

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 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.

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.

COFFEE HOUR RETURNS, 2/23!

After a rather long nap, coffee hour is back! Kickoff will be Sunday February 23 from 10-11 in the fellowship hall at Holy Trinity. We'll have coffee and an activity for kids. Come out and enjoy a time of fellowship with our community! This will be a monthly event.

CONSISTORY NOMINATIONS - ENDING 2/23!

Nominations are open for our next slate of elder and deacon candidates as well as for the Nominating Committee itself! Check out our e-newsletter for more info and to make a nomination. The window for nominations will remain open through Sunday, 2/23. If you have any questions about this process, please reach out to Scott (scottflovin18@gmail.com) the committee chair.

COMMITMENT CARDS - ENDING 3/12!

Commitment cards are requested by our Finance Team each winter as a means of bringing to your consideration what you'd plan on giving over the next fiscal year (which begins July 1), that knowledge is essential to our church's budgeting process. You can drop the physical card into the offering box on a Sunday morning or online. Please, return your card by Sunday, 3/12. If you have any additional questions, don't hesitate to email Scott (scottflovin18@gmail.com).

LIBERTI YOUTH @ SEEDS OF HOPE, 2/22

Liberti Youth will be serving with Seeds of Hope Ministries in Camden to show love to those who find themselves living on the streets of Camden. The event is on February 22nd. We'll meet at Holy Trinity at 7:30 and will get back by 11:30. Breakfast (probably donuts) provided. If you are interested, reach out to Josh for the signup link jpostalwaite@liberti.org, or just find him after the service.

IN COVENANT CLASS, 3/1

An "In-Covenant class" is a dashing conversation with Liberti leadership 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. Our next In-Covenant iteration will be held on Saturday, 3/1, from 9am-2pm in the fellowship hall at Holy Trinity. Lunch and childcare will be provided. There is no cost to attend, but please register to let us know you are coming. Talk to Jim (jim@liberti.org) if you'd have questions from here.

MEN'S WINTER FIRE PIT HUDDLES, 2/22

Come connect with some guys and share your love of crackling fire on a cold winter night. Jake Kratt will host our next fire pit huddle this Saturday, February 22nd, from 7:30-9:30pm. No food will be provided, but feel free to BYOB (and if you're able, bring some to share!).

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 (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

February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

REFLECTIONS

"Joseph had a multicolored tunic; our Lord and Savior is known to have had one also, since he took the church, which was composed of various nations, like the covering of a garment. The variety of this tunic, this is, of the Church that Christ took, is of a different sort: the church has varied graces - the martyrs, confessors, priests, ministers, virgins, widows and those who perform works of justice... for in this variety of his Church our Lord and Savior shines with a multicolored and precious garment."

– St. Caesarius of Arles

"They have been individuals, some white, some black, some poor, some rich, they have been the "natural" world and a natural community. And now they have been called to "come together in one place," to bring their lives, their very "world" with them and to be more than what they were: a new community with a new life."

– Alexander Shmemann

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.

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

George Matheson | Word & Music
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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.)

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

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

All Creatures of Our God and King

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver moon with softer gleam

*O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along
O praise Him, alleluia
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice
Ye lights of evening find a voice

And all ye men of tender heart
Forgiving others take your part
O sing ye, alleluia
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear
Praise God and on Him cast your care

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness
O praise Him, alleluia
Praise, praise the Father praise the Son
And praise the Spirit Three in One

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.

Heart Won't Stop

There is not a man or a beast
Nothing on the land or underneath
Oh nothing that could ever come between,
The love you have for me.

*I could lay my head in Sheol
I could make my bed at the bottom of the darkness deep.
Oh, but there is not a place I could escape you.*

*Your heart won't stop, coming after me.
Your heart won't stop, coming after me.
Your heart won't stop, coming after me.*

There is not an angel of the stars,
There is not a devil in the dark,
Nothing that could change the way you are
The love you have for me

CALL TO CONFESSION

Prayer of Confession

O most holy, righteous, and gracious God, you are the King of all the world, and your laws are holy, just, and good. But we have denied you our due obedience, being unruly and self-willed. We have not truly placed our trust and hope in you and your word. We have not loved people as you do.

Instead, we have feared them and been silent when we should have spoken of you. Or we have been indifferent to them, minding our own concerns when we should have shown them the kindness of your name.

Help us to deny ourselves, to take up our cross, and follow your son Jesus. Let us be faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through the merits and intercession of Christ Jesus our Lord, in whose name we pray. 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 - Genesis 37:1-11 (NET)

1 But Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, in the land of Canaan.

2 This is the account of Jacob.

Joseph, his seventeen-year-old son, was taking care of the flocks with his brothers. Now he was a youngster working with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives. Joseph brought back a bad report about them to their father.

3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his sons because he was a son born to him late in life, and he made a special tunic for him. **4** When Joseph's brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated Joseph and were not able to speak to him kindly.

5 Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers about it they hated him even more. **6** He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: **7** There we were, binding sheaves of grain in the middle of the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose up and stood upright and your sheaves surrounded my sheaf and bowed down to it!" **8** Then his brothers asked him, "Do you really think you will rule over us or have dominion over us?" They hated him even more because of his dream and because of what he said.

9 Then he had another dream, and told it to his brothers. "Look," he said. "I had another dream. The sun, the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me." **10** When he told his father and his brothers, his father rebuked him, saying, "What is this dream that you had? Will I, your mother, and your brothers really come and bow down to you?" **11** His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept in mind what Joseph said.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON

Speaker: Josh Postalwaite

Title: "The Brothers, the Dreamer, and We"

Series: "Genesis: Then and Now"

SERMON NOTES: