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 2, 2026 - 10:00 AM
Tenth 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 & 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.

GLORIA PATRI

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, all who are hungry and thirsty.
People: The Lord will provide for all our needs.
Leader: Jesus says to us, "They need not go away."
People: With God, a little is more than enough.
All: Come, let us worship the One who satisfies our souls.

GATHERING SONG **Here in this Place** **250**

A TIME FOR REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

Adapted from Reformed Worship

Leader: When Jesus saw that the crowd was hungry, he took five loaves of bread and two fish, he gave thanks to his Father, and then he fed the people.

People: Holy God, you are the God who feeds us, yet we forget to give you thanks. Instead, we take pride in our work, we celebrate our independence, we lie to ourselves that we are the ones who have done it all. God, have mercy on us.

Leader: When Jesus fed the people, everyone was satisfied, and there were even twelve baskets of leftovers!

People: Holy God you are the God who feeds us in abundance, yet we often live as if resources are scarce. We cling to our food, our things, and our money instead of sharing with our neighbors near and far. Lord, have mercy on us.

All: Gracious Father, teach us to give thanks. Fill our hearts with gratitude for all that you have given us, and from that gratitude, enable us to share what you have given us with others. May we reflect your gracious abundance with everyone we encounter. 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 OF 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 HEBREW BIBLE — Genesis 32:22-31

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

HYMN — **Our God, Our Help in Ages Past** — **80**

SERMON — "Wrestling with God"

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 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."

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.

HYMN OF PARTING **Faith of Our Fathers** **418**

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

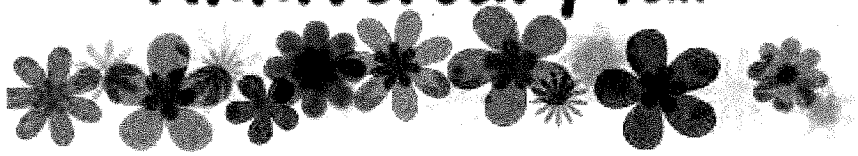
LAY LEADERS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

DEACON ON DUTY: Dottie Rother
USHER: Mitsy Baranello
SCRIPTURE READER: Linda Means
FELLOWSHIP: Board of Deacons

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

Permission to podcast/stream music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-708980. All rights reserved.

Happy Birthday and Anniversary to...



Birthday and Anniversary Wishes for
August 2, 2026 to August 8, 2026

We wish Happy Birthday to the following people: **Leah Hoover, Lucas Olmstead, Miles Benjamin, Ryan Kane, Caroline Standley, June Wright and Tom Danielski.**

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

Please let us know if we have forgotten anyone!