

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP  
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

September 21, 2008

11:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Organ Prelude

The Life and Work of the Church

Welcome, friends and members

Please sign welcome folders

Nursery care available in Education Building

Restrooms found in Education Building

Prayer requests for offering plate

Fellowship Hour following worship

Announcements – please use microphone

A Time of Greeting

Steeple Bell

Choral Introit

**Call to Worship:** (Psalm 145:9, 21)

The Lord is good to all;

**God's compassion is over all that God has made.**

My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,

**And all flesh will bless God's name forever and ever.**

**\*Hymn: #368**      “I’ve Got Peace Like a River”

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

**\*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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Loving God, you know our weaknesses.**

**Fearful of the future,**

**we forget what you have done for us in the past.**

**We see scarcity where you supply abundance.**

**We complain when conditions challenge us.**

**We begrudge others their success,**

**allow envy to divide us,**

**and live lives that are unworthy of the gospel.**

**Generous God, forgive us.  
Help us to remember your wonderful works,  
trust your gracious provisions,  
seek out your presence,  
and strive side-by-side with others to serve  
you well.**

(silent prayers)

Assurance of Pardon

**\*Sung Response: #304 “Jesus Loves Me!” vs. 1**  
**Jesus loves me! This I know,  
For the Bible tells me so;  
Little ones to Him belong;  
They are weak, but He is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.**

**PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Jonah 3:10-4:11

Page: OT 861

## A Scripture Conversation

Special Music:                    “How Beautiful”                    Twila Paris  
   Morgan Burris, Voice  
   Brenda DiMichele, Piano

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 20:1-16

Page: NT 21

Sermon                    *“Open Wide”*

**\*Hymn #298**                    “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

**\*An Affirmation of Faith**                    **The Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory: "Blessing" John Leavitt

The Choir

Minerva Lermond, Recorder

Reception of Offerings by Ushers

\*Presentation

**\*Doxology (#592)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above ye heav'nly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Thanks

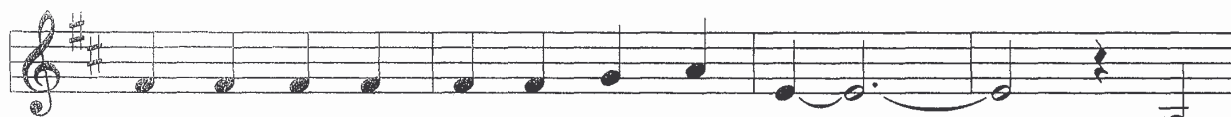
Pastoral Prayers

# GO IN GOD'S NAME

## \*Hymn: "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"



1. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. \_\_\_\_\_ Where  
 2. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. \_\_\_\_\_ Where  
 4. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. \_\_\_\_\_ It



there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. \_\_\_\_\_ Where  
 there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. \_\_\_\_\_ Where  
 is in par-don - ing that we are par - doned, \_\_\_\_\_ in



there is in - ju - ry, your par-don, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ and  
 there is dark - ness, \_\_\_\_\_ on - ly light, \_\_\_\_\_ and  
 giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive, \_\_\_\_\_ and in

1 | 2, 4 *Fine*



where there's doubt, true faith in you. \_\_\_\_\_  
 where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy. \_\_\_\_\_  
 dy - ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life. \_\_\_\_\_



3. Oh, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek \_\_\_\_\_ so



much to be con-soled as to con-sole. \_\_\_\_\_ To be



un-der-stood as to un-der-stand, \_\_\_\_\_ to be



loved as to love with all my soul. \_\_\_\_\_

WORDS: *Prayer of St. Francis*; adapt. by Sebastian Temple (Matt. 6:12-15)

MUSIC: Sebastian Temple

CHANNEL OF PEACE

Irregular

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**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Choral Benediction**

**Steeple Bell**

**Congregational Meeting**

**Organ Postlude**

*You may recycle your bulletins in the basket at the back of the Meeting House.*

## **Childcare**

Child Care for infants is available. Please see an usher for directions. Children ages 2 and above may exit after the Scripture Conversation for **Someplace Else** (a lesson and activities in the CE Building) or remain in worship. Children of any age are always welcome in worship.

## **Worship Assistance**

Please see an usher to receive hearing assistance, a large print bulletin or bible, or a personal seat cushion.

## **Prayer List:**

### ***Nursing Home and Hospital***

#### **The Arbors at New Castle:**

32 Buena Vista Dr, New Castle, DE 19720  
phone: 302-326-4121

***Arline Olds***

#### **Cokesbury Village:**

726 Loveville Rd, Hockessin, DE 19707;  
Attn: Rm 1026 phone: 302-235-6017

***Isabel Klein***

## **Prayers for:**

The Flowers are given to the glory of God by:

***Herb & Mary Pratt***

In Honor of Sarah Reeves



Special Gifts Memorial Case:

***Donald M. Warren***

***1925-1989***

***Helen T. Andersen Johnson***

***1906-1990***

This morning, our Usher is:

Jason Campbell

Someplace Else (Children's Bible Study and Activities):

Molly Fouracre



## The Peaceful Reign of God— Among Us and Not Yet

The Christian experience is a life held in the balance between Jesus' words that "the kingdom of God is among you" and the realization that the fulfillment of that day is still a vision for the future. Along the way, God's people bear faithful and bold witness to a foretaste of the realm of God in concrete actions here and now. Such was the case for five congregations in Chicago, Illinois.

On World Communion Sunday 2007, five Presbyterian congregations who identify themselves as belonging to the Northwest Fellowship of Presbyterian Churches met to celebrate their union in Christ. Faith Community Presbyterian

Church, Des Plaines First Presbyterian, Morton Grove Community Church, Niles Community Church, Norwood Park Presbyterian, and St. Andrew Community Church set aside their own familiar settings, gathered at a community center, and in worship reflected the multicultural textures of God's worldwide community of faith. Music, prayers, and liturgy rang out in a variety of languages and accents. The Reverends Milton Mejia and Adelaida Jimenez of the Presbyterian Church of Colombia preached the sermon. These ecumenical partners bore testimony to the experience of the Colombian church working for a just society amid death threats and violence. They spoke of the accompaniment of Christian brothers and sisters who literally walked with them in their struggle for a just peace. The worship experience was a foretaste of the reign of God's shalom that is yet to come, yet realized by the community of God's people in particular times and places.

Your gifts to the Peacemaking Offering help your community and others realize God's sovereign reign of peace—even in the midst of a violence-torn world. Twenty-five percent of the Offering is retained by the congregation. Twenty-five percent is used by regional presbyteries and synods to bear witness to God's justice and peace. Fifty percent of the Offering is directed to the national church's witness and work in peacemaking. Your gifts change the world. Please give generously.

## **Honduran Presbyterian Mission/Heifer Project Workers** **Coming to New Castle Presbytery**

On Thursday, September 25th, Presbyterian Church (USA) mission workers Tim and Gloria Wheeler will be visiting Limestone Presbyterian Church for a covered dish, potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. At 7:00 p.m., they will present a fascinating, first-hand account of the ongoing mission work in Honduras. The Wheelers are the missionaries who hosted New Castle Presbyterians (from Limestone, Hanover, New Castle churches) on two recent mission trips to Honduras, and Carolyn Gillette has worked with them on six mission trips to that country. Tim and Gloria work for both the PC (USA) and Heifer Project International. Heifer Project provides farm animals and training in their care to rural families, as well as better housing, school construction, health care, and much more. Gloria is a native of Honduras and Tim is from the United States, and while they are back in the U.S. for several weeks, they have graciously offered to visit New Castle Presbytery to talk about their work in some of the poor, rural communities of Honduras over many years. You can read more about them on the national PCUSA Missions website: <http://www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/profiles/wheelert.htm>. This presentation and time for discussion will help you understand the difference that our mission support is already making around the world. Bring a main dish, salad, or dessert to share, and welcome the Wheelers to our Presbytery. A map and direction to Limestone can be found at <http://www.limestonepresbyterian.org/map.htm> Join us!

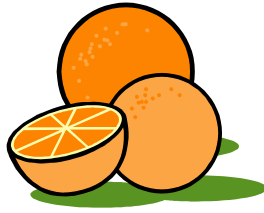


## **Annual Clothing Drive**

We will be collecting items for Friendship House's Clothing Bank of Delaware throughout the month of September. All clothing items and bed linens are welcomed, especially children's, men's, and larger-sized, work appropriate women's clothing. It is important that donations be clean and in 'wearable' condition.

All donations should be bagged (large garbage bags work well) and left in the Christian Education building in Room 205 during office hours (Mon–Fri 8:30 am–12:30 pm) or after church on Sundays. If climbing stairs is a problem, simply leave your donations on the first floor making sure that the bags do not interfere with normal traffic. Tax donation slips will be available along with a guide to help determine the value of donated items.

If you need additional information, please contact Conchita Showell or Janet Spring.



## Seamen's Center

The Mission and Outreach Committee would like to remind everyone that we will again be supporting the Seamen's Center "Christmas at Sea" program this December. Last year the congregation provided 30 "ditty boxes," which included various items such as shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, candy, etc. We were also able to include hand knitted scarves and hats as part of 1,300 "ditty boxes" given to seamen arriving by ship during December. This is a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to be part of the "bigger world" as we share our resources of time and talents during the Christmas season.

Each year members of the congregation are invited to tour the Seamen's center and port when we deliver the boxes. The Seamen's center feels blessed to have our support. ***Grab an orange*** in the C.E. building if you wish to participate. The orange signifies that most orange juice in the U.S. enters through the port of Wilmington.

If anyone has questions about the program please contact Ellie Gerhart (302-328-0908.) We hope that we will be able to repeat last year's generosity.

## Volunteers for Membership Evangelism Teams

Would you like to see our congregation gain in new members? Would you be willing to give some time and energy to sharing our warm fellowship with others? We are looking for volunteers to serve on four special teams:

- Hospitality (welcoming and incorporating new members)
- Publicity (getting the word out through print and electronic resources)
- Events (developing events for the purpose of attracting new members)
- Neighborhoods (identifying particular neighborhoods and strategies for meeting their needs)

*Share the good news of NCPC! Sign up today!*



## **Adult Education**

Take advantage of these stimulating opportunities:

Sundays at 9:30 Room 206:

Liberation Theology – find out what all the fuss is about. We will examine liberation theology, its underlying scripture and its applications for African Americans, women, Latin America, and others.

Wednesdays at 1:00 Fellowship Hall

The Parables of Jesus – See yourself in a new way through these enigmatic sayings and stories.

We continue with the parables of The Mustard Seed, The Weeds among the Wheat, and the Seed Growing Secretly (Matthew 13:24-32 and Mark 4:26-29) on September 24.

## **Spirit of Christmas**

Sign-up sheets are already available for Spirit of Christmas volunteer positions. We need every member to take part! Visit the Spirit of Christmas station today at the far end of the Fellowship Hall. Volunteer opportunities include making cookies, soup, or bread; selling food, crafts, books, or donated items; serving refreshments; greeting visitors at the Christian Education Building or Manse; making craft items; and other jobs. If you have any questions, contact Susan Flook (328-7346 or [suzieflook@hotmail.com](mailto:suzieflook@hotmail.com)).

## **Calling All Homemade Soup and Bread Makers**

We need your help again to make those delicious soups and breads for the 2008 Spirit of Christmas celebration. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Christian Education building for you to volunteer for this gift of love. Remember that the soup is to be freshly made, not frozen, and that the containers, lids, and labels will be on the church kitchen counter for you to take when you need them. There is a separate sheet for your help with the sales. **Thank you!**

## Weekly Schedule

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9/21</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Adult Bible Study</b>
		<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Worship &amp; Someplace Else</b>
		<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Congregational Meeting</b>
		<b>12:05pm</b>	<b>Fellowship Hour</b>
		<b>12:30pm</b>	<b>Youth Fellowship-Setup</b>
			<b>Pinwheels (until 2:30)</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>9/22</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Session</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9/23</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Presbytery @ Elkton P. C.</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9/24</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
		<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Choir</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9/25</b>	<b>6:45pm</b>	<b>Colonial Chimers</b>
		<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Al-Anon Meeting</b>
		<b>8:00pm</b>	<b>Celebration Ringers</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9/26</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>TGIF New Castle</b>
			<b>Shops and Museums Open</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9/27</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Tai Chi</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9/28</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Adult Bible Study</b>
		<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Worship &amp; Someplace Else</b>
		<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Fellowship Hour</b>
		<b>12:30pm</b>	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>