#### **OUR CHURCH**

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# THE LIBERTI NETWORK

www.liberti.org

Philadelphia | River Wards
Philadelphia | Fairmount
Philadelphia | Main Line
Philadelphia | Northeast
Bristol, PA
Harrisburg, PA
Glassboro, NJ
Glenside, PA | Bridge Community Church
Doylestown, PA | Covenant Church



seeks to live, speak, and serve as the very presence of Jesus for Collingswood and surrounding boroughs

# Welcome

**Welcome to Liberti Church Collingswood** and thank you for joining us! We hope that you'll be able to connect with God, God's mission, and other people here this morning. As you've already seen from the cover of this worship folder, we seek to live, speak, and serve as the very presence of Jesus for Collingswood and its surrounding boroughs. We aspire to pursue this mission through the practice of **worship**, **community**, and **mercy** - our three core values.

**Info Jawns!** Unless you've done it before, please take a second to fill out one of our "Info Jawns" and drop it in an offering box in the foyer as you exit the building. This information is really helpful for us to have as we grow as a community.

**Bathrooms** are located down the steps from the rear sanctuary entrance and also out the front sanctuary entrance, at the top of the steps.

**Nursing Mothers Room** is located in Holy Trinity's chapel just outside the front entrance of the sanctuary. Follow the sign!

**Liberti Kids** - **CLOSED FOR SUMMER BREAK!** First time? Please register your child by scanning the QR code and then check them in at a Check-In Station.

Infant Nursery: Birth - 23 months are invited to our Infant Nursery from 10:45 to the end of the service, down the stairs at the back of the sanctuary just past the main entrance. In case of need, a changing table is located here or in the Toddler Nursery.

**Toddler Nursery:** 2 years - PreK are welcome in our Toddler Nursery (located up the steps at the front of the sanctuary) after the Passing of the Peace.

**Primary:** Kindergarten - 3rd Grade are invited to join our Primary class (located up the steps at the front of the sanctuary), which also starts after the Passing of the Peace.

**Liberti Bridge:** Liberti Bridge is for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders. Bridge is wrapped up for the year. Check back in the fall!

**Liberti Youth:** Liberti Youth is for 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grades. Youth is wrapped up for the year. Check back in the fall!

**Consistory** The Consistory is made up of our elder and deacon boards. If you're in need of help (whether physical, spiritual, or mental) or simply want to talk to someone more about what our church believes, please reach out at consistory@liberti.org.

# **Upcoming Events**

It's impossible for us to list everything that's going on at Liberti Church Collingswood, but here are a few things happening soon that we would like to highlight.

#### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - BEGINS 7/7

Summer Women's Bible Study will be meeting at Abigail Capps's house on Monday nights at 7:30 PM starting on July 7. We will be studying the book of Jude using the study book Jude: Contending for the Faith in Today's Culture by Jackie Hill Perry Please sign-up online to be added to the calendar and to receive emails about upcoming Bible study meetings. If you have any questions, please contact Abigail Capps at absmith823@gmail.com or 901-412-8782.

# **WOMEN'S RETREAT, 7/19**

Women of Liberti please sign up for our Women's Retreat! On Saturday, July 19 from 9am-5pm the women of Liberti Collingswood are invited to a day of worship, fellowship, and rest. The retreat will be in Mt. Laurel, NJ. There will be time for worship and prayer as well as relaxation by the pool. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please sign up online no later than July 13th. The cost for the event is \$10. If cost is a concern, please sign up anyway, scholarships will be available. If you have any questions, please reach out to Abigail Capps at absmith823@gmail.com or 901-412-8782.

# **SUMMER SUPPER CLUBS**

Back by popular demand: Liberti Collingswood's Summer Supper Clubs! As summer unfolds and schedules relax, now is the perfect time to meet, mingle, and dine with other Liberti Collingswood types. Between now and the end of August, various hosts will open up their homes to food, drink, and a couple of shared laughs. Signups are live online, and you can tick the box for your preferred town, time, and date. From there, as the day of your specific Supper Club approaches, your host will reach back out to you with info that will include who they are, where they live, and what you might bring.

# **SUMMER SPECIALS!**

- Summer Supper Club Haddon Heights (7/13)
- Summer Supper Club Collingswood #1 (7/20)
- Coffee Hour & Sunday School (7/27)

# **Engage with Us**

Whether this is your first time at Liberti Church Collingswood or you have been regularly worshipping with us for some time, we would love to help you take a next step in following Jesus and engaging more deeply in our community.

