

OUR CHURCH

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THE LIBERTI COMMUNION

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 - 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 back 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.

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.

IN-COVENANT CLASS - RESCHEDULED!, 10/25

Now is the time to sign up and come to our In-Covenant Class on Saturday, 10/25, from 9am-2pm, here at Holy Trinity. An "in-covenant class" is a conversation with Jim about what it means to be a part of a church, the vision of Liberti Collingswood, and how you can get more connected to our community. (One isn't required to join Liberti Collingswood if attending this event, but the In- Covenant Class is a step in the typical pathway for becoming a member here.) Lunch and childcare will be provided. Talk to Jim if you'd have questions about this event. If you would like to come, please RSVP online.

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT, 11/15

Parent Night Out is back by popular demand! Kids age 0 through 5th grade are welcome to hang out at Holy Trinity while parents go out (or home or the grocery store). Kids will do a craft, play, eat dinner, and watch a movie. Dinner is provided, please be sure to include any allergies during the registration! Register on the Church Center app or on the website by November 10th.

ANXIETY GROUP THERAPY @ PRN, STARTING 11/3!

Upcoming holidays stressing you out? Starting on Monday, 11/3, and continuing weekly for 4 weeks Philadelphia Renewal Network (PRN) will be hosting a virtual group therapy series focused on anxiety. The group will be from 7-8pm and will provide a biblical and clinical overview for understanding and navigating anxiety, giving significant attention to identifying anxiety triggers and practicing coping skills. The cost is \$30/session and will be facilitated by PRN therapist John Alexander. To register, go to philadelphiarenewalnetwork.org/contact and reference the group therapy.

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).

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 (jjim@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).

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) 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

October 19, 2025
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

REFLECTIONS

“Jesus doesn't put the word 'self' in front of 'identity,' he puts it in front of 'denial'... Jesus says all of us have to say a profound 'no' to some of our deepest longings and intuitions. That is discipleship; Jesus says it upfront, he doesn't bury it in the small print. He says following him is going to feel like he's killing you at certain points. It's going to feel like you're losing your life. And the wonderful paradox of the Christian faith is actually that, as we deny self, we become our real selves... We actually receive life as we say 'no' to self.”

– Sam Allberry, Associate Pastor at Immanuel Church Nashville & Canon Theologian for the Anglican Church in North America

“One reigning metaphor of this contemporary, secular [explanation of suffering] is ‘victimization.’ The sufferer is a victim, under ‘attack’ from natural forces devoid of intentionality. Suffering is decontextualized and separated from the narrative structure of human life. It is viewed as a kind of ‘noise,’ an accidental interference with the life-drama of the sufferer. It is as though suffering had no intelligible relation to any plot, except as a chaotic interruption.”

– Richard Shweder, cultural anthropologist at the University of Chicago

“This givenness or the indicative of [fellowship with Christ in his sufferings] can be grasped from what Paul teaches about adoption and sanctification. In Romans 8:16-17 particularly, suffering with Christ is nothing less than the present mode or condition of our adoption. Remove that suffering, Paul is saying, and you take away our very identity as God’s adopted children, our being heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ.”

– Richard B. Gaffin, “The Usefulness of the Cross”

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

Come Ye Sinners

Come ye sinners, poor and wretched,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity joined with power.
He is able, He is able,
He is willing, doubt no more.

Pleads the merit of His blood.
Venture on Him, venture wholly,
Let no other trust intrude.
None but Jesus, none but Jesus,
Can do helpless sinners good.

Come ye needy, come and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance,
Every grace that brings you nigh.
Without money, without money,
Come to Jesus Christ and buy.

Come ye weary, heavy laden,
Bruised and broken by the fall;
If you tarry till you're better,
You will never come at all.
Not the righteous, not the righteous,
Sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience make you linger,
Nor of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness He requires
Is to feel your need of Him.
This He gives you, this He gives you,
Tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Lo! The Incarnate God, ascended;

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!

God With Us

Oh You've come to bring peace to be Love
To be nearer to us
You've come to bring life to be Light
To shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel God with us

*Our Deliverer, You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over ev'rything our Redemption
God with us
You are God with us*

Oh You've come to be Hope to this world
For Your honor and name
And You've come to take sin to bear shame
And to conquer the grave
Oh Emmanuel God with us

You are here
You are holy
We are standing in Your glory (Lord)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.

People: There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.

Leader: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

People: The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

Leader: They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.

People: May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

(from Psalm 19)

GREETING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O Praise The Name (Anástasis)

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds His hands His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree

His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone

*O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord oh Lord our God*

Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting
The angels roar for Christ the King

He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

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.

Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul

Dear refuge of my weary soul,
On Thee, when sorrows rise
On Thee, when waves of trouble roll,
My fainting hope relies
To Thee I tell each rising grief,
For Thou alone canst heal
Thy Word can bring a sweet relief,
For every pain I feel

But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail,
I fear to call Thee mine
The springs of comfort seem to fail,
And all my hopes decline
Yet gracious God, where shall I flee?
Thou art my only trust
And still my soul would cleave to Thee
Though prostrate in the dust

Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face,
And shall I seek in vain?
And can the ear of sovereign grace,
Be deaf when I complain?
No still the ear of sovereign grace,
Attends the mourner's prayer
Oh may I ever find access,
To breathe my sorrows there

Thy mercy seat is open still,
Here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will,
And wait beneath Thy feet,
Thy mercy seat is open still,
Here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will,
And wait beneath Thy feet

CALL TO CONFESSION

Prayer of Confession

Our gracious Father, you sent your Son to die and rise to new life in order that death might be brought to an end and that we too might live a new life. Foolishly, however, we have, time and time again, chosen death over life.

In our thoughts, words and deeds we have rebelled against you and your intentions for us. In so doing, we have broken our fellowship with you whose love is better than life. We have hurt others, sometimes unintentionally and sometimes deliberately, and have diminished their lives. We have damaged and despoiled ourselves who have been created to reflect your beauty.

Father, forgive us our sin for Jesus' sake. And grant that your resurrection power might course through our entire being, that we might walk in the ways of love and justice to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Silent Confession

WORDS OF PARDON

"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

(Joel 2:12-13)

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 - Romans 5:17-6:14 (CSB)

17 If by the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive the overflow of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

18 So then, as through one trespass there is condemnation for everyone, so also through one righteous act there is justification leading to life for everyone. **19** For just as through one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so also through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. **20** The law came along to multiply the trespass. But where sin multiplied, grace multiplied even more **21** so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace will reign through righteousness, resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

6 What should we say then? Should we continue in sin so that grace may multiply? **2** Absolutely not! How can we who died to sin still live in it? **3** Or are you unaware that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? **4** Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life. **5** For if we have been united with him in the likeness of his death, we will certainly also be in the likeness of his resurrection. **6** For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be rendered powerless so that we may no longer be enslaved to sin, **7** since a person who has died is freed from sin. **8** Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him, **9** because we know that Christ, having been raised from the dead, will not die again. Death no longer rules over him. **10** For the death he died, he died to sin once for all time; but the life he lives, he lives to God. **11** So, you too consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, so that you obey its desires. **13** And do not offer any parts[h] of it to sin as weapons for unrighteousness. But as those who are alive from the dead, offer yourselves to God, and all the parts of yourselves to God as weapons for righteousness. **14** For sin will not rule over you, because you are not under the law but under grace.

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: John Sherk

Title: "Conforming to Jesus' Death and Resurrection Now"

SERMON NOTES: