

# THE SERVICE FOR OCTOBER 20, 2024 – 10:00AM



## CONCORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1800 FAIRFAX BLVD.

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19803

(302) 654-9652

[www.concordpc.org](http://www.concordpc.org) [info@concordpc.org](mailto:info@concordpc.org) Guest Wi-Fi: *ConcordGuest*

The Rev. Eric Markman, Pastor (603) 770-3239 [pastoreric@concordpc.org](mailto:pastoreric@concordpc.org)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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\* All who are able may stand

Congregation reads aloud the **BOLD** print

PRELUDE

*Consider the Lilies*

Joel Hemphill

Maria Hess, soloist

Consider the lilies; they don't toil nor spin  
And there's not a king with more splendor than them  
Consider the sparrows; they don't plant or sow  
But they're fed by the Master who watches them grow

We have a Heavenly Father above  
With eyes full of mercy and a heart full of love  
He really cares when your head is bowed low  
Consider the lilies and then you will know

May I introduce you to this friend of mine  
Who hangs out the stars, tells the sun when to shine  
And kisses the flowers each morning with dew  
Oh, but He's not too busy to care about you!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Eric Markman (he/him)

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 19:1-6, 9-10

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

**ALL: THERE IS NO SPEECH, NOR ARE THERE WORDS; THEIR VOICE IS NOT HEARD; YET THEIR VOICE GOES OUT THROUGH ALL THE EARTH AND THEIR WORDS TO THE END OF THE WORLD.**

One: In the heavens God has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong woman runs her course with joy.

**ALL: ITS RISING IS FROM THE END OF THE HEAVENS AND ITS CIRCUIT TO THE END OF THEM, AND NOTHING IS HID FROM ITS HEAT.**

One: The ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**ALL: MORE TO BE DESIRED ARE THEY THAN GOLD, EVEN MUCH FINE GOLD; SWEETER ALSO THAN HONEY AND DRIPPINGS OF THE HONEYCOMB.**

\*HYMN NO. 175

*Seek Ye First*

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**ALL: OUR DAYS ARE LONG, AND OUR DOUBTS SOMETIMES HAUNT US. WE SEE DIFFICULTIES IN OUR WORLD – A WARMING CLIMATE, POVERTY, AND RECOVERING FROM AND SEEING THE PANDEMIC WHICH IS REAPPEARING IN THE WORLD AND OUR NATION.**

**THESE ARE TRYING TIMES. TIMES WHEN IT IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT TO GRASP FAITH AND KEEP IT AT THE FOREFRONT OF OUR LIVES. AND YET THAT CAN BE SUCH A CHALLENGE.**

**LET US COME BEFORE GOD WITH OUR HEARTS OPEN AND OUR MINDS READY TO LISTEN, THAT WE MAY FIND THE EVERLASTING ARMS THAT CAN UPHOLD US THROUGH ALL THAT WE FACE.**

*[Time of silent prayer]*

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*RESPONSE (all sing)

*Gloria Patri*

NO. 581

**GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY GHOST;  
AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND EVER SHALL BE,  
WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN, AMEN**

\*SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**ALL: AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

*[Turn to those around you and share with them words and signs of peace.]*

WONDERING TIME

Christina Pressley

*[Following the Wondering Time, children & youth of all ages are invited to attend "Navigate the Bible!" in Fellowship Hall.]*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *Let the Words of My Mouth*

Jack Schrader

Chancel Choir

Let the words of my mouth, and my heart's meditation  
be acceptable to Thee, My Redeemer and living Lord.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 6:25-33 (NRSV)

One: This is the word of our Lord.

**ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**ALL: WE TRUST IN GOD, WHOM JESUS CALLED ABBA, FATHER.**

**IN SOVEREIGN LOVE GOD CREATED THE WORLD GOOD AND MAKES EVERYONE EQUALLY IN GOD'S IMAGE OF ALL GENDERS, OF EVERY RACE AND PEOPLE, TO LIVE AS ONE COMMUNITY.**

**BUT WE REBEL AGAINST GOD; WE HIDE FROM OUR CREATOR. IGNORING GOD'S COMMANDMENTS, WE VIOLATE THE IMAGE OF GOD IN OTHERS AND OURSELVES, ACCEPT LIES AS TRUTH, EXPLOIT NEIGHBOR AND NATURE, AND THREATEN DEATH TO THE PLANET ENTRUSTED TO OUR CARE. WE DESERVE GOD'S CONDEMNATION.**

**YET GOD ACTS WITH JUSTICE AND MERCY TO REDEEM CREATION. IN EVERLASTING LOVE, THE GOD OF ABRAHAM AND SARAH CHOSE A COVENANT PEOPLE TO BLESS ALL FAMILIES OF THE EARTH.**

**HEARING THEIR CRY, GOD DELIVERED THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL FROM THE HOUSE OF BONDAGE. LOVING US STILL, GOD MAKES US HEIRS WITH CHRIST OF THE COVENANT.**

**LIKE A MOTHER WHO WILL NOT FORSAKE HER NURSING CHILD, LIKE A FATHER WHO RUNS TO WELCOME THE PRODIGAL HOME, GOD IS FAITHFUL STILL.**

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

*We Are Blessed*  
Chancel Choir

Andrea Ramsey

Come on down, rain, come on down, come on down rain and water this ground.

Come on down rain, clean and cold, come on down rain and water my soul.

We are blessed by God; we are blessed with good things.

We are blessed by our families, we are blessed, we are blessed.

We are blessed with rest; we are blessed with sweet dreams.

We are blessed with a bed to sleep in, we are blessed, we are blessed.

We are blessed with hope, we are blessed with freedom.

We are blessed to have food to eat, we are blessed we are blessed.

## \*RESPONSE (all sing)

*Give Thanks*

NO. 647

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: Now, as children of our heavenly creator, let us bring our prayers to God.

**ALL: WE PRAY WITH GRATITUDE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, FOR THE SUN THAT SHINES AND RAIN THAT FALLS. GIVE US GRACE TO SHOW LOVE TO CREATION, NOT HARVESTING RIGHT UP TO THE EDGE BUT LEAVING ENOUGH FOR THE EARTH TO RENEW ITSELF.**

One: We pray with gratitude for the church, for your holy community, made to love as you do. Give us grace to take you seriously, and ourselves less so, making our faith communities places of radical welcome.

**ALL: WE PRAY WITH GRATITUDE FOR OUR COUNTRY, FOR THE RIGHTS, FREEDOMS AND SERVICES WE ENJOY. GIVE US GRACE TO WORK TO MAKE THIS NATION LIKE YOUR HOLY KINGDOM: A PLACE THAT TURNS TO PEACEFUL RESISTANCE AND NOT REVENGE, THAT MAKES SURE THERE IS ENOUGH FOR THE POOR AND IMMIGRANT, THAT TREATS ALL EQUALLY REGARDLESS OF WEALTH OR STATUS.**

One: We pray with gratitude for our communities: for schools, hospitals, libraries, grocery stores, mechanic shops, that we live in a place where we can get what we need, and often, what we only want. Give us grace to build up our community, to give back with our time, talent and treasure. To love our neighbors in real, concrete ways.

**ALL: WE PRAY WITH GRATITUDE FOR THOSE CLOSEST TO US — FRIENDS, FAMILY, ALL WE KNOW BEST AND LOVE DEARLY. GIVE US GRACE TO CARE FOR THEM AND TO RECEIVE THEIR CARE.**

One: And finally, we pray for ourselves, grateful that you have loved us from the first, guided us in your own ways, and forgiven us continually when we fall short.

**ALL: WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD, FOR ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE FOR OUR WORLD AND OUR COMMUNITY. WE ASK NOW THAT YOU WILL OPEN OUR HEARTS AS WE MOVE INTO THIS SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP THAT WE MAY BE ABLE TO COMMIT OUR LIVES, OUR TIME, OUR TALENTS AND OUR TREASURE FOR THE YEAR ABOUT TO BREAK FORTH ANEW.**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sinae Yun Lee, piano

**Welcome visitors!** We're glad you're here today. If you'd like to learn more about what's happening at Concord, how you can get involved, or how we can help or support you, fill out one of the Connection Cards in the pew with your contact information. You can place the card in the offering or give it to a greeter as you leave. The peace of Christ be with you.

