

## OUR CHURCH

Jim Angehr | Lead Pastor  
jim@liberti.org

Josh Postalwaite | Pastoral Resident  
jpostalwaite@liberti.org

Courtney Clark | Virtual Administrative Assistant  
cclark@liberti.org

Rebekah Flovin | Administrative Assistant  
rebekah@liberti.org

Patrick MacAdams | Digital Ministry Director  
patrick@liberti.org

Tyler Mills | Music Director  
tyler@liberti.org

Taylor Postalwaite | Liberti Kids Director  
taylor@liberti.org

## THE LIBERTI NETWORK

[www.liberti.org](http://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 Jaws!** Unless you've done it before, please take a second to fill out one of our "Info Jaws" 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.



**Nursery:** Crawling - 2 years are invited to our Nursery from the Passing of the Peace until the end of the service, down the stairs at the back of the sanctuary just past the main entrance.

**2&3s:** 2 and 3 year olds are welcome in our 2&3s class (located up the steps at the front of the sanctuary). Pick up at the end of the service.

**4&5s:** 4 and 5 year olds are welcome to our 4&5s class (located up the steps at the front of the sanctuary). Children will be escorted back to the sanctuary before Communion.

**Primary:** 1st - 3rd Grade are invited to join our Primary class (located up the steps at the front of the sanctuary). Children will be escorted to the sanctuary before Communion.

**Liberti Bridge:** Liberti Bridge is for 4th and 5th Graders. Bridge meets Sunday mornings 9:30-11am. Sign up for text updates by texting "Bridge25" to (609) 793-8526

**Liberti Youth:** Liberti Youth is for 6th through 12th Grades. Youth Meets Sunday evenings 6-8pm. Sign up for text updates by texting "LY2025" to (856) 329-7775

**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](mailto: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.*

## URBAN PROMISE BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE, ENDS 8/24!

We're collecting back to school supplies for Urban Promise Academy, UP's K-12 school. Scan the QR code for the Amazon wish list related to this project; they'll be shipped straight to UP. Let's be generous in service of these dear students!



## URBAN PROMISE COMMUNITY DAY, 9/6

Community Day at Urban Promise is back! Urban Promise is a local ministry partner with Liberti and needs volunteers to help host their annual Community Day on Saturday, September 6th. This year's theme is Health and Wellness. Volunteers are needed for set-up (8-9am), tear down (12-1pm), and running a variety of kids' activities during the actual event (9-12pm). For more information, reach out to Virginia Green or the Local Partnerships Team. Sign up online!

## LIBERTI YOUTH COMMUNION RETREAT, 9/19-9/21

It's time, once again, for the Liberti Youth Communion Retreat at Gretna Glen Campground! This year the theme is Body and Soul; we will unpack what the Bible has to say about how we are made whole by these two distinct parts. The retreat is open to young people in 6th through 12th grade. Signs ups end 9/7. The cost per student is \$160. Drop off and pick up will be from Holy Trinity. If you are interested and/or cost is an issue, please reach out to Josh ([jpostalwaite@liberti.org](mailto:jpostalwaite@liberti.org)) AND text LY2025 to 856-329-7775.

## LIBERTI KIDS MOVE UP SUNDAE DAY, 9/7

Believe it or not, it's almost time again for Move-Up Sundae! Liberti Kids, get ready for Move-Up Sundae on Sunday, September 7th. You can look forward to moving up to your grade level for this school year and a visit from Mr. Softee ice cream truck after the service! Please update your family's information here for the new Liberti Kids year! If you have any questions, please email Taylor ([taylor@liberti.org](mailto:taylor@liberti.org)).

## DISCOVER LIBERTI, 9/21

It's a no muss, no fuss way to find out more about who we are and discover some next steps as to how to plug in. Each Discover Liberti will run only 30 minutes and is located in the Conference Room in the kids' wing of Holy Trinity. 12:45pm to 1:15pm on Sunday, 9/21. Grab a cup of coffee (and/or a snack, since given the hour) and meet us there! No need to register, but if you have any questions, talk to Jim ([jim@liberti.org](mailto:jim@liberti.org)).

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# 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 ([jjim@liberti.org](mailto:jjim@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](mailto: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 ([jjim@liberti.org](mailto:jjim@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 ([liberticollingswoodfinance@gmail.com](mailto:liberticollingswoodfinance@gmail.com)) 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?

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# Gathering Before God

August 24, 2025  
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

## REFLECTIONS

“Hope, in its properly Christian sense, means a sure and confident expectation that what has been promised to us will finally blossom in all its wonderful glory. It is a strong and positive theme, affirming the reliability of God who makes promises to us.”

– Alister McGrath

“I saw more clearly than ever, that the first great and primary business to which I ought to attend every day was, to have my soul happy in the Lord. The first thing to be concerned about was not, how I might serve the Lord, how I might glorify the Lord; but how I might get my soul into a happy state, and how my inner man may be nourished.... I saw the most important thing I had to do was to give myself to the reading of the Word of God and to meditation on it.”

– George Muller

*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.*

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## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

### All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name  
Let angels prostrate fall  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown Him Lord of all  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown Him Lord of all

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race  
Ye ransomed from the fall  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace  
And crown Him Lord of all  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace  
And crown Him Lord of all

Let ev'ry kindred ev'ry tribe  
On this terrestrial ball  
To Him all majesty ascribe  
And crown Him Lord of all  
To Him all majesty ascribe  
And crown Him Lord of all

O that with yonder sacred throng  
We at His feet may fall  
We'll join the everlasting song  
And crown Him Lord of all  
We'll join the everlasting song  
And crown Him Lord of all

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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!**

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## Hosanna

I see the King of glory  
Coming on the clouds with fire  
The whole earth shakes  
The whole earth shakes

I see His love and mercy  
Washing over all our sin  
The people sing  
The people sing

*Hosanna hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest*

I see a generation  
Rising up to take their place  
With selfless faith  
With selfless faith

I see a near revival  
Stirring as we pray and seek  
We're on our knees  
We're on our knees

Heal my heart and make it clean  
Open up my eyes to the things unseen  
Show me how to love like You have loved me  
Break my heart for what breaks Yours  
Everything I am for Your Kingdom's cause  
As I walk from earth into eternity

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## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

**People: Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!**

*Leader: Oh taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the one who takes refuge in him!*

**People: Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!**

*Leader: The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, and his ears toward their cry.*

**People: When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.**

*Leader: The LORD is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.*

**People: The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.**

(from Psalm 34)

## GREETING

*Leader: The Lord be with you.*

**People: And also with you!**

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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## Tremble

Peace, bring it all to peace  
The storms surrounding me  
Let it break at Your name

Still, call the sea to still  
The rage in me to still  
Every wave at Your name

*Jesus, Jesus, You make the darkness tremble*  
*Jesus, Jesus, You silence fear*  
*Jesus, Jesus, You make the darkness tremble*  
*Jesus, Jesus*

Breathe, call these bones to live  
Call these lungs to sing  
Once again, I will praise

Your name is a light that the shadows can't deny  
Your name cannot be overcome  
Your name is alive forever lifted high  
Your name can-not be overcome

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## My Worth Is Not In What I Own

My worth is not in what I own  
Not in the strength of flesh and bone  
But in the costly wounds of love at the cross

My worth is not in skill or name  
In win or lose in pride or shame  
But in the blood of Christ that flowed at the cross

*I rejoice in my Redeemer  
Greatest treasure Wellspring of my soul  
I will trust in Him no other  
My soul is satisfied in Him alone*

As summer flowers we fade and die  
Fame youth and beauty hurry by  
But life eternal calls to us at the cross

I will not boast in wealth or might  
Or human wisdom's fleeting light  
But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross

Two wonders here that I confess  
My worth and my unworthiness  
My value fixed my ransom paid at the cross

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# CALL TO CONFESSION

Prayer of Confession

**Sovereign Lord, our offenses are many in your sight, and our sins testify against us, and we acknowledge our iniquities: rebellion and treachery against you, O Lord, turning our backs on you, our God, speaking oppression and revolt, uttering lies our hearts have conceived. So justice is driven back, righteousness stands at a distance, and truth is nowhere to be found in us.**

**Restore us, O Lord God Almighty; make your face to shine upon us, that we may be saved, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

Silent Confession

# WORDS OF PARDON

*And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, [Christ] has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.*

(Colossians 1:21-22)

# PASSING THE PEACE

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSIONS REPORT - KATHY SANTIVANEZ

# 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.*

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## 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 Liberty 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.*



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## The Word of God

### SCRIPTURE READING - Romans 5:1-5

**1** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. **2** Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. **3** Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, **4** and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, **5** and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

*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: Greg Austen  
Title: "How God Grows His People"  
Series: "Paul-pourri: Studies in Paul's Letters"

**SERMON NOTES:**