

# The Dover Church

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND SERVICE SINCE 1762



AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION  
IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, August 4, 2024 - 9:00 AM  
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  
Communion Sunday

*Welcome to The Dover Church. Sunday morning worship is perhaps the only occasion where people of all generations spend time together in the same public place. This is one of our great joys. Different people at different ages worship in different ways. Some are bouncy and some are silent. We ask that everyone welcome each other and embrace these differences.*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE                      To a Wild Rose from "Woodland Sketches"  
Edward Mac Dowell

**As we gather for worship, all those who brought a flower are invited to come forward and add them to the arrangements by the lectern or pulpit.**

#### WORDS OF WELCOME

**All are invited to join in speaking or singing when bolded words appear.**  
 If you have a prayer request card, the ushers will come by after the sermon to collect them.

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN OF ADORATION                      **All things Bright and Beautiful**                      63

PRAYER OF CONFESSION                      Psalm 51

**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.**  
**According to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you,**

you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

THE SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

GOD'S WORD FOR US

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

from the PSALMS

Psalm 139:1-18

from the EPISTLES

Ephesians 4:1-16

Reader: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

|        |                                   |            |
|--------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| SERMON | “Created and Creative ”           |            |
| HYMN   | <b>As We Gather at Your Table</b> | <b>314</b> |

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE

OFFERING OURSELVES TO THE SPIRIT & THE OFFERING

RECEPTION OF OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Pastor: The Lord be with you,  
**People: And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts:

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION PRAYER

**Come, Holy Spirit, come. Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.**

**Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened and may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, in all your children, and throughout all of creation. Amen.**

THE 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.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Everyone is welcome to celebrate with us. You do not need to be a professing Christian, a member of this church, or even certain you know exactly what this is all about. Communion is about grace and blessing both of which depend upon God who welcomes you whoever and wherever you are.

This morning, we are celebrating Communion by Intinction, (Latin for "dipping"), which means coming forward, as you are able, to be served.

You will be offered bread (or a gluten free rice cake), which you can then dip into the wine or grape juice. If you are unable to come forward and would like to participate, please let our Deacons know and we will serve you in the pews. We will still say the traditional words, "The Body of Christ, broken for you," or "The Bread of Life," and "The Cup of Blessing." We encourage you to use the traditional response, "Amen" (Hebrew – "Let it be so.").

*After you have received communion, you are invited to add to our painting at the front of the sanctuary.*

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Thank you, O Holy One, for life in the Spirit of Jesus: for gladness in the bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the glory of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own.**

**Give us the gifts of this Holy Communion: oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and life that never ends. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF PARTING

**Colorful Creator**

**Insert**

#### COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

To a Waterlily from "Woodland Sketches"

Edward Mac Dowell

**LAY LEADERS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

DEACON ON DUTY: Liesl Schultze

USHER: Linda Pettit

LITURGIST: Linda Means

SCRIPTURE READER: Eileen Wong

*Please join us for lemonade, cookies, and fellowship  
following our service this morning.*

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**Birthday and Anniversary Wishes for**

**August 4, 2024 to August 10, 2024**

We wish Happy Birthday to the following people: **Miles Benjamin, Ryan Kane, Caroline Standley, June Wright, Tom Danielski, Betty Brady, and Alison Carothers .**

Happy Anniversary to **David & Carol Patey and Andrew & Lisa Slotnick.**

Please let us know if we have forgotten anyone!