#### **CONNECT TO A HOME MEETING**

Small groups (aka "Home Meetings") are the primary environment where Christian community is developed and fostered. People are introduced to what it means to be a Christian, encouraged in their relationship with God, and supported to make a contribution to the welfare of people in Collingswood and surrounding boroughs. They also provide an opportunity for intimacy, mutual support, practical service, learning about the Christian faith, prayer, and sharing of what God is doing in our midst. Visit our website to see all the available groups being offered and sign up. If you have any questions about Home Meetings, contact Jim (jim@liberti.org).

# SERVE OUR CHURCH, COMMUNITY, AND WORLD

There are numerous opportunities to serve on Sunday mornings. Whether it's setting up, teaching a kids' lesson, or running the sound board, it takes many volunteers each week to make Liberti Church Collingswood an inviting community for our friends and neighbors. To see all of the volunteer teams open to you, please, visit our website. If you have any questions about serving our church, contact Jim (jim@liberti.org). Additionally, we are connected to a number of local and international ministry partners serving in areas from South Camden to South Sudan. To learn more, visit our website or contact Jim (jim@liberti.org).

# **GIVE GENEROUSLY**

It is our practice to offer a sacrificial portion of all of our resources – time, skills, possessions – as a tangible act of worship, faith, and gratitude in response to God's grace and generosity to us in Christ. You can give on Sunday mornings or online. Contact our Finance Team (<u>liberticollingswoodfinance@gmail.com</u>) if you would like to speak with someone about giving or receive help with your personal finances.

# **INVITE A FRIEND**

Yes, you! If you won't invite your friend to Liberti Church Collingswood, who will?

# **Gathering Before God**

July 7, 2025 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

#### **REFLECTIONS**

What we call the beginning is often the end And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from....

Every phrase and every sentence is an end and a beginning, Every poem an epitaph.

- T.S. Eliot (from "Four Quartets")

We have now resumed the period of "Ordinary Time" in our liturgical calendar. This season is the longest of the year and falls between other major commemorations in the life of the church. Ordinary Time reminds us that even though much of our lives are, in fact, ordinary—as it was as well for Jesus!—we yet mark these days as occurring in our Lord's world and in our Lord's time. During Ordinary Time, the cloth on our worship table is green, which symbolizes growth into Christian maturity.

# PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

# Rejoice

Come and stand before your Maker, full of wonder, full of fear Come behold His power and glory, yet with confidence draw near For the one who holds the heavens and commands the stars above Is the God who bends to bless us with an unrelenting love

Rejoice, come and lift your hands and Raise your voice, He is worthy of our praise Rejoice, sing of mercies of your King And with trembling, rejoice

We are children of the promise, the beloved of the Lord Won with everlasting kindness, bought with sacrificial blood Bringing reconciliation to a world that longs to know The affections of a Father, who will never let them go

All our sickness, all our sorrows, Jesus carried up the hill He has walked this path before us. He is walking with us still Turning tragedy to triumph, turning agony to praise There is blessing in the battle, so take heart and stand amazed

> Rejoice, when you cry to Him He hears Your voice, He will wipe away your tears Rejoice, in the midst of suffering He will help you sing

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# The Sending

# BENEDICTION

Leader: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Now and forevermore, go in peace.

(2 Cor 13:14)

People: Amen.

## **DISMISSAL**

Leader: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and

Savior Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

# There is Mercy

Lost with all my failures my ambition as a guide Sinking to the deep where I was held by all my pride

But You brought my life up from the ground And You are my hope in You I am found

Though I fall You will carry me Though it storms You guide my way In the midst of the darkest night There is mercy there is grace

Blinded to the beauty of Your love and to Your grace Walking in my ways into a dark and distant place

God You are love You are my life You are my strength You stay by my side God You are love You are my life You are my strength You stay by my side You are my strength You stay by my side **CALL TO WORSHIP** 

Leader: We will give thanks to you, O LORD, with our whole heart; we will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

People: We will be glad and exult in you; we will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Leader: Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

People: He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.

(from Psalm 9 and Isaiah 40)

#### **GREETING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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# King of My Heart

Let the King of my heart
Be the mountain where I run
The fountain I drink from
Oh He is my song
Let the King of my heart
Be the shadow where I hide
The ransom for my life
Oh, He is my song

You are good, good, oh You are good, good, oh You are good, good, oh You are good, good, oh

Let the King of my heart Be the wind inside my sails The anchor in the waves Oh, He is my song Let the King of my heart Be the fire inside my veins And the echo of my days Oh, He is my song

You're never gonna let Never gonna let me down You're never gonna let Never gonna let me down

# PRAYERS FOR REFLECTION

If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the church. If you are unable to receive Communion, we invite you to meditate on one of the following prayers:

**Prayer for those Searching for Truth:** Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

**Prayer of Belief:** Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Prayer of Commitment:** Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

# PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Leader: Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith.

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Leader: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

# **HOLY COMMUNION**

Leader: Here is the bread of life given for us;

Let all who hunger come and eat.

