

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom 378



1 We wait the peace-ful king-dom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
 2 Where is the peace-ful king-dom? When will this new day start?
 3 When wars of des-o-la-tion and hate come to an end,
 4 That lit-tle child shall lead us to walk the cho-sen way,



in gen-tle-ness and friend-ship with-out a fear or sigh,
 We long for peace and com-fort to reign with-in each heart.
 when na-tion meets with na-tion and calls the oth-er "friend,"
 to share the peace-ful king-dom, to greet God's new-born day.



when li-on shall be graz-ing, when snake shall nev-er strike;
 Yet not in our lives on-ly, nor sim-ply in our home:
 still peace in all its full-ness will on-ly have be-gun:
 The child born in a sta-ble is sent to break our chains,



a lit-tle child shall lead us both strong and weak a-like.
 we pray that all cre-a-tion will one day find sha-lom.
 sha-lom for all cre-a-tion be-gins with jus-tice done.
 to bring through word and ta-ble the day when jus-tice reigns.

This text paraphrases Isaiah 11:6–9 in the first stanza, then reflects on that passage in widening frames of reference from self to all creation and identifies its "little child" with one born at Bethlehem. The tune is named for the composer's sister, his first piano teacher.

TEXT: Kathleen R. Moore, 2010
 MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1983
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 Music © 1983 Hope Publishing Company

MERLE'S TUNE
 7.6.7.6.D

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City

Pastor Debbie Johnson

Jacob Todd, Organist and Choirmaster

Office: ocmdpresbyterian@gmail.com

410-289-9340

www.ocmdpresbyterian.com

Office Hours: 9AM—12 Noon / Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Order of Worship: Sunday, September 29, 2024 19th Sunday after Pentecost - 10:30 AM

1301 Philadelphia Avenue
Ocean City, MD 21842

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: "When we treat ourselves as the gatekeepers of God's grace, the result is seldom neighborliness." - *The Rev. Stephen M. Fearing*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship:

Elder Chris Greenwood

Amid all the changes and chances of this world,
come now and worship God, the Creator,
who is faithful and can be trusted to be present with us.

Thanks be to God that we are not alone.

Come and open yourself to the liberating presence of God, who
in Christ calls all who follow to walk the path of peace.

**Teach us Your ways, O God, make them known to us. Let us
sing and worship the God of Peace.**

Choral Introit: "One Bread, One Body"

* Hymn: We All Are One in Jesus Christ

(Tune: In Christ There is no East or West) (Insert)

We all are one in Jesus Christ,
All one big family,
True followers of him in love,
And faith and unity.

We come from North, South, East and West
Each race and sex the same.
Hands joined in loyalty and love,
We gather in Christ's name.

Our minds and hearts are one in Christ,
As we're in service bound.
God's service for all humankind
Brings joy and love profound.

We all are one in Jesus Christ,

Congregation Financials as of August 31st, 2024:

- Year-to-date giving/income (\$100,845.92) from giving;
remainder from parking, building use, etc.): \$148,853.79

- Year-to-date disbursements: \$110,739.67

Note: A bookkeeping change was made to charge \$20,166 against Capital Improvement for the new windows installed in the Manse in 2023. Capital Improvement balance now stands at \$89,666.08.

Announcement for Bible study

We will continue our Bible study on the book of Philippians this
Thursday, October 10 at 11 AM in the Fellowship Hall
continuing discussion of Chapter one. All are welcome!

Ecumenical Prayer Service for Peace and Unity

The ecumenical group, AFFA (All Faith Friendship Association) is planning an Ecumenical Prayer Service **for Tuesday, October 22 under the pavilion at Stephen Decatur Park in Berlin from 5-6:30 pm.** The event will be intentionally non-partisan as we gather the community two weeks before the national election lifting prayers for peace, unity and empathy among our citizens. All members of all denominations are invited to attend. Pastor Debbie has been on the planning team for this event and will be participating.

Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Tues Oct 8	Session Meeting	1:00 PM
Wed Oct 9	Hand Bells Practice <i> canceled</i>	5:15 PM
Wed Oct 9	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Thu Oct 10	Bible Study—Philippians	11:00 AM
Fri Oct 11	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

Birthdays:

Flowers: *Chancel vase flowers are given:*

~ A basket of flowers is placed in memory of our father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Irv Mumford as he celebrates his 100th birthday on October 11th in Heaven with Juanita and Sue and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Irv was born on October 11, 1924, at Clara Barton Hospital in Los Angeles while his parents were on vacation from Portland, Oregon. Irv was a faithful member of our church for more than 60 years, serving as an Elder, a Trustee, member of the Session and as a Sunday School teacher. From David and Julie, Danny and Liz; Philip, Tamara, and little Fletcher; and Fletcher, Angie and Mikaela

Peace & Global Witness Offering

Enclosed in today's bulletin you will find information about the Peace & Global Witness offering of the PCUSA. It is received by many churches on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday in October. You can donate to this offering by using a credit card, and information to do that is on the back of the insert. This is one of 4 offerings currently being received by our denomination.

All one big family,
Throughout the world we do our work
In faith and unity.

