

Sunday, June 16, 2024
4th Sunday after Pentecost
10:30 AM

BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS ...
LOVE JOY ★ **PEACE**
→ → → **PATIENCE**
kindness **GOODNESS** *faithfulness*
GENTLENESS & SELF-CONTROL
GALATIANS 5:22-23



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Pastor Debbie Johnson

"Big Enough"

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Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

Liturgy for Sunday, June 16, 2024

4th Sunday after Pentecost

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world" -*Nelson Mandela*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: CRU Member Gabe Hui

What mysteries there are in God's world!

We, so sophisticated, stand in awe at the wonders of the natural world.

We look at the tiniest of seeds and wonder what will happen

From that small seed will grow a large shrub.

Although we consider our gifts to be small and insignificant,

God will use our gifts in miraculous ways.

Praise the God of small seeds and mighty power. Amen

Prelude

Choral Introit: "Jesus is Lord of All"

* Hymn: "Seek Ye First" # 42

* Passing the Peace

Sharing our Concerns, Joys, and Affirmations

Call to Confession

We long to live as God's people, yet in the very depths of our lives, we know how we have hurt those around us, through words and actions, as well as from indifference. But God hears us when we call, and answers with the grace we need. Let us pray together, as we confess our lives to our God..

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Lord Jesus Christ, we remember with gratitude those people who generously sowed the seeds of faith in our lives. Above all, we recognize how you have blessed our lives with the gift of the Holy Spirit so that our faith has miraculously and mysteriously grown. We confess the times we fail to involve ourselves in planting any seeds of faith in the lives of others; the times when our personal agendas become more important than yours; the times when we have denied others the opportunity to expand their faith through our lack of interest or involvement; the times when our lives become so entangled with the values of the world that we forget what you have

Current Prayer Concerns:

Marie McCallister, Thomas Simpson, Chris Hazard, Kent Mitchell, Hudson Day, Margy Kreppel, Amy Etheridge, Bonnie Hancock, Eric Richardson, Samantha Kilgore, Bob Lebo, Lydia Frasca, Diane Devanna, Larry (Black) Blackwell, Lake Scott, Bryan Wayne-Records, Kathy Smith, Larry Steele, Margie Baugher Cramer, Mark Payne, Beth Miller, Pat and Ben Steele, and Joey Martin.

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

June	23	Ann Hales & Marty Cropper
June	30	Barbara & Betsy Kipila
July	7	Lisa Bayles & Jonelle Jones
July	14	Dawn Butler & Sue Latour
July	21	Vickie Cairns & Jan Owens
July	28	Brenda Wilkinson & Carol Reese

[CRU farewell Picnic](#)

Session Minutes

We will now be posting Minutes of the Session Meeting after they have been approved at the next meeting.

You will find them on the hall bulletin board.

Pastor Debbie's Contact Information

Cell: 843-568-6480

Email: djhj3675@gmail.com

You can call or text her. Pastor Debbie will be in Ocean City on Tuesdays and Sundays.

Welcome—Soli Deo Gloria

Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Sun	June	16	Boy Scouts Troop 2173	4:00	PM
Sun	June	16	CRU - Fellowship Hall - Prayer	7:30	PM
Mon	June	17	CRU - Fellowship Hall	6:00	PM
Tues	June	18	Book Club <i>(Note Time Change)</i>	10:00	AM
Tues	June	19	Int'l Student Breakfast	7:30	AM
Wed	June	19	Hand Bells Practice	5:00	PM
Wed	June	19	Choir Practice	6:00	PM
Fri	June	21	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00	PM

Birthdays: *Kelsey Warren (6/19) John Snyder (6/22)*

Flowers:

Chancel Vase Flowers are given to the Glory of our Resurrected Lord and in loving memory of our brother J.G. Midgett as he celebrates his heavenly birthday on June 20th. So many happy memories of our brother bring smiles to our faces.

