

## OUR CHURCH

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## 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

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# 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.



**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.

**Grades 4th & 5th:** Liberti Bridge is a place for 4th and 5th graders to bridge the gap between Liberti Kids and Liberti Youth! Bridge meets Sunday evening from 6-8pm in the Liberti Kids wing.

**Grades 6th - 12th:** Liberti Youth A new year is right around the corner, if you're in middle school, high school, or the parent of someone in middle school or high school, all you need to do is text LY2024 to 856-329-7775. All of our updates this year will be through text so if you need to sign up to stay up to date!

**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).

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# 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.*

## MLK DAY OF SERVICE @ URBAN PROMISE, 1/20

We are working with Urban Promise of South Camden to do a work day on their main campus (3700 Rudderow St., Pennsauken, NJ) on Monday, 1/20, in commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Kids are welcome, and dress warmly as there may be some outside work! Please try to arrive between 8 and 8:30 am (with light breakfast to be served then), and because parking is a bit limited, carpooling is recommended. Starting around 8:30am, there will be a short welcoming program, after which groups will be sent off to their projects. Projects should wrap up around 11:30. Register online!

## MENS' WINTER FIRE PIT HUDDLES, 1/25

Love sitting outside by a fire? You're not the only one! Come connect with some guys and share your love of that sweet sound of crackling on a cold winter night. We will be meeting monthly throughout the winter. David Clapper will host our next fire pit huddle on Saturday, January 25th, from 7:30-9:30pm. No food will be provided, but feel free to BYOB (and if you're able, bring some to share!). Go online for more information AND to register! Reach out to Angel at [angel@liberti.org](mailto:angel@liberti.org) with any questions.

## DISCIPLESHIP SUNDAY, 1/26

*Living as the Very Presence of Jesus Through Christ-Centered Relationships:* On Sunday, January 26th, our Assistant Pastor of Discipleship, Angel Garcia, will preach about how you can participate in discipleship at Liberti Church Collingswood. He will unveil his vision for how our church can grow into the Christ-centered community needed for us to become and produce healthy, Spirit-filled, God-glorifying disciples of Jesus!

## LIBERTI COMMUNION SUNDAY, 2/2

As in previous years, every winter all of the churches across our Liberti Communion press pause on their regularly scheduled programming in order to worship more jointly, even across different locations. Communion Sunday is coming back at us on Sunday, 2/2! During our normal 11:15am slot at Holy Trinity that morning, join us or tune into this special worship service as we hear via video from our director, Steve Huber, about how the Spirit of Jesus is living, speaking, and serving in our midst--and also about how we can do more.

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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 ([jim@liberti.org](mailto: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](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 ([jim@liberti.org](mailto: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 ([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

January 19, 2025

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

### REFLECTIONS

"Children who feel completely safe and loved are playful. To play is to live in grace."

– Marilyn Chandler McIntyre

"We were not wrong to learn the alphabet just because they say that the god Mercury was its patron, nor should we avoid justice and virtue just because [the pagans] dedicated temples to justice and virtue. A person who is a good and a true Christian should realize that truth belongs to his Lord, wherever it is found, gathering and acknowledging it even in pagan literature, but rejecting superstitious vanities."

– Augustine of Hippo

"The world turns out to be better than expected and the church worse than expected."

– Abraham Kuyper

*We are now in the season of Epiphany, a word that itself means "manifestation" or "appearance" and is associated with the adoration of Christ by the three magi. Throughout these subsequent weeks, Epiphany walks us through various scenes Jesus' earthly ministry that occurred before his final suffering. To commemorate Epiphany, the cloth on our worship table is green, which symbolizes growth—both in the life of Jesus and in the life of the church.*

## Crown Him With Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns  
The Lamb upon His throne  
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns  
All music but its own  
Awake my soul and sing  
Of Him who died for thee  
And hail Him as thy matchless King  
Through all eternity

Crown Him the Lord of years  
The Potentate of time  
Creator of the rolling spheres  
Ineffably sublime  
All hail Redeemer hail  
For Thou hast died for me  
Thy praise shall never never fail  
Throughout eternity

Crown Him the Lord of life  
Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife  
For those He came to save  
His glories now we sing  
Who died and rose on high  
Who died eternal life to bring  
And lives that death may die

Crown Him the Lord of love  
Behold His hands and side  
Rich wounds yet visible above  
In beauty glorified  
No angel in the sky  
Can fully bear that sight  
But downward bends each burning eye  
At mysteries so bright

## 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!**

(Parents, please, retrieve your children from Liberti Kids immediately after the service ends.)

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## When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride

Forbid it Lord that I should boast  
Save in the death of Christ my God  
All the vain things that charm me most  
I sacrifice them to His blood

See from His head His hands His feet  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down  
Did ever such love and sorrow meet  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown

Were the whole realm of nature mine  
That were a present far too small  
Love so amazing so divine  
Demands my soul my life my all

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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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## Behold the Lamb

See Him there the great I Am  
A crown of thorns upon His head  
The Father's heart displayed for us  
O God we thank You for the cross

Lifted up on Calv'ry's hill  
We cursed Your name and even still  
You bore our shame and paid the cost  
O God we thank You for the cross

*Behold the Lamb the story of redemption  
Written on His hands  
Jesus You will reign forevermore  
The victory is Yours  
We sing Your praise  
Endless hallelujahs to Your holy name  
Jesus You will reign forevermore  
The victory is Yours*

Offer up this sacrifice  
For ev'ry sin our Savior died  
The Lord of Life can't be contained  
Our God has risen from the grave  
Oh our God has risen from the grave

When the age of death is done  
We'll see Your face bright as the sun  
We'll bow before the King of kings  
O God forever we will sing

You reign forevermore  
The victory is Yours  
King Jesus reigns forevermore  
The victory is Yours

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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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## Lead Me to the Cross

Saviour I come quiet my soul  
Remember redemption's hill  
Where Your blood was spilled  
For my ransom

Ev'rything I once held dear  
I count it all as loss

*Lead me to the cross  
Where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees  
Lord I lay me down  
Rid me of myself  
I belong to You  
Oh lead me lead me to the cross*

You were as I tempted and tried human  
The word became flesh  
Bore my sin in death  
Now You're risen

To Your heart  
To Your heart  
Lead me to Your heart  
Lead me to Your heart

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## CALL TO CONFESSION

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.**

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. 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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## 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

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Leader: Lord, in your mercy.*

**People:** Hear our prayer.

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## The Word of God

### SCRIPTURE READING - Genesis 35:16-29

**16** Then they journeyed from Bethel. When they were still some distance from Ephrath, Rachel went into labor, and she had hard labor. **17** And when her labor was at its hardest, the midwife said to her, "Do not fear, for you have another son." **18** And as her soul was departing (for she was dying), she called his name Ben-oni; but his father called him Benjamin. **19** So Rachel died, and she was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem), **20** and Jacob set up a pillar over her tomb. It is the pillar of Rachel's tomb, which is there to this day. **21** Israel journeyed on and pitched his tent beyond the tower of Eder.

**22** While Israel lived in that land, Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine. And Israel heard of it.

Now the sons of Jacob were twelve. **23** The sons of Leah: Reuben (Jacob's firstborn), Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun. **24** The sons of Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin. **25** The sons of Bilhah, Rachel's servant: Dan and Naphtali. **26** The sons of Zilpah, Leah's servant: Gad and Asher. These were the sons of Jacob who were born to him in Paddan-aram.

**27** And Jacob came to his father Isaac at Mamre, or Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac had sojourned. **28** Now the days of Isaac were 180 years. **29** And Isaac breathed his last, and he died and was gathered to his people, old and full of days. And his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

*Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**People:** Thanks be to God!

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

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## SERMON

Speaker: Jim Angehr

Title: "Grace in the Mess"

Series: "Genesis: Then and Now"

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## SERMON NOTES: