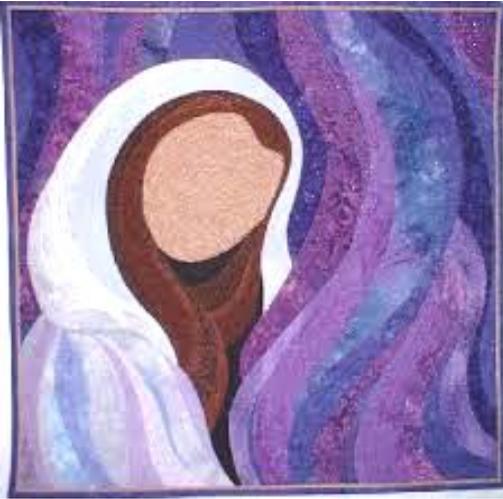


Worship Celebration: May 13, 2018
 EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church

9:15 a.m. (CONTEMPORARY)
 Ascension Sunday (Year B)



Welcome to Epworth Church on this blessed Ascension Sunday! This is the day when Jesus left the disciples and his followers, and ascended into heaven – to sit at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty! We conclude our *And Are We Yet Alive* sermon series today by looking at two women in the Bible who worked with Paul – Priscilla and Lydia. They help to teach us about how the early church was supported financially and prayerfully by the work of women. How appropriate for Mother’s Day! Today we will also take a special First Fruits Offering as the beginning gifts for our Capital Campaign are given and blessed. What a day of joy and witness to our God! We are blessed by your presence with us.

EPWORTH
 a United Methodist Church

19285 Holland Glade Road
 Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
 (302) 227-7743 ☪ www.cumcrb.org



VISION: Exploring Faith, Embracing Community
MISSION: Inviting All, Finding Your Place, Connecting to God, Demonstrating Care

☪ WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY ☪

Praise Gathering

WE WANT TO SEE JESUS LIFTED HIGH

*We want to see Jesus lifted high, a banner that flies across this land,
 That we all might see the truth and know He is the way to heaven.
 We want to see, we want to see, we want to see Jesus lifted high.
 We want to see, we want to see, we want to see Jesus lifted high.*

Step by step we’re moving forward, little by little taking ground.
 Ev’ry prayer a pow’rful weapon, strong-holds come tumbling down,
 And down, and down, and down. (*refrain 2x*)¹

Greeting, Sharing the Mission & Ministry of Epworth

Glenn

*Passing the Peace

*Singing in Praise

GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME

*God is good all the time He put a song of praise in this heart of mine;
God is good all the time through the darkest night His light will shine.
God is good, God is good all the time.*

If you're walking through the valley and there are shadows all around,
Do not fear, He will guide you; He will keep you safe and sound.
He has promised to never leave you or forsake you, and His Word is true. {Refrain}

We were sinners, so unworthy still for us He chose to die.
Filled us with His Holy Spirit; Now we can stand and testify that His love is everlasting,
And His mercies, they will never end. {Refrain}

*Though I may not understand all the plans You have for me,
My life is in Your hands, and through the eyes of faith I can clearly see*

*God is good all the time through the darkest night His light will shine.
God is good, God is good, God is good, He's so good, God is good, God is good all the time. ²*

Children's Celebration

Mickie McManamon and Gwen Osborne

☞ WE PREPARE FOR THE WORD ☛

BECAUSE HE LIVES, AMEN

I believe in the Son, I believe in the Risen One.
I believe I overcome by the power of His blood.

*Amen! Amen! I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives.
Amen! Amen! Let my song join the one that never ends, because He lives.*

☞ We Engage the Word ☛

New Testament Lesson

Acts 16:9-15

Carolyn Robinson

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony.

We remained in this city for some days.

On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.

A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth.

The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul.

When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.”
And she prevailed upon us.

Brothers and Sisters,

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

§Thanks be to God

BECAUSE HE LIVES (CONT)

I was dead in the grave, I was covered in sin and shame.
I heard mercy call my name. He rolled the stone away. {Refrain}

(Because He lives) I can face tomorrow.
Because He lives, ev'ry fear is gone.
I know He holds my life, my future in His hands. {Refrain}

TAG: Because He lives. ³

Sermon

And Are We Yet Alive: Priscilla & Lydia

Rev. Vicky Starnes

☞ WE RESPOND TO THE WORD ☞

Song of Response

THE LION AND THE LAMB

He's coming on the clouds; king and kingdoms will bow down
and ev'ry chain will break as broken hearts declare His praise,
for who can stop the Lord Almighty?

*Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah.
He's roaring with power and fighting our battles,
and ev'ry knee will bow before Him.
Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain
for the sin of the world; His blood breaks the chains,
and ev'ry knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb.
Oh, ev'ry knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb.*

So open up the gates, make way before the King of kings.
Our God, who comes to save, is here to set the captives free,
for who can stop the Lord Almighty? {Refrain}

Who can stop the Lord Almighty? Who can stop the Lord Almighty?
Who can stop the Lord Almighty? Who can stop the Lord Almighty?
Who can stop the Lord Almighty? Who can stop the Lord Almighty?
Oh, who can stop the Lord Almighty? Who can stop the Lord? {Refrain}

TAG: *Oh--- and ev'ry knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb!
Oh--- ev'ry knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb!* ⁴

Joys & Concerns

(Mics Go Out Today)

Glenn

Morning Prayer

For our mothers, who have given us life and love that we may show them reverence and love, we pray to the Lord.....

For mothers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends support and console them, we pray to the Lord...

For women, though without children of their own, who like mothers have nurtured and cared for us, we pray to the Lord...

For mothers, who have been unable to be a source of strength, who have not responded to their children and have not sustained their families, we pray to the Lord...

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you watch over your Church. Bless these women, that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Sung Responsively

FWS 2287

Invitation to Offering ~ Please sign the blue Connections Pad and pass it down the row.

Glenn

Offerings are given through cash and check, on-line giving, Texting at 302-488-0038 and by using our Giving Kiosk in the main lobby. There are Giving Cards in the pews to place in the plate, if you wish Bless your heart for supporting our ministries!

LIVE LIKE THAT

Sometimes I think, "What will people say of me when I'm only just a memory, when I'm home where my soul belongs?"

Was I "love" when no one else would show up?

Was I Jesus to the least of us?

Was my worship more than just a song?"

I wanna live like that, and give it all I have, so that everything I say and do points to You.

If Love is who I am, then this is where I stand: recklessly abandoned, never holding back.

I wanna live like that, yeah, I wanna live like that.

Am I proof that You are who You say You are, that grace can really change a heart?

Do I live like Your love is true?

People pass, and even if they don't know my name, is there evidence that I've been changed?

When they see me, do they see You? {Refrain}

I wanna show the world the love You gave for me.

I'm longing for the world to know the glory of the King.

TAG: I wanna live like that. ⁵

☞ We Are Sent into the World ☛

Vicky

*Benediction

*Sending Song

Old Church Choir

There's a revival and it's spreading like a wildfire in my heart.
A Sunday morning, hallelujah, and it's lasting all week long.
Can you hear it? Can you feel it? It's the rhythm of a gospel song.
Oh, once you choose it, you can't lose it.
There ain't nothing, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.

*I've got an old church choir singing in my soul.
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful.
I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored.
No, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.
No, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.*

When the valleys that I wander turn to mountains that I can't climb,
Oh, You are with me, You never leave me.
Oh, 'cause there ain't nothing, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy. {Refrain}

Clap your hands and stomp your feet 'til you find that gospel beat
'Cause He's all you'll ever need, all you'll ever need. (2X)

*I've got an old church choir singing in my soul.
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful.
I've got an old church choir singing in my soul.
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful.
I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored.
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.
No, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.
Oh, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.⁶*

**Please stand as you are able.*

Bulletins for the month of May are sponsored in loving memory of Robert Greenawalt's death 6 years ago, May 5, by his Wife and Family.

Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and:

- To celebrate their 14th wedding anniversary by Kelly & Doug Barber;
- In loving memory of Anne Briggs, 11/14/22 – 7/25/16, by the Jersten family.

Stephen Ministers, wearing blue name badges, will be at each service if anyone in the Epworth family wants to talk about any life challenges.

The special Peace Candle on the Chancel shines to remind us of God's desire for peace throughout our world and our call to be God's peacemakers.

DVD and Broadcast Ministries: All Church Service at Epworth are presented using multimedia technology. The screens above the Chancel area are used for text, videos, photographs and live cameras. Each service is digitally recorded for archive purposes as well as for distribution to our homebound members on DVD. These recording may also be broadcast or archived on our web page. Therefore; you may, at any time, be seen and recorded on camera - anywhere throughout the Sanctuary.

Acolyte Connor Camiolo

Sound Ken Mahan, Sharon Wert, Josh Megee, Arne Jerfsten, Karen Kaufman

Ushers Head Usher: Jim Blakeslee

Usher Coordinator – Worship Pathway:

9:30: Fred Gentry, Larry Zeigler, Coles Marsh, Maubra Randolph, Michael Fehrenbach, Carol Fehrenbach

Worship Resources

Song lyrics by permission of CCLI license no. 1019082.

¹ *We Want to See Jesus Lifted High*: Doug Horley ©1993 Kingsways Thankyou Music.

² *God Is Good All the Time*: Don Moen and Paul Overstreet ©1995 Integrity's Hosanna Music.

³ *Because He Lives, Amen*: William & Gloria Gaither, Daniel Carson, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Matt Maher & Jason Ingram ©2014 Hanna Street Music

⁴ *The Lion and the Lamb*: Brenton Brown, Leeland Mooring & Brian Johnson ©2015 Thankyou Music

⁵ *Live Like That*: Ben Glover, Ben McDonald & David Frey ©2011 Dayspring Music, LLC

⁶ *Old Church Choir*: Colby Wedgeworth, Ethan Hulse & Zach Williams ©2016 Anthems of Hope / Be Essential Songs

Ministers: The Church Family... *Lay Leader:* Gwen Osborne

Senior Pastor: Rev. Vicky Starnes ... *Associate Pastor:* Rev. Glenn Catley

Director of Music Ministries: Doug Yetter ... *Accompanist:* Linda Hess ... *Coordinator of Caring Ministries:* Mickie McManamon

Communications & Technologies Manager: Kenneth Mahan ... *Office Manager:* Darlene Ford

Special Projects: Debbie Hunt ... *Administrative Assistant:* Diana Young ... *Sound Tech:* Josh Megee

Preschool Director: Betsy Plowman ... *Nursery:* Cathy Crawford ... *Interim Cemetery Superintendent:* Jay Stevenson

Custodian: Wanda Hudson ... *Maintenance:* Mike Harrigan



EPWORTH
REHOBOTH BEACH
a United Methodist Church
Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

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Hearing Assist Devices are Available
Please see an Usher for assistance



American Sign
Language
at 9:15 Service



Affiliated with other
United Methodists for
greater inclusiveness
through the
Reconciling Ministries
Network
www.RMNetwork.org

worship@epworth
7:45 & 11:15 - Traditional 9:15 - Contemporary