

Welcome to the Panther Valley Ecumenical Church

We are glad you are worshiping with us today!



PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH

March 19, 2023

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

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

FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FRIENDS

PRELUDE

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Let everyone in the world fear the LORD.

All: Let us stand in awe of him.

One: All who live in the world honor God.

All: God is our shield, in him we rejoice for we trust in God's holy name.

One: May your love surround us & your anger never near us.

All: Our hope is in you alone O, God. We look to please you.

One: May we find your favor God, at all times & be protected.

All: God is our shield from all things earthly.

OPENING PRAYER

God, you know our hearts. You have knitted our inmost being and you know our deepest desires, fears and worries. Help us as we journey during this Lenten season into a new awareness of your presence in our lives. Let this worship today bring us ever closer to you & your word. Let it nourish us in ways unknown to us just days ago. Let us find you even when we are looking for things pleasing to ourselves. Save us from our own temptations, so that we may more freely follow you.

HYMN #298

“When I Survey the Wonderous Cross”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, you told your people not to be afraid, and not to rebel; but they were indeed afraid and they did rebel. You punished them accordingly. We are afraid of the things you set forth in our lives that we do not understand and we fight it daily. Rebelling against what you have set in motion for us. Teach us to listen to you and to trust in you, even in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds. For when you are with us, we can do all things through Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Lord you look past the rebellion in us. You continue to light our paths from darkness & deceit. You give us the bravery we need in our lives and won't strike against us as we are believers of your word and your love.

People: Lord we fear no more because you have touched our hearts. Let the world know that we are servants of your word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Numbers 13:25-29, 14:26-38

MESSAGE

Dan Ledwith

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 & Noisy Offering

Prosperity is given to the greater community of believers, so that all of God's children may benefit. Let us demonstrate that we are the body of Christ through our extravagant sharing of God's blessings this day. Let us give out of our joy, rather than out of a sense of obligation, as we offer to our God the gifts of our hearts. 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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Handbell Choir

DOXOLOGY

HYMN

“O How He Loves You and Me”

Verse 1

Oh how He loves you and me
Oh how He loves you and me
He gave His life
What more could He give
Oh how He loves you
Oh how He loves me
Oh how He loves you and me

Verse 2

Jesus to Calv'ry did go
His love for sinners to show
What He did there
Brought hope from despair
Oh how He loves you
Oh how He loves me
Oh how He loves you and me

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you are the creator and source of all things good. You have showered us with greatness and love even on the days we turn against you. Look into our hearts and receive these gifts we offer to you. Thank you for all of the blessings you shower upon us, even when we cannot see them. You provide us with love, nourishment and a path. We offer these gifts as symbols of our utmost reverence and gratitude for you. Bless us O Lord with continued grace. May these gifts multiply and benefit all those in this congregation and community. Forever in your glory Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Today's Altar Flowers are given by Anne Ellis in memory of
Helen Carpenter.*

Credits: Image by Ninabeth Metcalf.

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Announcements & Upcoming Events

Please pray for: Our Church, the parishioners of PVEC, our world, our families and friends, Walter, Laura, Charles, Lori, Ann, Helen, Taylor, Bonnie Sue, Anne, Rich Kennedy, Mark, John, Rob & Cecelia, Laura, Theresa, Sue, the Deibel Family, Jan, Phil & Sue, Ann.

- 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.)
Spring Potluck Coffee Hour after service
- Sun. 3/26** Darasue Braun is preaching
- Thurs. 3/30** Easter Flower orders are due
- Sat. 4/1** Pancake breakfast and Easter Event
- 4/21, 4/22, & 4/29** Spring Rummage Sale
(Donations can be dropped off at the Church Office M-F, 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

FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FRIENDS