



PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH

February 19, 2023

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

*Our Worship can be viewed on our website
PantherValleyChurch.org*

FRIENDS ~ FAMILY ~ FAITH

PRELUDE

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Seek God; know God; trust God, O people.

All: Sing praises to the Lord, who dwells in Zion.

One: Declare God's deeds among the people

All: Sing praises to the Lord

One: The needy are remembered, the poor have hope.

All: Sing praises to the Lord, who dwells in Zion.

OPENING PRAYER

Center us O, God, to worship you this day. Remove our needless armor. Be our stronghold. Grant us calm. Give us joyful hearts and ready minds, that we may be open to your grace. Amen.

HYMN #73 "O Worship the King"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,

when lashed by life's windstorms

we often lash out in return.

Forgive us

when we blame you or others for our troubles.

Teach us to find you

in the eye of the storm.

Show us the calm center

that comes from a word of peace.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the witness of scripture:

God listens; God helps. Now is the day of salvation.

People: Open our hearts to receive God's forgiveness. Amen.

SCRIPTURE 1 Samuel 17:1-58

MESSAGE - Dan Ledwith

Hymn #117 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

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.

THE OFFERING

With the Apostle Paul, let us not “accept the grace of God in vain.” Through song & prayer today, let us praise and rejoice in God, our stronghold in times of trouble & need. In gratitude for what we have received let us bring our tithes and our offerings.

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.

OFFERTORY

CHOIR

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Merciful God, we thank you for the many ways that gifts are offered in your service; we especially thank you for those whose love and wisdom have touched our lives and our church. Help those among us nurture the youth in our midst, just as Saul took a chance on young David. Help the young among us honor their elders, even as they are true to their own callings. Accept our gifts, we pray, and bless this morning’s offerings, that we might do your will in this place and all the world. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Today's Alter Flowers were given by Catherine Fletcher in honor of her 86th birthday.

Credits: The Old Testament, New Testament & Gospels readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, 1995, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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Announcements & Upcoming Events

Please pray for: Our Church, the Parishioners of PVEC, our world, our families & friends, Charles, Walter, Laura, Lori, Andrew, Bonnie Sue, Myrna & Simon, Helen, Evalyn & friend, the Prestinari family (death of mother), Kat, the Fountain family (new baby), and Kim & family

- Sun. 2/19** Christian Ed meeting after Church to discuss an Easter event (Stop by the back classroom after Worship if interested in helping out or for more information.)
- Wed. 2/22** Soup Supper at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall
Ash Wednesday Service at 7pm with ashes
- Sun. 2/26** Rev. Wil Joseph from Knowlton UMC is preaching
- Sun. 3/5** Rev. Mike Atzert is preaching and will serve communion
First Vacation Bible School meeting after Worship to discuss a date and theme
- Sun. 3/12** Dan Ledwith is preaching
- Sun. 3/19** Dan Ledwith is preaching
- Fri. 3/24** Youth Squad Meeting 6-7:30pm
- Sun. 3/26** Darasue Braun is preaching
- 4/21, 4/22, & 4/29** Spring Rummage Sale
(Donations can be dropped off at the Church Office M-F between 9:30am & 1:30pm.)
- Sat. 6/24** Fish & Chips Dinner

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

Music Director: Diane Van Dongen

Church Administrator: Judy Jepsen

Email: pvecsecretary@gmail.com

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

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

Tel: 908-852-5444

Email: panthervalleychurch@gmail.com

FAMILY ~ FAITH ~ FRIENDS