



THE PARABLES OF JESUS

Feasting at the Banquet

And we believe that radically ordinary hospitality depends on the family of God knowing where to gather, knowing how to be organic and spontaneous with Scripture and open arms. And we do it because the purpose of radically ordinary hospitality is to take the hand of a stranger and put it in the hand of the Savior, to bridge hostile worlds, and to add to the family of God.

Rosaria Butterfield

ORDER OF WORSHIP | MAY 5, 2024

The playing of the chimes is a signal that the hour of our corporate worship has begun. During this time, we invite you to silently prepare your hearts praise our Triune God to whom belongs all glory, power, and majesty.
(Please silence all phones and non-medical electronic devices.)

Hearing support is available. Please, ask an usher, audio technician, or Deacon Norm Marks.

Children are welcome to remain in worship with us. In Room 103 Infants/Toddler Nursery will be open at 10:30am. Room 100 is available throughout the whole service for children 2–3 years old. The lesson won't start until the sermon begins. Jr. Church (4yrs to 2nd grade) does not meet on Communion Sundays.

Gluten-free bread (in small, clear, zippered bags) is available for communion.

Welcome

PASTOR BARBER

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Prelude — Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
(Trad. American Melody; arr. Philip Keveren)

KEVIN FREER, Cello

❖ GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship — Psalm 98:1a; 24:1–4 (ESV, NRSV)

PASTOR BARBER

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

People: The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;

Pastor: for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

People: Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

Pastor: And who shall stand in his holy place?

All: Those who have cleans hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

❖ Psalm (music next pages) — O Sing a New Song to the Lord (Ps. 98:1–4)

❖ stand if able

O Sing a New Song to the Lord

Psalm 98:1-4

Psalm 98:1-4

DESERT (LYNGHAM)
Thomas Jarman, c. 1803

O sing a new song to the Lord
The Lord's sal - va - tion is re - vealed
He called to mind His faith - ful - ness,
O all the earth, shout to the Lord,

For won - ders He has done; For won - ders He has done;
For He has made it known; For He has made it known;
His love to Isr' - el's house; His love to Isr' - el's house;
And make a joy - ful sound. And make a joy - ful sound.

By His right hand and ho - ly arm
He to the na - tions of the world
The great sal - va - tion of our God
Lift up your voice a - loud to Him;

He vic - to - ry has won, He
 His right - eous - ness has shown. His
 Is seen the earth through - out. Is
 Sing praise, let joy re - sound. Sing

He vic - to - ry has won, He vic - to - ry has
 His right - eous - ness has shown. His right - eous - ness has
 Is seen the earth through - out. Is seen the earth through -
 Sing praise, let joy re - sound. Sing praise, let joy re -

vic - to - ry has won. He vic - to - ry has won.
 right - eous - ness has shown. His right - eous - ness has shown.
 seen the earth through - out. Is seen the earth through - out.
 praise, let joy re - sound. Sing praise, let joy re - sound.

won. He vic - to - ry has won, He vic - to - ry has won.
 shown. His right - teous - nes has shown, He right - teous - ness has shown.
 out. Is seen the earth through - out. Is seen the earth through - out.
 sound. Sing praise, let joy re - sound. Sing praise, let joy re - sound.

PASTOR EVANS

❖ **PRAYER OF INVOCATION (followed by 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 the evil one. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

❖ **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The Westminster Shorter Catechism (The Means of Grace : Prayer :
Exposition of the Lord's Prayer)

Q. 102. What do we pray for in the second request?

A. In the second request (*your kingdom come*) we pray that Satan's kingdom may be destroyed, that the kingdom of grace may be advanced, with ourselves and others brought into it and kept in it, and that the kingdom of glory may come quickly.

❖ **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Old Testament reading — Isaiah 25:6–9 (Pew Bible, p. 745)

- 6 On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
 a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
 of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.
- 7 And he will swallow up on this mountain
 the covering that is cast over all peoples,
 the veil that is spread over all nations.
- 8 He will swallow up death forever;
 and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
 and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the
 earth,
 for the LORD has spoken.
- 9 It will be said on that day,
 “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he
 might save us.
 This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
 let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN **(followed by Private Confession of Sin)**

Our Heavenly Father, you have clearly told us in your Word that you have blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ and chosen us in him before you even created the world, to be holy and blameless in your sight. We are thankful for our high position in Christ. But we confess to you that we have failed to live up to the holy and blameless position. [continues next page]

ELDER
ALAN BEATTIE

PASTOR EVANS

We have sinned daily against your divine majesty by thought, word and deed. We confess that our sins are the reason Jesus suffered and died. Forgive us for our manifold sins against you and cause us to grow into the person you created each of us to be by the power of your blessed Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name we pray.

Assurance of Pardon

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

Jeremiah 34:33–34 (Pew Bible, p. 837)

WE LIVE OUT OUR MISSION and PASTORAL PRAYER

WE GIVE TO THE ONE WHO HAS GIVEN US EVERYTHING



You can also give online on our website, through the app Vanco Mobile, or mail a check to the office (if it is for the Deacons Fund, please note on the memo).

KEVIN FREER,
Cello

Offertory Response — Be Thou My Vision
(Irish Folk Tune; arr. by Philip Keveren)

❖ Hymn (Trinity #530) — Lord, I Want to Be a Christian (music next page)

*Children are welcome to remain in worship with us. Children 2 and 3 years old may go to Beginner Bible in room 100. Parents please pick up children after the service.
There is no Junior Church (4yrs to 2nd grade) on Communion Sundays.*

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

530

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation. 1 Pet. 2:2

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris - tian in my heart, in my heart.
2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart.
3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart.
4. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be a Chris - tian in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart, in my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Chris - tian in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

GOD EXHORTS THROUGH THE WORD AND WE SING

Feasting at the Banquet — Luke 14:7–24 (Pew Bible, p. 1111)

⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place.

¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the man who had invited him, “When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid.

¹³But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

¹⁵When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” ¹⁶But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. ¹⁷And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ ¹⁸But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ ¹⁹And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ ²⁰And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’

[continues next page]

²¹ So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ ²² And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ ²³ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. ²⁴ For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

❖ Hymn (Trinity #469, vv. 1–4) — How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place
(music p. 11)

WE COMMUNE WITH GOD IN THE LORD’S SUPPER AND WE SING

We offer both wine and grape juice during the Lord’s Supper. Wine will be placed on the outer ring of the tray, and grape juice will be placed on the inner ring of the tray.

Gluten-free bread (in small, clear, zippered bags) is available for communion.

It Is Well with My Soul (Philip P. Bliss; arr. Philip Keveren)

There Is a Balm in Gilead (BALM IN GILEAD; Trad. Spiritual; arr. J. L. Strong)

Hymn (Trinity #498) — Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners! (music p. 12)

The Deacons Offering

When we celebrate communion on the first Sunday of the month we also have a this special collection for the Deacons Fund. These funds are reserved exclusively for needs of mercy to all people, but especially to those in the family of believers. Our deacons disperse these funds as needed as a tangible expression of our communion in Christ and love for one another.

❖ **GOD SENDS US OUT WITH HIS BLESSING**

GRACE & PEACE Choir Rehearsal — 4–5pm

SUNDAY CELEBRATION — 5–7pm (includes Fellowship Groups, Young Adults, Youth Group, and Children’s Ministry)

KEVIN FREER, Cello

PASTOR BARBER

How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place

469

A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. Luke 14:16

1. How sweet and awe - some is the place
2. While all our hearts and all our songs
3. "Why was I made to hear your voice,
4. 'Twas the same love that spread the feast

with Christ with - in the doors, while ev - er - last - ing
join to ad - mire the feast, each of us cries, with
and en - ter while there's room, when thou - sands make a
that sweet - ly drew us in; else we had still re -

love dis - plays the choic - est of her stores.
thank - ful tongue, "Lord, why was I a guest?
wretch - ed choice, and rath - er starve than come?"
fused to taste, and per - ished in our sin.

A friend of... "sinners." Matt. 11:19

1. Je - sus! what a Friend for sin - ners! Je - sus! lov - er of my soul;
 2. Je - sus! what a strength in weak - ness! Let me hide my - self in him;
 3. Je - sus! what a help in sor - row! While the bil - lows o'er me roll,
 4. Je - sus! what a guide and keep - er! While the tem - pest still is high,
 5. Je - sus! I do now re - ceive him, more than all in him I find;

friends may fail me, foes as - sail me, he, my Sav - ior, makes me whole.
 tempt - ed, tried, and some-times fail - ing, he, my strength, my vic - t'ry wins.
 • e - ven when my heart is break - ing, he, my com - fort, helps my soul.
 storms a - bout me, night o'er - takes me, he, my pi - lot, hears my cry.
 he hath grant - ed me for - give - ness, I am his, and he is mine.

REFRAIN

Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior! Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Friend!

Sav - ing, help - ing, keep - ing, lov - ing, he is with me to the end.



OUR MISSION We exist to change lives through sharing Christ.
We carry out this mission in three ways:

GATHER — we gather Christians together to worship God through Jesus Christ

MORNING WORSHIP—10:45AM

DISCIPLE — we make disciples and grow in our relationship with God and each other

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES—9:30AM

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY—Thursdays from 8:00–9:00AM in Room B202 and online. “Sojourners and Exiles” by Sinclair Ferguson.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP—Summer Study begins May 14, 7:00-8:30pm. “No Empty Word: Relentless Pursuit—A Study on Hosea”

SUNDAY CELEBRATION/FELLOWSHIP GROUPS—Meet tonight from 5-7pm. This is the last meeting until we resume again in September.

