

## Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

# Morning Prayer and Sermon October 13, 2024

New Goshenhoppen United Church of Christ

1070 Church Road † East Greenville PA 18041 www.newgoshucc.org † 215-679-2041

"Sharing the light, faith and love of Jesus with all people."

8:00 a.m. In person in the Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. In Person in the Sanctuary and Livestream

### Welcome to New Goshenhoppen Church

If you are spiritually weary and in search of rest, if you are mourning and you long for comfort, if you are struggling and you desire victory, if you recognize that you are a sinner and need a Savior, God welcomes you here in the name of Christ.

To the stranger in need of fellowship, to those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, and to whoever will come, this congregation opens wide its doors and welcomes all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

She is the most famous celebrity whose name you don't know: the actress who plays Flo in all those Progressive commercials. Yes, she is a real person.

As told in the *New York Times*, Flo (aka Stephanie Courtney) was once a struggling comedian trying to make it big, sending in tapes of her performances to Saturday Night Live. Driving to failed auditions in a car that didn't go in reverse—and unable to pay to get it fixed. Courtney eventually landed a small role for an insurance ad spot as a cashier.

Fast forward to today and her comedy career is still non-existent, but she makes millions of dollars a year doing what she never wanted to do for a living. Courtney may have more zeros at the end of her pay check, but her story is far from unique. Youthful aspirations so often erode into some version of settling with the hand life (and God?) has dealt you.

NYT reporter Caity Weaver asked, "Who has a better job than you?" Courtney said, "There are times when I ask myself that. The miserable me who didn't get to audition for 'S.N.L.' never would have known, how good life could be when she was denied what she wanted. I hope that's coming through. I'm screaming it in your face."

### Praise

The \* invites you to rise in body or spirit.

Music of Gathering **How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord** – John Behnke One License #A727537

**Prelude on** *Repton* – Charles Callahan One License #A727537

Chiming of the Trinity

\*Apostolic Greeting

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

\*Hymn of Praise: No. 81

**Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken** – Austrian Hymn

Invitation to Confession

Romans 5:8, Hebrews 4:16

The proof of God's amazing love is this:

While we were sinners, Christ died for us.

Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,
so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in the time of
need. Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion, let us confess
our sin before God and one another.

**Corporate Confession** 

---based on Daniel 9:4-19

O Lord, great God,

all holy, Father most gracious,
filled with mercy and steadfast love,
we are embarrassed to come before you,
for we have preferred the ways of this world to your ways,
for we have rebelled against your wisdom
and we have gotten into trouble,

for we have rejected your fatherly guidance and have gotten lost altogether.

To you belongs righteousness, O Lord, and to us confusion of face.

O Lord, great God, all holy, filled with awe, Father, most gracious, filled with mercy and steadfast love, incline your ear to our troubles.

Hear us when we pour out our sorrows before you.

Forgive us,

not on the ground of our own righteousness,
but on the ground of your great mercy.
On the ground of your great mercy
in the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ.
It is in his name that we pray,
for he is our Savior and the mediator of the covenant of grace.

Amen.

Silent Confession

Word of Pardon

Psalm 32:1-2 NRSV

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God! Amen!

\*Hymn of Confession: No. 432

**How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord** – Repton One License #A727537

## We Hear and Respond

Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ

St. Luke 15:11-32

<sup>11</sup> Then Jesus said, "A man had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger son said to his father, 'Give me my share of the property.' So the father divided the property between his two sons. <sup>13</sup> Then the younger son gathered up all that was his and traveled far away to another country. There he wasted his money in foolish living. 14 After he had spent everything, a time came when there was no food anywhere in the country, and the son was poor and hungry. <sup>15</sup> So he got a job with one of the citizens there who sent the son into the fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> The son was so hungry that he wanted to eat the pods the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> When he realized what he was doing, he thought, 'All of my father's servants have plenty of food. But I am here, almost dying with hunger. 18 I will leave and return to my father and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against God and against you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son, but let me be like one of your servants." ' 20 So the son left and went to his father.

