



**PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

May 2, 2021 • 10:00 AM
Fifth Sunday of Eastertide
The Sacrament of Communion

PRELUDE

Nettleton

Paul Manz, arr.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the wilderness, water brings life.

People: Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.

Leader: In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

People: Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.

Leader: In the bread and the vine, the body of our Savior nourishes everyone.

People: Seek us out, O God, and bring us closer to you.

ALL: Come and praise our God who brings all goodness. Let us worship the Living God.

HYMN 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

*(1) Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!*

*(2) Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.*

*(3) O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.*

TEXT: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt.

MUSIC: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813

OPENING PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

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 evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit. We have not loved others as you have loved us. We have denied the promises of baptism and cut ourselves off from you. Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN 582 (v. 1) Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008
MUSIC: Paul M. Vasile, 2008
Text Adapt. and Music © 2008 Paul M. Vasile

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

LESSON FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT Acts 8:26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to

prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

SERMON “Why We Need Church”

The Reverend Dr. Ellen C. Clémot

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison)

from 1 John 3:11; 17-18; 23-24

For this message you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another...How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or by speech, but in truth and action...And this is his commandment, that we should believe in his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

I Am The Vine
Chancel Choir

Clifford McCormick

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

*(Our custom is to hold the bread until all have been served
and then to eat after the Pastor says,)*

Leader: Jesus said “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.” Ministering in the name of Christ, I offer you the bread.

(We hold the cup and drink together after the Pastor says,)

Leader: Jesus said, “I am the vine, you are the branches. Apart from me, you can do nothing. Abiding in my love, you will bear much fruit.” Ministering in the name of Christ, I offer you the cup.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*(1) Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*(2) All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.*

*(3) Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.*

TEXT: Henry van Dyke, 1907, alt.

MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1842, alt.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Finale and Fughetta

Johann Kaspar
Ferdinand Fischer

Today's worship service is being led by The Reverend Dr. Ellen C. Clémot
and assisted by The Reverend Thomas A. Brown.

Our cantor this morning is Douglas Clark.

Special thanks to Bob Eager, Dylan Mangel and Carlene Pruitt
today for their technical assistance .

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THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

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THE CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel Flowers today are presented to the Glory of God and in gratitude for the leadership that continues to guide PCCT through the difficult challenges of COVID, by Evan Skinner.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Sunday, May 2, 2021

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

Please join Pastor Ellen today at 11 a.m. for some virtual coffee and fellowship via Zoom. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know our new Senior Pastor and to catch up with old friends. All are welcome. Click [HERE](#) to join Zoom.

Meeting ID: 978 2578 8026

Passcode: Coffee

NEIGHBORHOOD FAMILY MISSION -Today!

Families of all configurations and ages are invited to a neighborhood mission event today. Starting with a BYO Outdoor Picnic Lunch at the home of Duncan & Katie Young, the group will then create Sidewalk Chalk Art at [Garden Terrace Nursing Home](#) in Chatham. Help us bring joy to local residents. Anyone who loves chalk art, or knows someone who does, is welcome to join us! All are welcome. We will meet today at the home of Duncan and Katie Young, 37 Elmwood Avenue, Chatham at 11:30 am.

WARMING WEATHER . . . SINGING TOGETHER TODAY!

We are excited to announce that the **Chancel Choir and Cantate singers** will begin in-person rehearsals after worship today! The Chancel Choir will maintain its Thursday evening Zoom rehearsal schedule with the additional option of in-person rehearsals after Sunday worship. Safety protocols will be followed.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: BRIDGES SERVICE PROJECT

Today from 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Help assemble sack suppers for Bridges today. We'll also have time for a game or two. Friends are welcome and all social distancing guidelines will be followed. Wear a mask and come ready for a good time! Sign up [HERE](#).

BIBLE STUDY

Remember to join on Wednesday at 10:30 am for Bible Study. To sign up, please go [HERE](#), or you can call the church office and let us know you would like to attend.

Meeting ID: 948 3878 2867

Passcode: Bible

FAMILY FRIDAY

Fridays are dedicated to Families and all God's children. The weekly video message is emailed to families at 12 noon every Friday and available on our [website](#) along with activities, future service projects and ways for families to participate in the life of the church.

BRIDGES: Friday, May 7, 4:00 - 4:30 pm

A Family Friendly event for all ages! Help us provide meals for hungry people on the streets in NYC. Simply [sign up](#) to purchase items, assemble sandwiches and sack suppers at home, and drop them off at the PCCT parking lot between 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. We will then deliver the sack suppers to [Bridges Outreach](#) who will ensure the most vulnerable homeless and food insecure receive a meal.

BLANKET SUNDAY: Mother's Day, May 9

Women's Ministries is again offering a unique way to honor our mothers and other important women in our lives. Beginning tomorrow, April 26 and through May 9, you can make a donation for blankets to be used for global disaster relief. For each \$10 donation, a blanket will be purchased for someone in need. In return for your donation, you will receive a lovely PCCT notecard with a message letting a special person know you made this donation in her honor. This year the cards may be picked up in the church office, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm. To learn more about Church World Service and Blanket Sunday, click [HERE](#).



FAITH FORWARD: Towards Mobilization of Communities for the Common Good Sunday, May 16, 11:00 am - 12:00 noon, via Zoom

This session will be hosted by The Rev. Craig Dunn, Senior Pastor of The First Baptist Church of Madison Presentation on the DMin Dissertation on Towards Mobilizing Communities for the Common Good: Moving from Transactional Action to Relational Gathering, a discussion on the strength of relationships to transform communities and churches. Mobilization ought to move beyond one off events at the height of a crisis, rather it ought to convene communities to discover the common good. Please register [HERE](#) to join and a Zoom link will be emailed to you.

FOOD COLLECTION AND SORTING: Sunday, May 23, 11:00 AM

Families of all ages and configurations are invited to help us collect and sort food to be delivered to the Community Food Pantry at [Chatham United Methodist Church](#). Make a difference and help provide for neighbors in need. Food sorting and hunger education will take place following the outdoor worship service that day.

ANNUAL MARLA DRURY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

In fond memory of long-time PCCT member Marla Drury, Women's Ministries created the Marla Drury Memorial Scholarship (MDMS), a \$1,000 scholarship awarded to any current HS senior or college student, male or female, who is an active PCCT member and exemplifies the same generous, giving spirit as Marla did. Applications are available [HERE](#) and the deadline is May 28. Contributions towards the funding of the scholarship are also welcome; make checks payable to PCCT, with MDMS in the memo line, or gifts may be made [online](#). Contact [Kristin Winter](#) with any questions.

FAMILY PROMISE - Save the Dates: May 16 - 22

Family Promise's traditional congregation-based shelter program will remain on hold throughout 2021. A generous grant is allowing them to shelter families in a motel equipped with full kitchens, including refrigerators, stoves and microwaves. Volunteers from host congregations such as ours will be providing meals. Our second "hosting" week is May 16 - 22. To register to provide a meal, either home cooked, delivered or in the form of a gift card to a local restaurant or Shop Rite, please click [HERE](#). Together, we can help Family Promise pursue their goal of "Ending Homelessness One Family At A Time."

BLOOD DRIVE

The Chatham Emergency Squad will be sponsoring a Blood Drive on May 22nd at Ogden Memorial Presbyterian Church - 286 Main Street. The drive will run from 8:30am - 2:30pm. Appointments are recommended and can be scheduled @ nybc.org/njdrive. The sponsor code is 61961. Donations are tremendously appreciated.