OFFICER NOMINATION PROCESS (May 1-June 30). Officer nomination forms are available at the information counter. Please see our newsletter for important information/instructions.

SEND — we are all Christ’s ambassadors that are sent into the world locally and globally

MISSIONARIES—Katy Abasciano, Cru Intern at University of New Hampshire (see our Missionary Highlight in this week’s online EPiC Newsletter)

A DOOR OF HOPE’S BABY BOTTLE BENEFIT—See newsletter for more information.

SOUNDS OF HOPE CONCERT—May 11, 6pm. A joint concert with choirs from EP and Wilmington Christian School, and chamber orchestra. The concert features Delaware’s premiere of Elaine Hagenberg’s Illuminare. Nursery provided.

YOUTH SUMMER MISSION TRIPS - Deadline to register is May 12th! Go to EP website on the youth page for more information and to register.

Attendance and Financial Information for April 28, 2024

SS: 146 - AM: 323 - PM: 191

General Fund

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Weekly Gifts Received | \$ 26,384.91 |
| Weekly Budgeted Requirements | \$ 22,240.08 |
| Year-to-Date Gifts Received | \$355,303.92 |
| Year-to-Date Requirements | \$378,081.36 |
| Year-to-Date Expenses | \$332,081.37 |
| Slides & Rides Fundraiser | \$35,693.94 |



**Evangelical
Presbyterian Church**
of NEWARK DELAWARE

**OUR MISSION IS TO CHANGE LIVES THROUGH SHARING CHRIST
BY GATHERING, DISCIPLING AND SENDING**

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Chad Barber, Senior Pastor (chad@epcnewark.org) • Rev. Don Post, Assistant Pastor (don@epcnewark.org)
Rev. Rick Gray, Pastor of International Ministry (rick@epcnewark.org) • Rev. Caleb Evans, Pastor of Youth and Families (caleb@epcnewark.org)
Dr. Higo Rodrigues, Music Director (higo@epcnewark.org) • Deborah Freer, Children's Ministry Director (deb@epcnewark.org)
Micah Freer, Pastoral Intern (micah@epcnewark.org) • Dot Griffin, Administrative Staff (dot@epcnewark.org)
Rev. LeRoy Greer, Custodian

THE SESSION

Moderator - Rev. Chad Barber • Clerk - Bill Zinkand²⁶ • Alan Beattie²⁵ • Bernie Cohen²⁴
Dwight Derby²⁵ • Dennis Dietrich²⁶ • Chuck Heidel²⁵ • David Rose²⁶ • Paul Veenema²⁶ • Bill Vinson²⁵
Brian Warshaw²⁵ • Guy Webster²⁴

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Chairman - Jared Guckenberger²⁶ • Vice Chairman - Eric Hayden²⁵ • Secretary - Ben Mallary²⁶
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Roger Jamieson²⁶ • Don Jones²⁴ • Norman Marks²⁴ • Dean Nairn²⁴ • David Visser²⁶

Missionaries and Benevolent Causes We Support

Mission to the World

Africa - Jim and Karen • Belgium - Jud and Jan Lamos (18.26 Network) • Chile - Verne and Alina Marshall
Cuba - Richard and Robyn Crane • England - Rob and Jenny Ilderton • France - James and Jacki Gildard
French Speaking Haiti/Africa - Thomas and Lucy Wright • Japan - Andrew and Megan Nairn • New Zealand - Steve and Rita Williams
Panama - Scott and Meghan Dillon • Ukraine - David and Jill Martin; Dal and Beth Stanton • Serving in Sensitive Areas - Phil and Barb

Agencies of the PCA

Committee on Administration • Committee on Discipleship Ministries • Covenant College • Covenant Seminary
Mission to the World • Mission to North America • Reformed University Fellowship • Ridge Haven

Other Christian Organizations

A Door of Hope • Cru - Katy Thomas (New Hampshire University) • Greater Europe Mission - Mark and Marti Mylin (France)
Harvest USA - Ellen Dykas • InterVarsity Christian Fellowship - Greg and Sandy Baker (UD) • Love, INC. (In the Name of Christ)
MNA - Brandon and Rebecca Farquhar (Church Planting in Norwalk, CT) • Navigators - TJ and KyongA Hayes
Pioneers - Scott and Jessica Weber • Reformed University Fellowship - Daryl Wattlely (DSU)
Reformed University Fellowship International - Graham and Emily Guo (UD)
Serge (formerly World Harvest) - Josh and Kristi, Jason and Ai Keuh (Japan)
Third Millennium - Gary and Phyllis Waldecker • Wycliffe - John and Judy Williams (Mexico) • Young Life

www.epcnewark.org

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