

The Dover Church

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND SERVICE SINCE 1762



AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, July 26, 2026 - 10:00 AM
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

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 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Psalm 105

O give thanks to the Lord; call on his name;

make known God's deeds among the peoples.

Sing to the Lord, sing praises to God;

tell of all God's wonderful works.

Glory in God's holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

GATHERING SONG

How Firm A Foundation

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A TIME FOR REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. You have called us to be kingdom builders, but we have turned from your voice. We have not

loved you with our whole heart or our neighbors as ourselves.
We seek our identity in achievements, instead of in grace. We strive when you ask us to rest in your peace. We have doubted our belovedness, even as we are made in your image. Help us God, to be builders of your kingdom, in our hearts and families, and in our community, and throughout your good creation. Amen.

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.

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 GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

"The Kingdom of God Is..."

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

OFFERING OURSELVES TO THE SPIRIT & THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

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.

HYMN OF PARTING

Seek Ye First

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

LAY LEADERS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

DEACON ON DUTY: Liesl Schultze

USHER: Eileen Wong

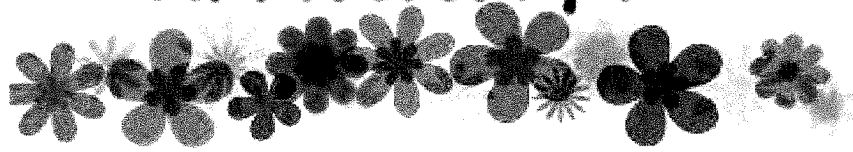
SCRIPTURE READER: Daniel Gerrish

FELLOWSHIP: Board of Deacons

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

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Happy Birthday and Anniversary to...



**Birthday and Anniversary Wishes for
July 26, 2026 to August 1, 2026**

We wish Happy Birthday to the following people: **Christian Baker, Sophie Hong, Viviette Hong, Thomas Chang, Glenn Jensen, Bob Graham, Sarah Rafter, Randa Tarazi and Margi Derian.**

Please let us know if we have forgotten anyone!