~ Mabel, Debbie, and Pearl

Book Club:

The Book Club will be meeting this **Tuesday, June 18 at 10:00 AM** We're reading "A Thousand Voices" by Lisa Wingate. We'd love to have you join us!

Narcan Training:

The Worcester County Health Department has offered to provide us Narcan Training, The class will be scheduled to occur during the weekday business hours. We will update you once the date has been set. There is a sign-up sheet on the glass table, to let us know if you're interested.

Congregation Financials as of May 31st, 2024:

- Year-to-date giving/income (\$70,139. from giving; remainder from parking, building use, etc.): \$83,695.61

- Year-to-date disbursements: \$63,197.04

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.

said and done and promised. Lord Jesus Christ, we know that when we become disconnected from you, our lives become parched and unfruitful and our faith becomes stunted and dry. Bless and renew our lives, we pray, so that we remain connected to you at all times and in all places, strengthening our faith to expand and, growing strongly and vigorously, to bear the fruit of your mercy, your love, your undying life. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

This is the good news: no longer must we walk the old paths of sin and death. Christ has come to take our old ways on himself, and to fill us with new life in God.

Now, we know we are forgiven;
now, we know we are at peace;
now, we can step forward in faith,
to live with our God forever. Amen.

* 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

Paul reminds us that generosity is a fruit of the Spirit. Let us generously share of the gifts we have been given. Let us present our offerings to God.

* 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

Let us remember those seeds of love, hope, grace, and peace which we carry in our hearts and souls, as well as our wallets and purses, so that in remembering, we would offer them to our God for use in the work of reconciliation and hope. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Choral Anthem "God is So Good"

Faith Testimony from CRU

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Prepare our hearts and minds for the hearing of your Word, Holy God. Open us to your truth. Humble us to your way. Amen

1st Scripture: Ezekiel 17: 22-24 [NRSV]

CRU Member Savannah Riddick

²² Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender shoot from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will transplant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³ On the mountain height of Israel I will transplant it, and it will produce boughs and bear fruit and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴ All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree; I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

2nd Scripture Reading: Mark 4: 26-34 [NRSV]

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²⁶ He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground ²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸ The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come."

³⁰ He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it; ³⁴ he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Time with Children & Youth

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Sermon: "Big Enough"

A sermon by The Rev. Stephen McKinney-Whitaker, currently pastor of the Derry Presbyterian Church in Hershey, PA

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* Hymn: "Christ, You Walked Among the Grain Fields" (Familiar Tune)

Christ, you walked among the grain fields, Finding lessons all around: "Like the harvest that the earth yields, So God's kingdom will abound." "See! A sower goes out planting; Some seed grows a hundredfold." Here on earth you gave us heaven In the stories that you told.

Lord, you shared God's kingdom-bounty, Yet you know our pain and need. Some are poor in lands of plenty, Often hurt by others' greed. Some, possessed by their possessions, Look for more to buy and keep; Others long for simpler blessings: "Let my hungry children eat."

Lord, you send us out to labor, To pass on the love you give; City friend and country neighbor Work as one so all may live. Lending land and tools and vision, Sharing costs and planting seed — Work we love becomes our mission As we serve your world in need.

May our harvest celebration Build new food security; As we care for your creation, May we find community. By your Holy Spirit bless us And may what we grow increase Till the whole world sees new glimpses Of your joyful banquet feast.

* Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles Creed (unison)

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.

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

* Hymn: "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" # 280

Charge (Responsive)

Now go as God's seeds of reconciliation.

We will plant reconciliation in all the broken places and people.

Now go as Christ's hands of forgiveness.

We will embrace everyone we meet with mercy and hope.

Now go as the Spirit's eyes of love.

We will see each person as our sister and brother.

Benediction

Postlude and Response: "Go Into the World"

Liturgy credit: The Presbyterian Outlook, Lectionary Liturgies, Worshipblogspot