

PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH February 26, 2023

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

Our Worship can be viewed on our website <u>PantherValleyChurch.org</u>

FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FRIENDS

Thank you to Rev. Willard Joseph who will be leading today's service.

Thanks to our guest musician, Mike Ventura.

PRELUDE

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

SING ALONG

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.

ALL: Happy are those whose sins are cast away.

ONE: Rejoice in the Lord! Be glad! ALL: Sing out! Shout for joy!

ONE: Rejoice in the Lord!

ALL: Rejoice! Amen!

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

Loving God, we are constantly bombarded with temptations and enticements. When we yield, when we fail, who will help us? You, Lord, have come to our aid. You teach us, counsel us, and guide us in the ways we should go.

We rejoice in your unfailing love. Amen.

HYMN #526 "What a Friend We have in Jesus"

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (Unison)

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read, we may hear with joy what you say to us this day. Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17 & 3: 1-7

Reading of the Psalms: Psalm 32

Second Reading: Romans 5: 12-19

Gospel Reading, ALL STAND: Matthew 4: 1-11

MESSAGE: "You are Never Alone" Rev. Joseph

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.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE OFFERING

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

SPECIAL MUSIC Mike Ventura

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.

OFFERING PRAYER, ALL STAND

In the hour of his temptation, when Jesus hungered, he knew from where his sustenance came: "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Lord, from the abundance of your grace, your word has provided all that we need. All that we have is yours. Receive the offering of our hands and the gratitude of our hearts.

In the name of our Savior we pray. Amen.

HYMN #480 "O Love That Wilt Not Let me Go"

BENEDICTION

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 Diane Van Dongen in memory of her father, Walter.

Credits: Image by Ninabeth Metcalf.

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Announcements & Upcoming Events

Sat. 6/24

Please pray for: Our Church, the parishioners of PVEC, our world, our families and friends, Ann, Taylor, Sue, Jen-3 kids, Kim & family, all those affected by the earthquake in Turkey, Charles, Walter, Laura, Lori, Andrew, Bonnie Sue, Myrna & Simon, Helen, Evelyn & friend, the Prestinari family (death of mother), Kat, and the Fountain Family (new baby).

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
	Fish & Chips Meeting after service (If you would like to volunteer & cannot attend this meeting, please reach out to Elizabeth Efremov.)
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, 9:30am-1:30pm.)

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.

Guest Preacher: Rev. Wil Joseph

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

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