Here is the fruit of the vine, poured out for us;

Let all who thirst come and drink.

# Holy Communion, also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the Gospel, who are at peace with God and their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ.

# Lord I Need You

Lord I come I confess
Bowing here I find my rest
And without You I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart

Lord I need You oh I need You Ev'ry hour I need You My one defense my righteousness Oh God how I need You

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more Where grace is found is where You are And where You are Lord I am free Holiness is Christ in me

So teach my song to rise to You When temptation comes my way And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You Jesus You're my hope and stay

# **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is nothing good in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent; according to your promises declared unto men in Christ Jesus our Lord. Grant that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of His name. Amen.

Silent Confession

# **WORDS OF PARDON**

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-by grace you have been saved-and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

(Ephesians 2:4-7)

# **PASSING THE PEACE**

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

# The Lord's Table

# **MEANING OF THE SACRAMENT**

Leader: Beloved in the Lord Jesus, the meal which we are about to celebrate is a feast of remembrance, communion, and hope.

We come to remember that Jesus was sent into the world to assume our flesh and blood, to become God with us, that we might be redeemed.

We come to have communion with this same Christ who has promised to be with us even to the end of the world.

We come in hope, believing that this bread and this cup are a pledge and a foretaste of a new heaven and a new earth, where we shall behold God.

# THE APOSTLE'S CREED

Leader: Let us say what we believe.

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.
The third day He arose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

#### **OFFERING**

We encourage our members and regular attenders at Liberti to give to the church! To make a contribution, people are welcome to drop an offering in the box as they exit to the Holy Trinity courtyard, or to give online via the web page linked to this QR code.



# The Word of God

#### **SCRIPTURE READING - Genesis 49**

**1** Then Jacob called his sons and said, "Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you what shall happen to you in days to come.

- 2 "Assemble and listen, O sons of Jacob, listen to Israel your father.
- "Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, and the firstfruits of my strength, preeminent in dignity and preeminent in power.
- 4 Unstable as water, you shall not have preeminence, because you went up to your father's bed; then you defiled it—he went up to my couch!
- 5 "Simeon and Levi are brothers; weapons of violence are their swords.
- 6 Let my soul come not into their council; O my glory, be not joined to their company. For in their anger they killed men, and in their willfulness they hamstrung oxen.
- 7 Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce, and their wrath, for it is cruel!

  I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel.
- "Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down before you.
  Judah is a lion's cub:
  - Judah is a lion's cub;
    from the prey, my son, you have gone up.
    He stooped down; he crouched as a lion
    and as a lioness; who dares rouse him?
- The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him;
- and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.Binding his foal to the vine and his donkey's colt to the choice vine,

he has washed his garments in wine and his vesture in the blood of grapes.

12	His eyes are darker than wine, and his teeth whiter than milk.
13	"Zebulun shall dwell at the shore of the sea; he shall become a haven for ships, and his border shall be at Sidon.
14	"Issachar is a strong donkey, crouching between the sheepfolds.
15	He saw that a resting place was good, and that the land was pleasant, so he bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant at forced labor.
16	"Dan shall judge his people
17	as one of the tribes of Israel.  Dan shall be a serpent in the way, a viper by the path, that bites the horse's heels so that his rider falls backward.
18	I wait for your salvation, O Lord.
19	"Raiders shall raid Gad, but he shall raid at their heels.
20	"Asher's food shall be rich, and he shall yield royal delicacies.
21	"Naphtali is a doe let loose that bears beautiful fawns.
22	"Joseph is a fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a spring; his branches run over the wall.
23	The archers bitterly attacked him,
24	shot at him, and harassed him severely, yet his bow remained unmoved; his arms were made agile by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob
25	(from there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel), by the God of your father who will help you, by the Almighty who will bless you with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that crouches beneath,

- The blessings of your father
  are mighty beyond the blessings of my parents,
  up to the bounties of the everlasting hills.
  May they be on the head of Joseph,
  and on the brow of him who was set apart from his brothers.
- 27 "Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, in the morning devouring the prey and at evening dividing the spoil."

28 All these are the twelve tribes of Israel. This is what their father said to them as he blessed them, blessing each with the blessing suitable to him. 29 Then he commanded them and said to them, "I am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, 30 in the cave that is in the field at Machpelah, to the east of Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field from Ephron the Hittite to possess as a burying place. 31 There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife. There they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife, and there I buried Leah—32 the field and the cave that is in it were bought from the Hittites." 33 When Jacob finished commanding his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed and breathed his last and was gathered to his people.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

# **DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise Him all creatures here below Praise Him above ye heavenly host Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost Amen

# PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

# **SERMON**

Speaker: Clint Jenkin

Title: "The End Is Where We Start From"

Series: "Genesis: Then and Now"

blessings of the breasts and of the womb.