

OCEAN VIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
67 Central Ave., Ocean View DE 19970  
September 13, 2020



*SILENT MEDITATION*

*Romans 14: 7-12 (paraphrase; Pastor Terry)*

*No-one of you lives toward yourself; nobody dies toward themself! No; if we are living, we live toward God. If we die, we die toward God. So, whether living or dying, we are God's. That's why Christ died, and lives again: in order to be Lord of the dead and the living. You! – why do you judge your brother? And You! – why do you disdain your sister? All of us will stand before God's judgment. It's written! "I live", says the Lord, "therefore every knee shall bend toward me, and all tongues shall praise God".*

*Sooo... every one of us will give an account of ourselves, to God.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

L: You are merciful and gracious, O Lord our God; slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**C: Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

L: You forgive all our iniquities and heal all our diseases.

**C: Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

L: You satisfy us with good, and renew our youth like the eagles'.

**C: Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

**ALL: This is our God, the holy One; let us come before God with thanksgiving, and offer our praise!**

### REFLECTION ON OUR COMMON HUMANITY

Merciful God, you have given us your great promises, to preserve us from harm, to spare us from evil. To save us from death, to be our God in every pass and every pleasure. In your Scripture and in Jesus our Lord you show us the way of health and of righteousness. You change our lives, to preserve them.

**Yet in this time of separation, and even of isolation, we stray from the path. We close our hearts; we say harsh words of judgment and condemnation; we empty your world of your love, for our own sakes. We nurture grievance and hatred, blind toward our sisters and brothers, and their suffering.**

Yet you are a God of great forgiveness, of great forbearance, of great love. Guide us back to your way, to the desire for justice and joy, for all peoples.

**Help us choose the narrow way, the harder way, the way Jesus walked. Help us to put others first, as He did; to be healers in our world, as He was; to speak the truth in love, as He taught.**

In this season of loneliness, refresh our love for each other, and above all for you;

**Send down your love and feed us, we pray, with righteousness; in Jesus' name and for His sake. AMEN.**

Friends, as far as Atlantic to Pacific, Rio Grande to St. Lawrence, so far will God remove wrongdoing from us!

**Thanks be to God!**

### PRAYER RESPONSE

Kathy Rhodes

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OT READING

Exodus 14: 19-31

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 18: 21-35

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Judgment? That's God's.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**God saves the world through Jesus. Those who call on that name will have life. Christ's hand reaches out beyond those who say "Lord", to all who live in the atmosphere of faith, even to the farthest stars and planets of all creation. The boundaries of God's love are not known; the Spirit works at the ends of the world, before the church has there spoken a word. God will renew the world through Jesus, who will put all unrighteousness out, purify the works of human hands, and perfect their fellowship in divine love. Christ will wipe away every tear; death shall be no more. There will be a new heaven and a new earth, and all creation will be filled with God's glory. AMEN**

CONCERNS AND JOYS: Please email, text or call your concerns directly to Pastor Terry at:

Cell: 862-432-1196

Office: 302-539-3455

tdougherty@ovpc.org

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORDS PRAYER

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

DOXOLOGY #606

Kathy Rhodes

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DEDICATION

CHARGE

BLESSING

We respectfully remind you of the ongoing expenses of our ministry, and of our beautiful campus. Please continue to donate. We can receive your donation by regular mail. If you need to drop your donation off, come to the office Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and make sure we know. You may also donate through Pay Pal; please see our website, ovpc.org.

“May our gifts be a source of light, in a world that has learned to love darkness.”

**LITURGIST** – The elder leading the service today is Bob Wolf.

**SCRIPTURES** today are presented by Bob Turner and Bob Wolf.

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS** are given today by Marie and Jim Waehler, in loving memory of our parents.

**There will be preservice music beginning at 9:20 for the live streaming service.  
 This will continue until we are back together again.  
 The service will begin at 9:30 as usual.**

**Looking Ahead:**

Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Isaiah 49: 13-18, Psalm 1  
 1 Peter 3: 8-17, Matthew 5: 1-14

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
 FOCUS ON THE MATTHEW-25 INITIATIVE**

Starting September 20<sup>th</sup>, during the Christian Ed hour, in conjunction with the Mission Committee, we will begin a five-week series focused on the PC(USA)’s initiative about MATTHEW-25. These meetings will be held over Zoom (details below).

Matthew 25:31–46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. To that end, PC(USA) has invited Synods, Presbyteries, and individual congregations to affirm their support — to be counted as a Matthew-25 group.

Over these several weeks, we will hear more about this Matthew-25 initiative — the context of the initiative and the three component parts:

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MATTHEW-25 TOPIC</b>
September 20th	An overview of the initiative and the status within the Presbytery. Leader: Rev. Dr. Tracy Keenan, NCP Missional Presbyter
September 27th	Discussion about <b>Congregational Vitality</b> . Leader: Jen Read
October 4th	Discussion on Dismantling Structural Racism. Leader: Marlene Quinn
October 18th	Discussion on <b>Eradicating Systemic Poverty</b> . Leaders: Bev Bailey and Dale Smith
October 25th	Next steps: what Matthew-25 means to OVPC. Leader: Bev Bailey
	ZOOM meeting details for <b>all</b> dates: Meeting ID: 831 8781 2011 Passcode: 327614 dial-in: 929.205.6099

More information about the Matthew-25 initiative can be found online at [presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25](http://presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25)

**PRAYER LIST**  
**September 13, 2020**

Khaled & Nouha Dabaj, their  
children, and mother Nohad  
John Doherty  
Alex Rhodes  
Ainslie & Keith Peoples  
Rev. Dave Lovelace  
Brian DeFazio  
Frank Cook  
Pete Wells  
Woodruff Family

Chuck and Sherri Weymer  
Gina  
Laurie Linard  
Charlotte Wheatley  
Joni & Ray Keller  
Ray Keller, Jr.  
Tom Murray  
Betsy Henifin & Family  
Dick Register  
Donna Stitz  
Evy Symer

Patrick Kennedy  
Charlie O'Niell and Family  
Ray Stancill  
Elaine Jackson  
Dottie Nicholson  
Kasey  
Jim Dudley  
Charles Berry  
Tracy Higdon  
Dave Sergison & Family

If you need prayer for whatever reason, call Kathy Sheetz (302-539-2827) to initiate a chain of prayers. Please contact the office at 302-539-3455 or email @ [office@ovpc.org](mailto:office@ovpc.org) to update the prayer list.  
Thank you!

❖ Our **Stephen Ministers** have continued their bi-monthly ministry meetings. If any of you are feeling especially distressed during this time, one of our Stephen Ministers can meet with you via phone or via video. Please call Elaine Smith for a referral.

**Calling all volunteers!**

As OVPC continues plans to re-open for services in phases, we are asking for volunteers to help disinfect surfaces in the sanctuary and the restrooms in Fellowship Center and Memorial Hall before (Saturday) and after each service. If you'd be interested in helping out, please contact Lori at the church office 302-539-3499 or email [www.office@ovpc.org](mailto:www.office@ovpc.org).

All supplies including masks and gloves are provided.

**Ushers Needed**

We need three ushers each Sunday. Please consider this important way to serve your church.

We have worked diligently to enable the ushers to remain safe.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Judy at

[Rjandjudyann@yahoo.com](mailto:Rjandjudyann@yahoo.com) or 302 547 6424.

**Fellowship Hour**

Fellowship Coffee Hour Second Sunday of the Month!

Please join us for our first virtual Coffee Hour (via Zoom) this Sunday, 9/13 at 10:30 am. Once we have gathered, we will use the Zoom Breakout Group capability to split off into several small groups for a period of more intimate fellowship. Then, we will come back together to wrap up.

Grab your own coffee and goodies and enjoy the fellowship!

The Zoom meeting details are as follows:

Meeting ID: 82622196711

Pass Code: 250790

Elaine Smith Moderator; Women's' Circle

**Deacons' Mission Project for September 2020**  
**Milford Housing Development Corporation**

For the past several years, the Deacons have provided financial support to the Milford Housing Development Corporation (MHDC), a value-driven, non-profit housing developer, headquartered in Milford, DE and will continue doing so in September.

The mission of MHDC is to provide decent, safe, and affordable housing solutions to people of modest means. MHDC was founded in 1977 by a group of concerned local citizens who saw a need for affordable housing in the community and took action.

OVPC is involved in the MHDC Home Repair Division (HRD). Here is how the Home Repair Division works:

1. The client (homeowner) makes an application with MHDC and are evaluated for need, income, age, and physical condition of the property.
2. A representative from MHDC goes to the property to see what the client wants repaired, takes photos, and reports back to the HRD Committee.
3. The committee reviews all the applications and decides which job will get done. There is no charge to the client for the repair. None of the work done is cosmetic but is done to keep people living safely in their home.
4. The project is then given to OVPC, headed by Herb Sheetz, to perform the work.

Most of the MHDC's funds for the HRD have come from the DE Housing Authority, however four years ago the Housing Authority told MHDC that any future repair projects that their money funded could not be done by volunteer labor but that all work had to be performed by a licensed contractor. If the funds come from a source other than the Housing Authority, then MHDC could use Herb's OVPC volunteer team to do the work.

All offerings received in the September Deacon's Mission for MHDC will be earmarked for the HRD and Herb's team will be able to do projects funded by this mission.

Additionally, Herb is always looking for volunteers to join his team and help with the work. You do not need specific skills or tools, just a willingness to lend a hand and make someone's life a little better. Please consider a generous donation to this important mission anytime during the month of September.

Thank you for your generosity.

**Please Hold the Date!**  
**Crop walk October 18<sup>th</sup>**

The Crop walk this year will take place at Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission Church, 35318 Church Road, Frankford, DE 19945. We will practice social distancing while walking the parking lot. Please contact Bob Dougherty for information @ robreet@gmail.com.

# Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> Scriptures

**Exodus 14:19-31**<sup>19</sup> The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. **20** It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. **21** Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. **22** The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. **23** The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. **24** At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. **25** He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." **26** Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." **27** So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. **28** The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. **29** But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. **30** Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. **31** Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

## **Matthew 18:21-35**

**21** Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"  
**22** Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times."  
**23** "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.  
**24** When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him;  
**25** and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.  
**26** So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything."  
**27** And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.  
**28** But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe."  
**29** Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you."  
**30** But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.  
**31** When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.  
**32** Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.  
**33** Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?"  
**34** And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.  
**35** So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

**Ocean View Presbyterian Church**

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