

THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

May 6, 2018

10:30 a.m.

* All who are able may stand

Congregation reads aloud the **bold print**

THE TIME OF CENTERING

“Vibrant, fruitful, growing churches offer Passionate Worship that connects people to God and to one another. People gather consciously as the Body of Christ with eagerness and expectancy; encounter Christ through singing, prayer, Scripture, preaching, and Holy Communion; and respond by allowing God’s Spirit to shape their lives. Lives shaped by God’s Spirit become the nucleus for congregations of extraordinary warmth, graciousness, and belonging. People are searching for worship that is authentic, alive, creative, and comprehensible, where they experience the life-changing presence of God in the presence of others.”

Robert Schnase -Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations

THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH GATHERS

PRELUDE

Bridge Over Troubled Water
Maria Hess, soloist

Paul Simon

OPENING SCRIPTURE

O come, let us sing to the Lord and shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into God’s presence with thanksgiving, singing joyful songs of praise.

(Psalms 95:1, 2)

WELCOME

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman

SILENCE AS THE LIGHT OF CHRIST ENTERS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us gather with the faithful from every nation, race, people, and language, in worshiping the God made known to us in Jesus Christ.

To God, the Ruler of the universe, and to Jesus, the Lamb, be blessing and honor, glory and might forever and ever.

(cont'd)

Let us gather in God's presence, singing songs of praise and joy with the people of God in every place and time.

Holy, holy, holy, great God of Hosts! The whole earth is full of your glory.

Glory be to you, O God most high. Amen.

* HYMN NO. 1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION (from the *Liturgy of Malabar*, 5th Century)

**Grant, O Lord Jesus,
that the ears which have heard the voice of your songs
may be closed to the voice of dispute;
that the eyes which have seen your great love
may also behold your blessed hope;
that the tongues which have sung your praise
may speak the truth in love;
that the feet which have walked in your courts
may walk in the region of light;
and that the bodies which have received your living body
may be restored in newness of life.
Glory to you for your inexpressible gift. Amen.**

A Time of Silence

(Please take this time in silence to offer your own prayers of confession—confessing your need for God and naming those barriers that keep you from knowing life as God's beloved child.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As God's own people,
be merciful in action,
kindly in heart, humble in mind.
Be always ready to forgive
as freely as God has forgiven you.
And, above everything else,
be loving, and never forget to be thankful
for what Christ has done for you.



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be
 3 For the har - vests of the Spi - rit, thanks be to



God. For his gifts to ev - ery na - tion,
 done. In the help we give our neigh - bor,
 God. For the good we all in - her - it,



thanks be to God. For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing,
 God's will be done. In our world-wide task of car - ing
 thanks be to God. For the won - ders that as - tound us,



si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in
 for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing, in the har - vests
 for the truths that still con - found us, most of all that



earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 we are shar - ing, God's will be done.
 love has found us, thanks be to God.

*GREETING OF PEACE

Since God has made peace with us, let us make peace with each other.

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you. (We greet each other: "The peace of Christ be with you.")

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman, Christina Pressley

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 84

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord;

my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

John 15:1-12

p. 878

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Passionate Worship

Rev. Elizabeth Lyman

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, who places joy in our souls, dancing in our toes, and songs in our hearts. I believe God wanted gladness to flow like a river and so created a bountiful earth with plenty for all to share.

I believe in Jesus, who turned water into wine, partied with outcasts and sinners, and touched the broken so they could leap and dance. I believe Jesus opened the doors and set an extra place so we could feast.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who prompts us to smile, who sends us invitations to come and dine, who nudges us to openness and tenderness. I believe the Spirit is present every time we gather to break bread and is always urging us to live joyfully and walk hopefully.

Forever, I will live in the embrace of God and be a witness to resurrection joy.

*HYMN NO. 305

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

This morning we receive the offering for the Deacons' Fund. Your contributions provide immediate help to individuals in our community in financial crisis – real people, real needs, real help.

Any loose offering and designated checks go toward this fund. Let us give with grateful hearts.

OFFERTORY

In Dat Great Gittin' Up Mornin' African-American spiritual,
Chancel Choir arr. Jester Hairston

I'm gonna tell you 'bout the comin' of the judgement (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Der's a better day a comin' (fare ye well, fare ye well)

Refrain: In that great gittin' up mornin', fare ye well, fare ye well.
In that great gittin' up mornin', fare ye well, fare ye well.