**The flowers today** are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Don Johnson from his family.

**Assisting in the service of worship are:**

**Deacon-in-Charge:** Steve Studer

**Liturgist:** Jan Moore

**Livestream Team:** Bob Brown, John Barineau, Carol Haas, Marj Johnson



**Today following Wondering Time –**

***Navigate the Bible!***

for children & youth of all ages

in Fellowship Hall

Come learn about the books of the Bible & who or what is in them!

Join us as we put on our detective hats, collect clues, & search for answers through games & using our ever-expanding deductive skills!

## **LGBTQ+ TASK FORCE**

The LGBTQIA+ Task Force will be holding a second Lunch & Learn on our journey to being an openly affirming congregation. Join us **TODAY** immediately following worship in Jessie's Room for "Understanding Identity." A

[Zoom link](#) is provided for those who can't attend in person. Childcare is available.



# Clothing Drive



Mark your calendars & clean out your closets!  
**The Friendship House Clothing Bank van**  
**will be in the church parking lot**  
**Sat. Oct. 26, 9:00am-2:00pm &**  
**Sun. Oct. 27, 9:00am-noon**  
to receive your donations of new & gently used  
clothing for all ages.

**Mug & Muffin – Weds. @ 10:00am via Zoom:** Our weekly Mug & Muffin Bible study meets again **Wed., October 23** from 10:00-11:00am, led by Pastor Eric Markman. To join the Zoom gathering online, click [here](#).



Join us for a report on Presbytery's  
Immigrant Justice Border Trip 2024 -  
**Sunday, October 27** following worship  
in the Sanctuary.

## Guatemala Literacy Program

The Mission Committee of Concord's Session has begun an involvement with the New Castle Presbytery's Guatemala Partnership. At the request of the Association of Mam Christian Women, we committed to fund a new literacy project for 15 students for 10 months in a remote, poor village in an area of Guatemala difficult to access. The cost of this project is \$2,700.00 which covers teachers, teaching supplies, and student supplies. We strongly believe that education and the ability to read is essential to further economic development for these women.

We hope you will join in our excitement about this project and will contribute financially to help cover the cost. Checks can be written to Concord Church with *Guatemala Literacy Program* in the memo, or you can Zelle the money to the church with the same designation in the memo. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



**Adults & Older Youth: We need YOUR HELP for the...**

## **HALLOWEEN PARADE & TRUNK OR TREAT**

Here are some ways **YOU** can participate in and/or support this collaborative event coordinated by Concord Church, Concord Preschool, and Fairfax neighborhood!



Volunteer to **decorate your trunk** and provide candy for 200 trunk or treaters on Saturday, October 26. Arrive at 10:00am to set up; children & families will arrive shortly after 10:30am.



Donate one or more **bags of candy**  
*Please drop off candy at the church office or in the bin provided at the back of the church by Wednesday, October 23*



**Donate monies** to purchase candy

*Please make donations*

- online to Concord Church through Zelle ([donations@concordpc.org](mailto:donations@concordpc.org))
- by visiting [www.concordpc.org](http://www.concordpc.org) – click on GIVE, then DONATE to CONCORD'S MINISTRIES, then click on the drop list and choose YOUTH FUND.
- by check to Concord Church, memo: Trunk or Treat and place in the offering or mail to Concord Church, 1800 Fairfax Blvd, Wilmington, DE 19803

**Any donation, great or small, is much appreciated!**

QUESTIONS? Contact Christina Pressley at [concord.christinap@gmail.com](mailto:concord.christinap@gmail.com)



**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

**OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE**

PC(USA), through the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), has been in constant communication with leadership in the hurricane-impacted areas. Emergency grants have already been distributed to

address urgent needs, and National Response Teams have been deployed to provide assistance and coordination. This effort will require ongoing support, not just for the physical recovery but also for the emotional healing of those impacted. [Click here](#) to make a donation to support the PDA hurricane response – designate gifts DR000169.