*** Passing the Peace - *Please turn to your neighbor and pass the peace of Christ***

Call to Confession:

A word of anger breaks another's heart, a church's silence damages a family, a nation's anger can bring war and destruction. As individuals, as communities, as a world, we do not live as God's people, so let us bring our lives to our God, so forgiven, we might continue to seek to become one in Christ.

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

We confess, O God, that we know who the "enemy" is: those we cannot love because the hurt is too deep, those we identify by their difference from us, those we fear. We confess, O God, that we know hate all too well. Some of us have experienced it hearing it in the words of a curse, or sensing it in the tense silence of a cold or indifferent stare. Some of us have given in to its power or we find the closure of a "no" safer than the challenge a "yes" offers us. Yet we also confess that you call us to "yes." You remind us that the power of love is greater than the power of hate; and that as a people given the signs of the liberating cross and the affirming emptiness of the tomb, we can pray even for those we would deny prayer. We can seek peace even with those who would strike at us. Continue to guide us, in the way of peace, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: (responsive)

"For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says God, who has compassion on you." (Isaiah 54: 10)

In the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

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:

On World Communion Sunday, we are especially mindful of our connection to the global church, and our call to work for peace and justice. Our financial gifts add to our offerings of time, energy, and love as we seek to be people of peace and reconciliation. We have received in abundance from God. From that abundance, let us give, joyfully and generously.

Offertory

* **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:

Holy God, we trust in the provision of your love and the abundance of your grace. May the gifts we offer sow seeds of peace and justice. Enable us to use them according to your will, until each child finds welcome, and all of creation is healed and reconciled to you. Amen.

Choral Anthem: "My Tribute"

Prayer for Illumination: (unison)

Holy God, we trust in the provision of your love and the abundance of your grace. May the gifts we offer sow seeds of peace and justice. Enable us to use them according to your will, until each child finds welcome, and all of creation is healed and reconciled to you. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: Isaiah 2: 1-4 [NRSV]

Elder Nancy Wright

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.² In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.³ Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.⁴ He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning

Current Prayer Concerns:

Diane Ayres, Virginia Miller, Billie Jones, Marie McCallister, Thomas Simpson, Chris Hazard, Kent Mitchell, Hudson Day, Margy Kreppel, Amy Etheridge, Bonnie Hancock, Eric Richardson, Samantha Kilgore, Lydia Frasca, Diane Devanna, Larry (Black) Blackwell, Kathy Smith, Larry Steele, Mark Payne, Beth Miller, Pat and Ben Steele, Joey Martin, Robert Wilkins, Bob & Dee Lebo, and Margie Baugher-Cramer.

We will always seek to lift the prayer concerns from our church family and community. Please let us know if someone is in need of prayer by reaching out to Beth LaBrunda at 862-266-6939. Please also let us know when we can remove someone from our list.

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

Oct	13	Karen Eberle & Mabel Rogers
Oct	20	Beth Fisher & Peggy Webster
Oct	27	Ann Hales & Brenda Wilkinson
Nov	3	Barb & Betsy Kipila
Nov	10	Lisa Bayles & Jonelle Jones

Our next **Rummage Sale** will be held on **Saturday, October 12th, 2024** from 7AM—1PM

This will be the last sale until Spring 2025. If you have summer clothing, please save them until after the sale to bring. Help is always needed.

*** Hymn: "Unity"** Tune: Morning Has Broken
Pleasant and good it is when we gather,
kindred together, peace is pursued.
Precious as oil ordaining God's blessing,
life everlasting, ever-renewed!

Unity isn't simply avoiding
hard conversations we wish away.
Unity isn't always agreeing,
choosing neutrality every day.

Unity feeds each mouth that is hungry,
unity houses those without homes.
Unity cares for all of our neighbors,
bridges the chasm, mends broken bones.

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unity houses those without homes.
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bridges the chasm, mends broken bones.

Charge

Benediction (Responsive)

Postlude and Response: "Three-Fold Amen"

*Liturgy credit: Rev. Stephanie Sorge for The Presbyterian Outlook,
Lectionary Liturgies*

Pastor Debbie is now in Ocean City from **Sunday
through Thursday**. She is always available by texting
or calling:

843-568-6480

or via email:

djhj3675@gmail.com

hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.

Isaiah 11: 1-9 [NRSV]

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the girdle of his waist, and faithfulness the girdle of his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall feed; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The sucking child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

2nd Scripture Reading: Matthew 22: 34-40 [NRSV]

Pastor Debbie Johnson

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" ³⁷ He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

John 14:25-27 [NRSV]

²⁵ "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Ephesian 4: 25-32 [NRSV]

²⁵ So then, putting away falsehood, let each of you speak the truth with your neighbor, for we are members of one another. ²⁶ Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸ Those who steal must give up stealing; rather, let them labor, doing good work with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹ Let no evil talk come out of your mouths but only what is good for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹ Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Time with Children & Youth
Pastor Debbie Johnson

Sermon: "Shalom is More Than Just Peace"
Pastor Debbie Johnson

*** Hymn: "We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom"**
(back of bulletin)

Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed (unison)
We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;

through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
There is nothing more right than to give you thanks and
praise.....

Words of Institution

Communion of the People
The body of Christ broken for you.
The blood of Christ poured out for you

Prayer after Communion and the Lord's Prayer (unison)