Oh preacher fold yo' Bible (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Fo' de last soul's converted (fare ye well, fare ye well) *Refrain*

Blow yo' trumpet Gabriel (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Lord how loud shall I blow it? (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Blow it right – calm and easy (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Do not 'larm all my people (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Tell dem all to come to de judgment (fare ye well, fare ye well) *Refrain*

Den you see dem coffins bustin' (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Den you see de folkses risin' (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Den you see de world on fire' (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Den you see de stars a-fallin' (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Den you see dat forked lightnin' (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Den you hear dat rumblin' thunder (fare ye well, fare ye well)
Fare ye well, poor sinner, (fare ye well, fare ye well) *Refrain*

*DOXOLOGY (all sing) **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;** NO. 607
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious Spirit, you have showered us with your gifts, and we embrace you with thanksgiving. May our embrace be arms wide open, ready to share, to serve, and to love. Use our spiritual gifts that we may live the spiritual life, moving according to the Spirit's heated touch and bending in the direction of God's holy will.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION HYMN NO. 769 For Everyone Born
Maria Hess, Matthew Pressley

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

This great thanksgiving is a translation of the ancient eucharistic prayer of Hippolytus of Rome, dating from about 215. It is the earliest known text of a eucharistic prayer.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God,

through your beloved Servant, Jesus Christ,

whom you have sent in these last times as savior and redeemer,
and messenger of your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you,

through whom you made all things and in whom you take delight.

You sent him from heaven into Mary's womb,

where he was conceived and took flesh.

Born of the Virgin by the power of the Holy Spirit, he was revealed as your Son.

In fulfillment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering

to release from suffering those who place their trust in you,

and so won for you a holy people.

He freely accepted the death to which he was handed over,

in order to destroy death and to shatter the chains of the evil one;

to trample underfoot the powers of hell and to lead the righteous into light;

to fix the boundaries of death and to manifest the resurrection.

And so he took bread, gave thanks to you, and said:

"Take, and eat; this is my body, broken for you."

In the same way he took the cup, saying:

"This is my blood, shed for you.

When you do this, do it for the remembrance of me."

Remembering therefore his death and resurrection,

we set before you this bread and cup,

thankful that you have counted us worthy

to stand in your presence

and serve you as your priestly people.

(cont'd)

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of the holy church.
Gather into one all who share these holy mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit
and confirming their faith in the truth,
that together we may praise you and give you glory,
through your Servant, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray...**Our Father...**

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

(All are welcome to receive communion. Please come forward for intinction.

When you get to the Table, take a piece of bread from the tray and dip it in the cup. Eat immediately.

We serve grape juice instead of wine and offer gluten-free alternatives so that all may partake.)

COMMUNION HYMN NO. 769 (all sing) For Everyone Born vs. 2, 3, & 5

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life and renewed us for your service. Help us who have shared Christ's body and received his cup, to be his faithful disciples so that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 536

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

v. 1 – all

v. 2 – higher voices

v. 3 – lower voices

v. 4 – all

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

RESPONSE/POSTLUDE

The Lord Bless and Keep You

J. Strathdee

Maria Hess, Matthew Pressley

Welcome visitors! We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Please record your name, address, and phone number/email on one of the Connection Cards in the pew and introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave. All are invited to join us for light refreshments and fellowship following the service in the back of the Sanctuary.

Assisting in the service of worship are:

Deacon-in-Charge: Don Potter
Liturgist: Bettye Shirar
Ushers: Youth & Family Ushers
Communion Servers: Gerry Crock,
Marcie Jorgensen, Melanie Slezak

The flowers today are given by Barbara Wise to the glory of God and our wonderful music program.

Weekly Prayer List (follows directory):

Ken Persak
Michelle Phillips & family
Connie Polleck
Janice Parker
Don Potter & Abigail Quandt
Daniel Potter

Pastoral Care: The Rev. Kathie Pownall is currently providing pastoral care for our Concord family and would love to visit anyone – not just in times of emergency. If you would like a visit, call her at 302/373-7127 or email kspownallkathie@aol.com to set up a convenient time.

Concord now accepts credit card donations. Scanning this QR code with your smart phone camera or app will connect you to a Concord website page. Click on the blue “Donate Now” button to enter a secure portal where you can enter donation amount and credit card information. You will receive an email acknowledging the donation.