"While the son was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt sorry for his son. So the father ran to him and hugged and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> The son said, 'Father, I have sinned against God and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his servants, 'Hurry! Bring the best clothes and put them on him. Also, put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get our fat calf and kill it so we can have a feast and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> My son was dead, but now he is alive again! He was lost, but now he is found!' So they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> "The older son was in the field, and as he came closer to the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> So he called to one of the servants and asked what all this meant. <sup>27</sup> The servant said, 'Your brother has come back, and your father killed the fat calf, because your brother came home safely.' <sup>28</sup> The older son was angry and would not go in to the feast. So his father went out and begged

him to come in. <sup>29</sup> But the older son said to his father, 'I have served you like a slave for many years and have always obeyed your commands. But you never gave me even a young goat to have at a feast with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But your other son, who wasted all your money on prostitutes, comes home, and you kill the fat calf for him!' <sup>31</sup> The father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. <sup>32</sup> We had to celebrate and be happy because your brother was dead, but now he is alive. He was lost, but now he is found.' "<sup>1</sup>

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ! **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!** 

Ministry of Music [10:30 a.m.]

Children & Mrs. Benner

Proclamation of God's Word

Dr. Williams - "PD"

## **Being Older Brother-ish!**

\*The Affirmation of Faith ---based on Belgic Confession, Art. 23

What do you believe about your forgiveness?

We believe that our blessedness lies in the forgiveness of our sins because of Jesus Christ, and that in it our righteousness before God is contained, as David and Paul teach us when they declare that person blessed to whom God grants righteousness apart from works.

How do you come by such forgiveness?

We are justified "freely" or "by grace" through redemption in Jesus Christ.

And therefore we cling to this foundation, which is firm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Everyday Bible: New Century Version (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 2005), Lk 15:11–32.

forever, giving all glory to God, humbling ourselves, and recognizing ourselves as we are; not claiming a thing for ourselves or our merits and leaning and resting on the sole obedience of Christ crucified, which is ours when we believe in him.

Does this forgiveness give you peace with God?

This is enough to cover all our sins and to make us confident, freeing the conscience from the fear, dread, and terror of God's approach, without doing what our first father, Adam, did, who trembled as he tried to cover himself with fig leaves.

Morning Prayer
Our Savior's Prayer [using **debts** and **debtors**]

The Saints in Action

Offering Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings Give via PayPal, a Credit Card, or Debit Card by scanning the QR code with your camera



Offertory Music

**Meditation** – Douglas Wagner One License #A727537

\*The Offering Received: No. 606

**The Doxology –** Old 100<sup>th</sup>

\*Thanksgiving

\*Hymn of Dismissal: No. 421

Have Mercy, God, Upon My Life – Irish One License #A727537

Following the Light of Christ into the World

# We go. . . To share the light, faith and love of Jesus with all people!

\* Dismissal and Blessing

\*Going Forth

**Voluntary** – Douglas Wagner One License #A727537

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#### **OCTOBER 13, 2024**

The People of New Goshenhoppen, Ministers
Rev. Dr. David A. Williams, Senior Pastor and Organist
Rev. Erick Kern, Associate Pastor
Rev. Elaine Ely, Minister of Grief Support
Kelly Johannsen, Lay Minister of Visitation
Beverly A. Benner, Director of Christian Education
Susan Hemperly, Senior Choir Accompanist
Cindy Biehn, Administrative Secretary
Office Phone: 215-679-2041 Email: office@newgoshucc.org
Visit us online at www.newgoshucc.org

**WELCOME** *VISITORS* ~ we're glad you are joining us for worship!

WiFi PASSWORD: Network: NewGoshGuest, password: wearethechurch

**BRASS BUCKETS:** The devastation of Hurricane Helene and Milton has left many in our southern states without homes, necessities, and items for daily living and cleanup. Your gift in the Brass Bucket will be forwarded through Pennsylvania Southeast Conference to help those in need right now. If you leave a check in the bucket, please make it out to New Goshenhoppen Church and note in the memo line: Hurricane! Thank you for your generosity in helping our brothers and sisters to the south!

**UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONALS** are located on a table in the vestibule at the Fellowship Hall side entrance and at the elevator entrance on the lower level. There is no charge for the booklets.

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING: TODAY**, we will have an informational meeting between church services, to discuss the Revised Church Constitution and the 2025 Budget. It is an opportunity for the congregation to be more informed about these two items, prior to voting at the annual meeting in November. Please plan to attend, if you are interested. We will meet in the SANCTUARY at 9:15 a.m. The Constitution Revision Task Force and the Finance Committee will be there to answer your questions.

**THE NEXT WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETING** will be held on Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> (*Please note the date change*). We will meet in the lower parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and carpool to Frederick Living where we will be joined with friends, have a brief business meeting, and then enjoy time for visiting and doing a creative activity. We will all enjoy lunch together in the Frederick Bistro (*at your own expense*) before traveling back to church. We may even have some time to visit the gift shop. All women are invited.

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP'S MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS:** Activity books, cards and small craft kits are being collected to give to children and youth at CHOP (Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania). These items will help to occupy their time as they deal with medical needs. There is a collection box in the Social Room and in the Fellowship Hall vestibule for your contributions.

**FULL MOON CAMPFIRE:** The October Full Moon campfire is Thursday, October 17th at 7:00 p.m. Please join us at the Mediation Prayer Wall for an evening of fellowship and conversation. This will be the last campfire for this season. There will be hot dogs, cider, and s'mores available for those of you interested. Bring a chair. Rain cancels.

**THE 297TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF NEW GOSHENHOPPEN CHURCH – October 20.** We will mark our anniversary with the sharing of the Lord's Table as our forebearers did as on that date, the founding of New Goshenhoppen began with such a service. This year we will be using the Provisional Service of 1857.

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY – REV'D RYAN TRAVIS – OCT. 20: The Rev'd Ryan Travis who served New Goshenhoppen Church from 2018-2020 as Senior Pastor will return to preach in the pulpit. Rev'd Ryan's portrait will be hung in the Parlor following the second service. We will enjoy a coffee and cake fellowship following each service.

ORGAN CONCERT: The Allen Organ Company and New Goshenhoppen Church Music Series will co-sponsor a concert on Sunday, October 20 at 3:00 p.m. with Cameron Cody at both the Allen Hybrid Organ and the Cunningham Teske Memorial Grand Piano. Mr. Cody is Director of Music and Organist of the Chapelwood United Methodist Church, Houston, Texas where he leads a 125 voice Chancel Choir and coordinates a music program that involves over 500 people. If you go to YouTube – you will find examples of his musical artistry at both the organ and the

piano. Chapelwood has a 5 manual custom Allen Organ that was installed in 2023. It will be a great day of music and ministry. A light reception will follow in Fellowship Hall. We are grateful to the Allen Organ Company for their co-sponsorship of this concert.

#### **OUTDOOR MINISTRIES COMMITTEE APPLE DUMPLING FUNDRAISER:**

Just in time for Thanksgiving! It's autumn and that means apple season! What better way to enjoy a fresh, local apple than to add spices and bake it wrapped in warm, flaky dough! OMC is taking orders for apple dumplings made by Coventry Parlor at Laurel Locks in Pottstown. Each delicious apple dumpling costs \$6.00. Outdoor Ministries receives \$1.50 for each apple dumpling purchased. An order form is available in the vestibule outside Fellowship Hall. Orders may also be placed by contacting Delores Schuler, Debra Brauner, Lois Anastas, Gail Gerhard or Donna Fried. Email orders may be placed at <a href="mailto:dfried@newgoshucc.org">dfried@newgoshucc.org</a>. The deadline to order apple dumplings is Monday, November 4th. Apple dumpling orders may be paid for and picked up on Sunday, November 17th in the church kitchen after each service. An OMC member will receive your cash or check made out to "New Goshenhoppen OMC." Thank you for supporting Outdoor Ministries!

MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD DRIVE: It's time once again to share some of your Life Saving Blood! Health and Welfare is once again hosting a Miller-Keystone Blood Drive on Tuesday, October 29th, 9:30am-2:00pm. Schedule your appointment by visiting https://donor.giveapint.org/donor/schedules/drive\_schedule/8755 use Group Code E064 or contact Sherry Peterson.

**ADULT GAME NIGHT:** You are invited to a special night of fellowship on Sunday, November 10, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. The event will be held in Fellowship Hall. Pizza and beverages will be provided. Feel free to bring a snack to munch on inbetween games. Please call or email Janet Weikel to sign up for game night by Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Phone: 215-679-8722 Email: jpweik27@yahoo.com

#### **MEMORIAL GIFTS**

# The church is grateful for financial gifts received in the name of loved ones and friends.

## GENERAL FUND

In memory of Cheria D. Kolb

by Edgar L. and Mary Blake Stauffer by sister, Diane Steinman and Family

**REFORMATION SUNDAY – OCTOBER 27:** The Sanctuary will resound with Martin Luther's great hymn – *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*. Pastor will conclude his sermon series on Luke 15 that morning as we look at "the Older Son" of the Parable. It is also Pastor's ordination anniversary that day as he celebrates 31 years of ministry in the United Church of Christ.

**MANY THANKS** to all who supported our Monday Meal on October 7 -- from those who donated items and baked goods to those who came out the day of to prepare and serve. 218 community folks enjoyed a hearty, and delicious meal. We couldn't have done it without you!

**RISE AGAINST HUNGER:** The Reformation Sister Congregations are working together on Saturday, November 2 to pack over 10,000 Hunger Meals. You are invited to sign up for a shift – here is the link: <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084FA8AD2CAAFD0-51286077-meal">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084FA8AD2CAAFD0-51286077-meal</a> Signup is open and there a still slots to be filled. Please see the poster on the back page of the bulletin for more information.

YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED on Sunday, November 10 at the annual Congregational Meeting. There will be one worship service that day at 10:30 a.m. Immediately following, we will begin the meeting. There will be light snacks and refreshments following the meeting. Please plan to attend.

**300TH ANNIVERSARY:** On October 21, 2027, New Goshenhoppen Reformed Church will be celebrating its 300th anniversary. Since this will be a special event in the history of our church, the Historical Committee is looking to form a 300th celebration committee. Anyone who is interested in sharing their ideas or help in planning the event are invited to participate. Please contact the Church Office to submit your name or suggestions.

**ALTAR FLOWER INCREASE:** Starting January 1, 2025, altar flowers will increase to \$45.00 for full sponsorship and \$22.50 for a half sponsorship. Any additional pieces for in front of the pulpit or under the cross will start at \$40.00 and up.

**ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS** may pick up their arrangements in the vestibule outside the <u>Fellowship Hall Entrance</u> following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Flowers will remain there until Wednesday, after which time they will be discarded.

**BULLETINS** are presented in memory of departed loved ones by Raymond Eppler; and in memory of departed loved ones by Gloria & Frank Eidle.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are presented in memory of husband, Donald Moll by Barbara Moll; and in memory of departed loved ones by Nancy Harvey.

**ATTENDANCE: 10/6/24 –** 8:00 a.m. 52; 10:30 a.m. 52; Livestream 37 (You Tube) . Sunday School 46.

Above is the "Live" Concurrent Household Number - (Note: "number of households" is less than "number of people". If on average each household has two people watching, then our numbers are 2x the number of households that tuned in.)

**OPERATING INCOME 10/6/24:** Current & Benevolences \$3,696.50; Building, Improvement & Maintenance \$129.50. General Fund appeal to date \$16,130. Monthly EFT income \$5,060; Brass Buckets \$746.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE:** 73 giving units have responded. There is \$84,130 pledged. The amount received since 2023 is \$80,231 (including Capital Campaign memorial gifts.)

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS:

Year to Date Income	\$561,954.81
LessInvestment Withdrawals	<u>\$74,178.16</u>
	\$487,776.65
Year to Date Expenses	\$524,196.06
Special Projects BIM Income	\$157,619.53
Special Project BIM Expenses	\$290,464.76
Meadows Payback Income Year to Date	\$695.00

