

The Dover Church

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND SERVICE SINCE 1762



AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, May 10, 2026 - 10:00 AM
Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

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.

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God desires to gather us
Many: She gathers us together
 Her wings spread out before us
Her presence, all around us
 To nurture is her nature
To mother is her gift
 For our safety, she reaches
For our good, she moves
 Sheltering over us
She is our fortress
 Deep in her underwing
She is our strength
 Because of us, she is wounded
By her wounds we are saved

Until all fear is gone
Until the work is finished
 In her, we find our justice
In her, we find our peace

GATHERING SONG

Bring Many Names

6

verses 1-2, 4-6

A TIME TO CONFESS OUR RELIANCE ON GOD

Written by Rev. Elizabeth Dilley

God is the provider of my care, what else do I need?
 The Lord ensures I am renewed with water and rest, nourishment for my
 body and healing for my spirit.
 God tends to my body's other needs -
 midwifing my dreams and longings,
 shearing away those things that weigh me down,
 guiding me to safety through the deepest fears and sorrows.
 You ensure that I am given freedom of life and movement
 You ensure that I am given freedom of life and movement
 Your presence and correction are my constant comfort.
 When my enemies encircle us like hungry wolves,
 You take the milk of my life and the oil of my pressing
 To offer a feast of hope and an anointing of abundance.
 Looking back, I see how holiness and joy has followed fast behind us,
 Renewing, transforming, and blessing.
 I will make my home within your shelter,
 and rest beneath your care for all the days of my life.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: God loves you and there's nothing you can do about it.
People: God loves you and there's nothing you can do about it

EXCHANGING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING

Children are invited to come forward to help pass out Mother's Day flowers

HYMN

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

84

GOD'S WORD FOR US

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord our God, you offer us in scripture words of life, which, through faith, become our word of life. Help us to listen for that word in our lessons this morning. Amen

from the LIVING PSALMS BOOK

Psalm 66

written by Rev. Dr. Chris Davies

from the GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST

Luke 13: 31-35

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

All: Thanks be to God.

ACT OF PRAISE

O bless the Lord, my Soul!

God's grace to thee proclaim.

And all that is within me join

To bless God's holy name. Amen

SERMON

“In the Shelter of Her Wings”

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE

OFFERING OURSELVES TO THE SPIRIT & THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

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.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF PARTING

Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

**89
verses 1, 3,4**

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

THE FLOWERS ARE GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ADRIENNE HAIN AND EVELYN NORMAN
BY BRUCE & LINDA HAIN

LAY LEADERS IN TODAY'S SERVICE
DEACON ON DUTY: David Mahr
USHERS: Peggy Cross
SCRIPTURE READER: Peggy Cross
FELLOWSHIP: Men's Breakfast Group

*Please join us for fellowship and refreshment in Kraft Hall
following this morning's worship service.*

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*the Rev. Noah Brewer-Wallin, Bridge Pastor
the Rev. Dr. C. Maxwell Olmstead, Senior Pastor
the Rev. Kayla Edstrom, Associate Pastor
Ana Sanchez, Director of Congregational Life
Martha DePaola, Director of Christian Education
Daniel Reid, Music Director*

Birthdays and Anniversaries

We wish Happy Birthday to the following people: **Charlie Hefter, Nancy Mackay, Morgan Seaman, Tom Leeds, Bill Fallon, David Weden, Sally Shoemaker and Laury Hunt.**

Birthday wishes are for May 10, 2026 to May 16, 2026. Please let us know if we have forgotten anyone!

Announcements

Mission in Action Congregational Survey

Every 5 years or so we feel it is important to survey you, our congregation, to find out how you would like to be involved in the mission outreach of our church.

We will be sending out a digital survey around the **week of May 17**. Please be on the lookout for it. We will also have paper copies of the survey in the pews if you would prefer to provide your feedback that way.

Thank you for taking the time to provide us with your thoughts.

Calling All Tech-Savvy Students: Join Our Livestream Team!

Our amazing livestreamer, Sebastian, is graduating from high school this June, and we want to celebrate him. Over the past couple of years, he has been a steady, dependable presence. Calm under pressure and a great teammate when things didn't go as planned.

Last year, we began preparing for this transition by welcoming Ethan to the

team. Since then, Ethan has stepped up, covering the livestream many times since last fall and putting in the work to get ready. With Sebastian's guidance and Ethan's dedication, Ethan is now ready to take the lead.

We're now looking for one more student to join the livestream team to support Ethan and help run the stream from time to time. This is a paid, hourly position, ideal for high school students who are typically available on Sunday mornings.

No experience is required, just comfort with computers, attention to detail, and a willingness to learn. We use OBS and YouTube, and we'll train you.

Interested or know someone who might be? Contact Ana at the church office for more information: 508-785-0957 or ana@thedoverchurch.org.

Pastoral Care

While Max and Kayla are on leave, please contact Rev. Noah for any pastoral care needs. You can reach him at 503-989-9626.

Do You Have a Contact at WGBH?

As you know, our youth group's recent pilgrimage to Taizé was filmed by a documentary filmmaker who beautifully captured their experience of prayer, community, and reflection.

The filmmaker is now hoping to share the film with a wider audience and is exploring the possibility of airing it on WGBH in Boston. If you happen to have a contact at WGBH, or know someone who might, we would be grateful for your help. Even a simple introduction could make a difference in helping bring this story to the public.

Please reach out to the church office if you can assist. Thank you for your continued support of our youth and their journey!

Used Bike Collection

The Town of Dover is partnering with The Bike Connector to collect used bikes. The date is **Saturday, May 16**. You can bring used bikes of all sizes to the Dover Transfer Station.

If you are not a Dover resident and you have a bike you would like to donate, please bring the bikes to The Dover Church. The Mission in Action committee will be in the church parking lot starting at 9 am until 2 pm to receive your bike donation. Many thanks!

Women's Spiritual Friendship

Our Women's Spiritual Friendship group will gather on **May 20 at 9:15 AM**, and you're warmly invited!

Join us for a morning of painting

with Toni, our talented in-house artist. It's a wonderful chance to relax, laugh, and spend meaningful time together.

Whether you've painted many times before or have never picked up a brush, this is for you! No experience needed! You might even discover skills you didn't know you had. Hope to see you!

Meal Train for Max and Family

Additional dates have been added to the meal train calendar. Sign up using the QR code.



Kickoff Summer Food Drive for A Place to Turn

Once school is out, food pantries experience a decrease in donations. We will "Kickoff Summer" with a food drive to help A Place to Turn stock up.

Starting **Sunday, May 31 and through Sunday, June 14**, please bring your food donations to the church. Currently the most requested items are:

- 20 oz. canned pineapple
- Mac and cheese
- Spaghetti sauce
- pasta
- canned tuna, and canned sardines
- Diapers of all sizes (especially sz 4, sz 5, and sz 6 diapers) are in demand as are baby wipes!
- Other canned fruits (mixed fruit, mandarin orange)
- personal care items (toothpaste, tooth-

- brushes, shampoo, and hand soap)
- Oatmeal and boxed cereal are also welcomed

Please make sure to check the expiration date on all food items. APTT is unable to accept expired food.

There will be collection boxes outside the admin wing door for drop off outside of church office hours. Many thanks in advance for your generous donations.

Prayer Chapel

Please note: prayer chapel will be on hold until further notice. We will announce the return of Prayer Chapel in the e-News.

Tea and Check-In

We meet in the church library on **Thursdays, at 2:30 PM**. This is a fun way to check in with your fellow members. Come relax, have a cup of tea and cookies and bring your parish news. Hope to see you there!

Volunteer on Sunday Mornings

Are you able to help on a Sunday morning with ushering, being our liturgist, or scripture reader, or by hosting our coffee hour? To volunteer you do not need to be a member. Use the link in the e-News, sign up during coffee hour or contact the church office admin@thedoverchurch.org. Please sign up as you are able.

Parking

For the safety and comfort of those with mobility challenges, please reserve

upper-lot parking for those who need it. Those without mobility concerns are encouraged to use the lower lot. Thank you. Thank you.

Nametag Refresh

Our nametags have a fresh new look! They are now two-sided. We also have pronoun stickers available for anyone who would like to add them to their nametag. If you're interested, feel free to include yours!

If you need a nametag or a replacement nametag, or would like a pronoun sticker, please let one of our deacons or ushers know.

Coro Allegro

Coro Allegro presents Luminous Rescue: Psalms of Protest and Reconciliation on **May 17, 3 PM** at Church of the Covenant, Boston.

Featuring Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms, Charles Ives's Psalm 90, and Psalms of Luminous Rescue by Patricia Van Ness, with guest artists from the Back Bay Ringers and the presentation of the Pinkham Award to BGMC Artistic Director Reuben Reynolds. \$5 off with code 6726. Use QR code for tickets:

