 77

How Great Thou Art

#### Verse 1

O Lord my God  
When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds  
Thy hands have made  
I see the stars  
I hear the rolling thunder  
Thy pow'r thru'out  
The universe displayed

#### Chorus

Then sings my soul  
My Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art  
How great Thou art  
Then sings my soul  
My Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art  
How great Thou art

**(continued)**

## Verse 2

When through the woods  
And forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds  
Sing sweetly in the trees  
When I look down  
From lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook  
And feel the gentle breeze

## 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: Jeremiah 18:1-11.  
(see insert)

**LEADER:** The Word of the Lord.

**ALL:** **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** 139:1-5, 12-17 (see insert)

**LEADER:** The second lesson is from Philemon 1-21.  
(see insert)

**LEADER:** The Word of the Lord.

**ALL:** **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL:** **ALL STAND**, Luke 14:25-33  
(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** (no speaker this week)

## **THE OFFERING**

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

## **OFFERTORY**

## 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 #77

How Great Thou Art

### Verse 4

When Christ shall come  
With shout of acclamation  
And take me home  
What joy shall fill my heart  
Then I shall bow  
In humble adoration  
And there proclaim  
My God how great Thou art

### Chorus

Then sings my soul  
My Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art  
How great Thou art  
Then sings my soul  
My Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art  
How great Thou art

## 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

***Today's Altar Flowers are given by Betty Schultheis in celebration  
of her son Jeff's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.***

*Credits:* Image by Ninabeth Metcalf.

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**Announcements & Upcoming Events**

**Please pray for:**

Kathy, Renee Lundy-Covid, Sherry, Cindy Hendershot - serious illness, Olivia – surgery, Lenny & Norma, Steve, Ellen, Stephanie & Ryan, Jerry, JoAnn, Simone – surgery, Rob, Cecelia, Billy, Patrick, Gordon, Lois, Sally, Phil

**Please take some time to pray for the many requests we have received  
this last week.**

Penny and Donna invite you to **Coffee Hour this Sunday, 9/4** in fellowship hall.

**Rehearsal for Bells** begins September 8th at 3pm.

We are always looking for new people if you are interested.

**The choir will be resuming its regular schedule beginning next week**, September 11. Anyone interested in singing is welcome to join. There are several seats waiting to be filled! Please speak with Diane if interested.

THE YOUTH SQUAD'S MONTHLY **PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISERS** will begin in October to raise funds for camperships. Let Liz Silva know if you can help. Thank you!



# **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](mailto:pvecsecretary@gmail.com)

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

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**FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FRIENDS**



# LABOR DAY



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK**