



PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH
May 14, 2023

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

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

FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FRIENDS

Thank you to Dan Ledwith who will be leading today's service.

PRELUDE

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come into God's house!
Come and hear what God has done!

**All: God has made the world
and breathed the breath of life into us!**

One: But God hasn't stopped there. There's more!
God is still on the scene, upholding all our life,
surrounding us in power and love.

All: We live, move, and have our very being in God!

One: Let the sound of God's praise be heard!

All: Praise God! Praise God! Praise God!

OPENING PRAYER

Source of all creation, maker of the world and everything in it, you are never far from each one of us. We come into your house seeking you, O giver of life and breath. Reveal yourself to us; dwell with us; and abide in us. We live because of you. We hope because of you. In the name of Jesus Christ in whom we live, and the Spirit of Truth who abides in us, Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN #152

I Sing the Almighty Power of God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Maker and giver of all,
forgive us when we are too preoccupied
to notice your presence in our lives:
when we walk through this world
and fail to see the wonder
of you upholding our lives and all creation;
when we walk through our lives
and fail to see you abiding with, within,
and around us;
when we walk through holy moments
and fail to savor your presence,
instead feeling abandoned
in the vast sweep of life
as each day rushes at us
with its demands.
Open our eyes to your presence, God of love,
that we may lean on you—
for you uphold all of creation
in tenderness and power. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

When Jesus left the disciples, he gave us a promise:
“I will not leave you orphaned!”
For we, his disciples, live in him and he in us—
the presence of God within and around all.
What a promise! Take courage! Take comfort!
Blessed be God!

FIRST READING

1 Peter 3:13-22

PSALM

66: 8-20

GOSPEL READING

John 14:15-21

MESSAGE

Dan Ledwith

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you**

THE OFFERING

Every minute of every day, God is making all things new, giving & giving & giving again. You are called, We are called to be a part of God's work of love & generosity. We are called to give, to surrender our time, talent & treasure to this mission of making all things new. We are called to give. 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.

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God, with this money, make a whole new world. With these gifts help make real what you declare. With us, help make a world where everyone is loved, a world where justice & compassion roll down like a mighty stream, a world where the hunger are fed, the sick are healed & the dirty are bathed. Make a world know your love & a world that sees the spirit abide in them. Do it with these gifts Oh God, in the name of your son & our savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMN# 393

Spirit of the Living God

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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. The Collects, Psalms, and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Music: CCLI Song # 2758565, Isaac Watts, © Words & Music: Public Domain. Music: CCLI Song # 23488, Daniel Iverson © Words & Music: Public Domain.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Please pray for: Our Church, the parishioners of PVEC, our world, our families and friends, Laura, Walter, Charles, Lori, Myrna & Simon, Keith, Bruce, Ann, Bonnie Sue, Helen, Anne, Kim, Cindy, Harry & Donna, Ellie, Rob & Cecelia, Laura & Bob McFarlane.

****Lunch after worship today in Fellowship Hall
Syndie Okemwa is hosting lunch as a tribute to Mother's in Congregation.***

****In honor of Mother's Day, every woman in congregation will get a carnation to be found in Narthex. Please be sure to get one on your way in or out!***

****Anyone who has had a loved one who died in a war, please let someone on the committee know, as we would like to recognize them. Feel free to call the office at 908-852-5444 and leave a message as well.***

Sat. 5/20	PVEC Craft Fair & Craft n' Crop
Sun. 5/21	James Vespoli preaching May Council Meeting (11:30am)
Sun. 5/28	Dan Ledwith preaching
Sun. 6/4	Joy Mounts preaching
Sat. 6/24	Fish & Chips Dinner
Fri. 7/14	Lifeline Screening

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: Melissa Zabriskie

Email: pvecsecretary@gmail.com

Office hours: M,T,W & Fri. 9:00am – 2:00pm

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

Tel: 908-852-5444

Email: panthervalleychurch@gmail.com

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