Scan with RedLaser

CALENDAR

- Sun., May 6** Elizabeth Lyman preaching
Communion*, Deacons' Fund Offering
10:30am Worship in the Sanctuary
*No Children/Youth Sunday School
5:00pm Youth Group (Blessing Bags)
- Mon., May 7**
9:00am Diaspora Prayer Group
1:00pm Mary Circle (Peggy Carter)
6:30pm Mission Initiative (F203)
- Tues., May 8**
7:30pm Worship & Music (Jessie's Room)
- Wed., May 9** No Mug & Muffin
10:30am Preschool Spring Musical
7:00pm Finance (Jessie's Room)
- Thurs., May 10**
11:30am Thaddeus Arc (Library)
7:30pm Chancel Choir (Chapel)
- Sat., May 12** Clothing Bank van
4:00pm Friendship House Breakfast prep
- Sun., May 13** Jenny Godowsky preaching
Mother's Day, Clothing Bank van
7:00am Friendship House Breakfast
9:30am Adult Christian Education (JR)
9:45am Book Club (Sanctuary Lounge)
10:00am Youth Choir/Bells (F204)
10:30am Worship in the Sanctuary
10:50am Children/Youth Sunday School

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Sunday School & Family Activities

CONCORD VBS 2018

July 23-27

9am-12pm

All things bright and
beautiful...



The Lord God made them
ALL!

Youth Group Blessing Bags – today, 5:00-7:00pm: Have you noticed folks standing with signs outside shopping centers or on the dividers of busy roads looking for food or money? Have you thought about who they are, what their stories might be, and what we can do to help? Join us to hear stories from our youth, learn about homelessness, and make blessing bags for these neighbors of ours. If you are able, please bring some of the following to help fill the bags: toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, socks, wipes, comb, water, beef jerky, tuna snack pack, peanut butter crackers, cheese & crackers, granola bars.

Youth Group Fishing – Sun., May 20: Grab your fishing gear (or borrow some of ours!) and join us for an evening of fishing. We are still working out the details of when and where, but it's looking like we will meet at Concord Church



parking lot at about 4:30pm and head to either the Brandywine River or Bellevue State Park. Check your e-mail for updates!

Mission Outreach

Friendship House Sunday Breakfast – May 12-13: Concord will be preparing breakfast at Sts. Andrew & Matthew on **Sat., May 12 (4:00-5:00pm)** and serving the meal on **Sun., May 13 (7:00-8:30am)**. Each Sunday, thanks to volunteers from local churches, Friendship House provides a nourishing breakfast to 90-140 homeless men, women, and children. If you would like to be a part of this outreach, please contact Judy Hayes at 302/545-2188 or judyhayes@gmail.com.

Clothing Bank of Delaware Van – May 12-13: The CBD van will be open in Concord's parking lot on **Sat., May 12, 10:00am-2:00pm** and **Sun., May 13, 10:00am-noon** to accept your donations of gently-used clothing, bedding, and linens. Tax receipts will be available.



Friendship House Breakfast Closet: On the first Monday of the month, volunteers from Concord deliver breakfast supplies to the FH Women's Day Center. We need the following items:



- cans of regular coffee
- 3-lb. bags of sugar, **sealed in plastic bag**
- large containers of powdered creamer
- large jars of peanut butter and jelly
- large boxes of regular tea bags.

Place your donations in the designated basket in the Narthex. (Personal-size toiletries for women & men are also helpful.)

Can You Spare a Square? During May,



Concord and the community will be collecting toilet paper for Friendship House. Please bring your toilet paper donations any time during the

month and drop off in the back of the Sanctuary or in the bins by the Fellowship Hall door. Friendship House goes through an enormous amount of this most necessary item at their various sites.



The May issue of the Concord Courier is now available in the Narthex and on the website. There's a lot going on – don't miss a thing!



Adult Classes

An Altar in the World by **Barbara Brown Taylor**, April 22 – May 13, 9:30 – 10:20am, **Jessie's Room:** Sister BJ leads our discussion on this book in which the author shares how she learned to encounter God far beyond the walls of the church.

Concord Book Club – Suns., 9:45-10:25am, Sanctuary Lounge: We are beginning to read and discuss *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver.

You are invited to attend our Bible Study groups which discuss the background of the scripture for each Sunday's sermon:

- **Mug & Muffin Bible Study** – Weds. @ 9:30am in the Sanctuary Lounge. *We will not meet May 9 & 16.*
- **Thaddeus Arc Men's Bible Study** – Thursdays @ 11:30am, Library.

Faith in Literature – Concord's book group will meet **Monday, May 21, 1:00pm**, at the home of Joyce Johnson (302/655-3411). Our reading assignment from *50 Great Stories*: "How Beautiful with Shoes" by Wilbur Daniel Steele and "A Haunted House" by Virginia Woolf.

New York City Bus Trip
Wed., May 16 ~ 7:15am-6:00pm
Tickets ~ \$60
Contact the Church Office.