#### **ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK**

Sun.	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service (S)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School (Ch. Ed. Bldg.)
	9:15 a.m.	Budget/Constitution Review Meeting (Sanctuary)
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary & Livestream)
Mon. 9:30 a.m.		Women's Fellowship (meet in lower parking lot) – carpool to Frederick Living
	6:00 p.m.	Land Use Committee (Heidelberg Room)
	6:30 p.m.	Finance Committee (Bible Fellowship Room)
Tues.	es. 8:00 a.m.	Quilting (Pathfinder)
	9:30 a.m.	Life Long Learning (various rooms)
	6:30 p.m.	Cub Pack Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Wed. 1:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	Visiting Ministry Committee (Reading Room)	
	4:00 p.m.	Land Use Committee (Park)
Thurs.	rs. 10:00 a.m.	Bible Study (Confirmation Room)
	1:00 p.m.	Grief Support (Parlor)
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study (Confirmation Room)
	7:00 p.m.	Full Moon Campfire (Prayer Meditation Wall)
Sat.		Private Event (Park)
C	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service (S) – Communion Rev. Ryan Travis preaching
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School (Ch. Ed. Bldg.)
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary & Livestream) – Communion; Rev. Ryan Travis preaching
	3:00 p.m.	Organ Concert (Sanctuary)

#### **Thank you to our Service Participants**

8:00 a.m. Narthex – Lois Anastas

Roberts' Church Office – Chris Weikel

Elevator – Melissa Jamison Upper Narthex – Terry Vincent Liturgist/Acolyte – Will Howe

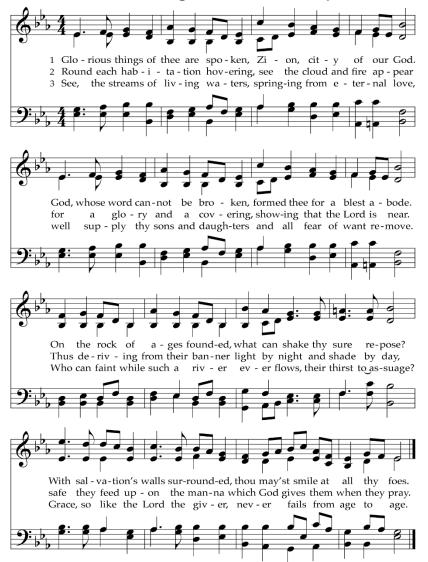
10:30 a.m. Narthex – Terry Dworkin

Roberts' Church Office – Doug Atno

Elevator – Sheri Ackerman

Upper Narthex – Peter Hemperly Liturgist/Acolyte – Sue Jacobs

## $81\,$ Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken



The Nazi appropriation of this tune for propaganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music first associated with this text in 1889. In a 1779 collection, the author indicated that this hymn is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20-21 with allusions to several other passages.

TEXT: John Newton, 1775, alt. MUSIC: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797, alt. AUSTRIAN HYMN 8.7.8.7.D

# How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432



- 1 How clear is our vo ca tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
- 2 But if, for-get ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
- 3 We mar vel how your saints be-came in hin-dranc-es more sure:
- 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to geth er or a lone,



to live ac-cord-ing to your word and dai-ly learn, re-freshed, reif world-ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not unwhose joy - ful vir-tues put to shame the ca-sual way we wear your in old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look to



stored, that you are Lord of all will not fall. and let 118 its tan-gled skein of care: our in-ward life re - pair. name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure. cross you hung up - on, you en - deav-ored, done. you: all

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This reflection on Christian vocation was written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune, and the poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.

# 606

# Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709 MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

\*Or "God"

OLD HUNDREDTH

# Have Mercy, God, upon My Life 421



Psalm 51, paraphrased here, has traditionally been known as one of the seven penitential psalms, and it is used annually on Ash Wednesday. But this psalm is not just about human sinfulness; it is also about God's willingness to forgive and restore sinners. That is good news.

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2009

MUSIC: A Collection of Hymns and Sacred Poems, 1749

Text © 2011 David Gambrell (admin. Presbyterian Publishing Corp.)

## Rise Against Hunger Meal Packaging Event

sponsored by the Reformed Churches in the Upper Perkiomen Valley



### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH SUMNEYTOWN

#### THREE SHIFTS AVAILABLE:

9:00-10:30 AM - Set-Up Shift 10:30-11:45 AM - FIRST Meal Packaging Shift 12:15-1:30 PM - SECOND Meal Packaging Shift



To register, scan the QR code

FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS 11:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Lunch Menu will include meatball sandwiches, vegetable soup, chips, cookies and beverages. Peanut butter, jelly and bread will also be available.



WWW.STJSUMNEYTOWN.ORG

2 3104 MAIN STREET, GREEN LANE

215-234-488