#### **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** 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.

## MARCH COFFEE HOUR, 3/30

After a rather long nap, coffee hour is back! This month's time of caffeination is Sunday, 3/30, from 10-11AM in the Fellowship Hall at Holy Trinity. During our coffee hour, we will have coffee (of course!) and an activity for kids. Come out and enjoy a time of fellowship with our community!

#### **RACE SURVEY, THROUGH 4/13**

Periodically, our Consistory asks the question, How is our church doing with issues of race? To that end, our elders and deacons would love to hear from you on this subject! We've put together a survey that Consistory has been working on since last summer; Liberti members and frequent attenders are welcome to fill it out! Find the link in our e-newsletter or scan the QR code here, and please reply, if you'd wish, by Sunday, 4/13.

#### FOSTER THE FAMILY COLLECTION DRIVE, THROUGH 4/20

Let the Lenten competition begin! We're holding a toiletries collection drive competition between the various Home Meetings that will benefit Foster the Family. We'd ask that you consider donating toiletries such as kids body wash/shampoo/conditioner and towels and dropping them at your weekly Home Meeting location. For those not in a Home Meeting, there will be a bin at Holy Trinity where donations can be dropped off. At the end of Lent, we'll tally and see which Home Meeting came out ahead - let's be generous!

### **UPCOMING IN LENT AND EASTER**

- Final Men's Fire Pit Huddle (3/29)
- Women's Bible Study (3/29)
- Urban Promise MLK DAY [Make Up Date] (4/5)
- Lenten Worship Night (TBD)
- Good Friday Service (4/18)
- Easter Sunday & Coffee Hour (4/20)

# **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**

March 23, 2025 Second Sunday of Lent

#### **REFLECTIONS**

"If demoralized Job had such hope in God's deliverance, how much more should we who believe in the crucified and risen Son of God!"

– Kenneth Laing Harris

"When God strips you of everything, and all you have is him, you have enough."

– Mark Vroegop

"To cry is human, but to lament is Christian."

- Mark Vroegop

Between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday, we observe the season of Lent. Over this 40 day period, we will practice such spiritual disciplines as preparation, service, and repentance while we anticipate rising to meet Jesus on Easter morning. The church during this season follows after the Christ who walked with us—even as his days turned increasingly toward opposition, incarceration, trial, and, ultimately, crucifixion. To commemorate Lent, the cloth on our worship table is purple, which both symbolizes sadness and suffering but also will contrast with the joyously bright colors of the subsequent season, Eastertide.

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

# Come As You Are

Come out of sadness, From wherever you've been Come broken hearted, Let rescue begin Come find your mercy, Oh sinner come kneel Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

So lay down your burdens, Lay down your shame All who are broken, Lift up your face Oh wanderer come home, You're not too far So lay down your hurt, Lay down your heart, Come as you are

There's hope for the hopeless, and all those who've strayed Come sit at the table, Come taste of the grace There's rest for the weary, rest that endures Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure

There's joy for the morning, Oh sinner be still Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

Come as you are Fall in his arms Come as you are 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!

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

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# 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

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## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for true and just are his judgments.

People: Amen! Hallelujah!

Leader: Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, both small and great.

People: Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!

Leader: The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever.

People: We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the one who is and who was, because you have taken your great power, and have begun to reign.

(from Revelation 19 and 11)

#### **GREETING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

# **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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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.

# **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.

# Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name

Christ alone, cornerstone Weak made strong in the Saviour's love Through the storm, He is Lord Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face I rest on His unchanging grace In every high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil

When He shall come with trumpet sound Oh may I then in Him be found Dressed in His righteousness alone Faultless stand before the throne

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, and Father most gracious! Rebuke us not in your anger, nor chasten us in your wrath. Heal us from our sin, for we are troubled. Deliver us for the sake of your steadfast love. Our sins trouble us, O God. We are troubled by how they have hurt others. We are troubled by how they have hurt ourselves. Your ways are right. Have mercy on us, O God.

Holy God, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us for the sake of your Son, who died to free us from our sins. To you be honor and glory! Amen.

Silent Confession

## **WORDS OF PARDON**

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover up my iniquity; I said "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(from Psalm 32)

**PASSING THE PEACE** 

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

# The Lord's Table

#### 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.

## 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 - Job 2:11-13**

11 Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that had come upon him, they came each from his own place, Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. They made an appointment together to come to show him sympathy and comfort him. 12 And when they saw him from a distance, they did not recognize him. And they raised their voices and wept, and they tore their robes and sprinkled dust on their heads toward heaven. 13 And they sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great.

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: Scott Flovin

Title: "Truth Rehearsed Over Ground Cursed"

Series: "Lenten Laments"

# **SERMON NOTES:**

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