

Seventh Sunday of Easter  
Sunday, May 29, 2022  
10:30 AM



Paul and Silas in Jail

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City  
Rev. Dan McKenty - Pastor

**"When the Chains Come Off"**

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**Hours: 9:00 – Noon, Tuesday-Friday**

# Seventh Sunday of Easter

## Sunday, May 29, 2022

**We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds:** "The Church is the Church only when it exists for others...not dominating but helping and serving. It must tell men of every calling what it means to live for Christ, to exist for others." ~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer, "Letters and Papers from Prison"

### Ringling of the Church Bell Welcome and Announcements

**Call to Worship: Psalm 97: 1-6, 11, 12** (responsive)

**Deacon Karen Eberle**

The LORD is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

**Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**

Fire goes before him, and consumes his adversaries on every side.

**His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.**

The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth.

**The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory.**

Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

**Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name! Amen.**

### Prelude

**Choral Introit: "With Gladness and With Joyful Song"**

**\* Hymn: "Blessed Assurance" # 345**

**\* Passing the Peace**

### Sharing our Concerns, Joys, and Affirmations

**Prayer of Confession** (unison)

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask for your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God.**

**Current Prayer Concerns:** Ed Hurd, Margie Bauer Cramer, Woody Warren, Eric Richardson, Samantha Kilgore, Hannah Roberts, Janice Beckham, Jim Phillips, Lakelyn Draheim, Phil Steil, Bill Outten, Nancy Kaiser, Russ Shallcross, Carol Nelson, Joyce & Jack Vavrek, Jack Hood, Maggie Mazcho, Lynda, Martha Sekely, Terry Campanella, Bob Lebo, Tanya Ehlers, and Lydia Frasca.

**Those homebound or undergoing treatment:** John Snyder, Debra Latture

**Berlin Nursing Home:** For all those who we were unable to visit or sing with during this time of virus.

### Fellowship Hostesses Coming Up:

May 29	Marty Cropper & Sarah Dypsky
June 5	Jan Owens and Peggy Webster
June 12	Lisa Bayles and Beth Fisher
June 19	Sue Latour and Mary Snyder
June 26	Karen Eberle and Nancy Wright

### Food Pantry:

With the arrival of our J1 Students, our Food Pantry is being visited with increasing frequency. If you are able, please join us in helping our new, young neighbors. The following are our current needs. You may also scan the QR Code below to visit and purchase from our Amazon Wishlist. Purchases can be shipped directly to the church. Thank you for all you do to nurture our community!



Vienna Sausages	Mac 'n Cheese Cups
Boxed Milk	Spaghetti
Sunny D	Breakfast Fruit Bars
Cup of Noodles Soup	Cereal (Variety Packs)
Peanut Butter	Jelly
Spaghetti Sauce	
Snack Packs (Variety / Chocolate & Vanilla mixed)	

## Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Sun, May 29	Church Picnic after Worship!	11:45 AM
Sun, May 29	Boy Scout Troop # 2173	4:00 PM
Tues, May 31	CRU Orientation	4:30 PM
Wed, June 1	CRU Job Orientation	8:00 AM
Wed, June 1	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Wed, June 1	Girl Scouts # 812	6:00 PM
Thu, Jun 2	CRU Ministry Team Selection	7:30 PM
Fri, June 3	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM
Sat, June 4	CRU Men's Breakfast	8:00 AM
Sat, June 4	CRU Outreach Training	1:00 PM

**Birthdays:** Jan Owens (6/2) and Buzzy Bayles (6/4)

**Flowers:** *Flowers in the Chancel Vases are given:*

~ To remember and honor all the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the United States Armed Forces; particularly those who died while in battle or of injuries sustained while in battle. These brave men and women gave up their lives so that we may enjoy the many freedoms that we have. We are a grateful nation.

~ In honor of Dan and Tina McKenty and the celebration of their wedding anniversary tomorrow, May 30th and also to celebrate the beginning of year # 5 as Pastor Dan leads us as our shepherd. With many caring loving wishes from your "flock".

~ A basket of flowers is placed to honor of my husband Buzzy and the celebration of his birthday on June 4th. I am blessed and grateful that God has given me this faithful Christian man to share my life with. ~ Lisa

\*\* Chancel Vases are open **June 5th (2 vases)**. See Marty Cropper to dedicate flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one. \*\*

## Memorial Weekend Picnic TODAY!

Today, directly after Worship, we will host our Memorial Day Weekend Picnic!

Join us for scrumptious food and fellowship! If the weather cooperates, we will hold our picnic under the front portico. If the rain visits us, we will move inside. All are welcome!



Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Do not cast us away from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore us to the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Amen.

### Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Secure in the promise made by our Lord and Savior, we are given peace.

Secure in the promise made by our Lord and Savior, we are forgiven and redeemed. Thanks be to God.

### \* Gloria Patri (unison)

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.

### Invitation to the Offering

We give to the work of the church not out of obligation, but with joy and thanksgiving knowing our work to be pleasing to our Lord.

### \* Doxology (unison)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly Hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### Prayer of Dedication

Eternal God,  
who brings joy out of sorrow,  
plenty out of want,  
life out of death:  
we thank you for the treasures of the earth,  
your creation, filled with your blessing,  
for it was in company with these earthly things  
that your Son came to dwell,

showing us the enormity of your love.  
Because of Jesus' resurrection from the dead,  
we, too, are brought to new life,  
called to pray and work for the renewal of others.  
Take these offerings for the sake of the one without whom  
our poverty would be extreme,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Choral Anthem: "Speak O Lord"

#### Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Gracious and Eternal God, we come seeking the nurture of your Word that we may never hunger again. We come seeking your gift of living water that we may never thirst again. As we read and meditate upon your Word let it renew us to be better disciples of your Son, let it renew us to be better stewards of your creation. Let your Word embolden us to share your Word with others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

#### 1st Scripture Reading: Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21 [NRSV]

Beth LaBrunda

<sup>12</sup> "See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

<sup>14</sup> Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

<sup>16</sup> "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

<sup>17</sup> The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."  
And let everyone who hears say, "Come."  
And let everyone who is thirsty come.  
Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

"I ask not only on behalf of these  
but also on behalf of those who believe in me  
through their word,  
that they may all be one.  
As you, Father, are in me and I am in you,  
may they also be in us,  
so that the world may believe  
that you have sent me.  
The glory that you have given me  
I have given them,  
so that they may be one,  
as we are one,  
I in them  
and you in me,  
that they may become completely one,  
so that the world may know  
that you have sent me  
and have loved them  
even as you have loved me.  
Father, I desire that those also,  
whom you have given me,  
may be with me where I am,  
to see my glory, which you have given me  
because you loved me  
before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you,  
but I know you,  
and these know that you have sent me.  
I made your name known to them,  
and I will make it known,  
so that the love with which you have loved me  
may be in them  
and I in them."

John 17: 20-26

*“A voice is heard in Ramah,  
lamentation and bitter weeping.  
Rachel is weeping for her children;  
she refuses to be comforted for her children,  
because they are no more.”*

Eva Mireles

Nevaeh Bravo

Irma Garcia

Layla Salazar

Uziyah Garcia

Amerie Jo Garza

Jose Flores Jr.

Alithia Ramirez

Annabelle Guadalupe  
Rodriguez

Eliahana Cruz Torres

Eliahna Garcia

Rojelio Torres

Jacklyn Cazares

Jaliah Silguero

Jayce Carmel Louevanos

Alexandria Aniyah Rubio

Tess Mata

Makenna Lee Elrod

Xavier Lopez

Maite Yuleana Rodriguez

Miranda Mathis

<sup>20</sup> The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.”

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

<sup>21</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

## **2nd Scripture Reading: Acts 16: 16-34 [NRSV]**

**Rev. Dan McKenty**

### **Paul and Silas in Prison**

<sup>16</sup> One day as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a female slave who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup> While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” <sup>18</sup> She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

<sup>19</sup> But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. <sup>20</sup> When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men, these Jews, are disturbing our city <sup>21</sup> and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us, being Romans, to adopt or observe.” <sup>22</sup> The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup> After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup> Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was an earthquake so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup> When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had

escaped.<sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here."<sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.<sup>30</sup> Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"<sup>31</sup> They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."<sup>32</sup> They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.<sup>33</sup> At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay.<sup>34</sup> He brought them up into the house and set food before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

## Time with Children & Youth

Rev. Dan McKenty

### Sermon: "When the Chains Come Off"

Rev. Dan McKenty

### \* Hymn "O Happy Day" # 532

### Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our Lord Jesus prayed for us that we might be one.

Let us pray as one for the needs of the world, for the church, and for all with whom Jesus desires our unity, saying,

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

God, our lifeblood and our light, you show us your new creation every day. You feed and clothe us and give us joy in your good earth. We praise you—our home and our true blessing.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For unity among all peoples—

the body of Christ, rent by conflict, that we may be one;

for people of all faiths to honor one another; and for the end to religious hatred.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For peace among nations, between tribes, on school yards, in academic halls, within legislative bodies, and around kitchen tables in every home.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For the church's mission to proclaim the good news, that the world might know you; may the new life possible in faith break open all people to love one another.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of the earth and its creatures; for the oceans and rivers, heavens and depths, soil and dust; for plants and fish and birds and mammals, who together with ourselves are fed and blessed each day by the air, food, and water you provide.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

Or all who are stricken with disease or illness of body, soul or mind; That they find comfort and healing in your love.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.** And we pray for ....

For all people who cry out to you in this hardened time; for people who do not have work, those who have no safety net; those without dining tables or beds; those who do not have enough food.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

For the saints of all times and places, by whose faith and hope we have been nurtured in accord with Jesus' prayer for his people and our prayers for each other.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

It is to you Holy God that we come praying the words taught to us by our Lord. Listen as we say, **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.**

### \* Hymn: "God Be With You" # 602

### Charge

### Benediction

### Response and Postlude: "A Closing Prayer"