

# Ark and Dove Presbyterian Church, USA



## Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

*Communion and Single Service*

September 13, 2020 10:00 a.m.

### **PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

God of deliverance: you make a way out of no way. You pave paths at dead ends. You create opportunity in impossibility. We, at times, feel stuck. We have had our backs against the wall. We seem trapped in our circumstances. In this worship hour, give us a sense that you are who you have always been, the God of our salvation. Amen.

## **PRELUDE**

### **Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart**

- Morecambe, arr. M. Hayes

## **THE PRESENTATION OF SCRIPTURE**

### **INVOCATION** (Psalm 46:1-3, 8-11)

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.  
Come, behold the works of the LORD;  
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.  
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.  
“Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations,  
I am exalted in the earth.”  
The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

### **HYMN NO. 475**

#### **Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

- Robert Robinson

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

When we face limits, O God, we lose hope. When we encounter restrictions, we lack imagination. When we face difficult decisions, we are indecisive. When we are trapped in conundrum or crisis, we do not ask for help. We confess that we need you to go beyond our limits. We need you for inspiration. We need your wisdom for good judgment. We need you to make a way forward. In this worship silence, we acknowledge our neediness in order to know your grace.

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

### **RESPONSE**

#### **10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)**

- Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman

## **WELCOME, LIVE-STREAM CHECK-IN, AND JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **THE OFFERING**

### **MUSICAL OFFERING**

#### **Crashing Waters at Creation**

- William A. Cross & Sylvia G. Dunstan

## **DEDICATION OF OUR TITHES, OFFERINGS, ELECTRONIC AND ONLINE GIVING**

### **RESPONSE NO. 609**

#### **Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

- Lasst uns Erfreuen

## PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

### HEBREW SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 14:19-31

Exodus 15:1-11

### RESPONSE

Leader: The Word of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

"With Backs Against the Wall"

- Jon Nelson

### PREPARATORY INTERLUDE

### CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### THE MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (p. 35, debts & debtors)

### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE CUP

### CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Water

- Eddie Arizmendez & Mark Rivera

### THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

Once Upon a Rainy Day

- Jubing Kristianto

\*\*\*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SPIRITUAL PATH** Join us **September 22** for an outdoor intergenerational worship experience to kick off LOGOS 2020. Nine stations will be set up outside on our property focusing on a fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control). Each station has activities for all ages to engage. The walk will be open from 4-6 pm and we will properly distance. Please bring a mask to wear. Questions? Contact Pastor Jon (jnelson@arkanddove.org).

**BOOK GROUP COMING SOON ON *WHITE TOO LONG!*** *White Christian America Needs a Moral Awakening* is the headline of [The Atlantic](#) article by Robert P. Jones. In his new book, *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity*, Jones describes how white supremacist ideology and white Christian theology have been and continue to be interwoven in ways that uphold white supremacy. He calls us to examine our faith with a moral lens that can help us work toward a "right relationship with our fellow citizens, with ourselves, and even with God." Whether you read the article or the book, or don't do either, you are invited to bring your open mind and open heart to our next book group zoom meeting on **Wednesday, September 30th at 7pm**. To sign up, please email Jon Nelson (jnelson@arkanddove.org) or Kim Champagne (kim.champagne@gmail.com).

**CONFRONTING HOPELESSNESS, THWARTING DIVISION** This month we begin collecting for the [Peace and Global Witness Offering](#). This offering will be used to support ACT (Anne Arundel Connecting Together) as we support peace in Anne Arundel County. The 2020 Peace and Global

Witness Offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace God's mission for peace for those just around the corner.

Shaping a foundation for peace starts with honest conversations and shared experiences. When we share, we carry each other's burdens, advocate for one another, and share each other's hopes. Faith groups around Anne Arundel County have come together to share what is important to residents of Anne Arundel County. The [Peace and Global Witness Offering](#) unites our church with other faith groups and partnerships as we reach out to people who long for peace and reconciliation. *Blessed are the peacemakers.* [Please give generously](#) as we promote peace in Anne Arundel County. You may donate on line, text, or by check. With sincere thanks, Cheryl Schafer, Mission Elder, [cscscas@verizon.net](mailto:cscscas@verizon.net).

**OUR CHURCH HOME** Want to get involved? Join the Facility's Team! We take care of the beautiful building and grounds of Ark and Dove. Come help the Facilities Ministry support the congregation and our community by keeping our facilities in good working order. No experience needed, we have both indoor and outdoor teams. Please contact Autumn at [facilities@arkanddove.org](mailto:facilities@arkanddove.org)

**SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP** Sunday Fellowship after the live-stream church service continues! Via a ZOOM meeting, of course. If you'd like to join in for some light conversation and have a chance to see some familiar faces, simply send an email to [fellowship@arkanddove.org](mailto:fellowship@arkanddove.org) to request an invitation. We will then send you a link to the Zoom meeting. **You only need to do this one time, and you can use the same link each week.** The meetings begin around 11:15 each Sunday. It will be great to "see" you! Nicole Howe, [nicolehowe123@gmail.com](mailto:nicolehowe123@gmail.com).

**FRIENDLY SENIORS TEA** Thursdays at 3:00 pm on Zoom. Please contact Pastor Tim ([tstern@arkanddove.org](mailto:tstern@arkanddove.org)) to receive an invitation.

### **FALL KICK-OFF**

**CONFLICTED: Exploring Conflict and How it Might Help Us Today** We are embroiled in conflict. As a nation, we are at odds with others and our own. As citizens, we are polarized. As a Church, we differ from one another. As families, we fight. In this pandemic, international and national conflicts have increased. During this racial reckoning, divisions have widened. How do we handle these conflicts?

Join us for a 5-week course addressing biblical and contemporary conflicts from the international to the interpersonal. Each week, we will study certain conflicts to see how we might deal with the ones we face today.

- Week One: International Conflicts (Indian Independence and Israel's Exodus)
- Week Two: National Conflicts (The Tulsa Massacre and the Genocidal Scheme against the Jews)
- Week Three: Local Conflicts (Resource Disputes and Tax-Collectors)
- Week Four: Church Conflicts (Inclusive Christianity and Gentile Christians)
- Week Five: Interpersonal Conflicts (Political Arguments and Family Disputes)

This class will be co-led by Katie Nilsen Johnson (who recently earned a Masters in Peace and Conflict Studies), Grant Johnson, and Pastor Jon. We will begin at 7:30 on **September 15**. Please contact Pastor Jon for a Zoom link ([jnelson@arkanddove.org](mailto:jnelson@arkanddove.org)).

**BEING GRATEFUL IN DIFFICULT TIMES** Coming in October! *We all know the joy of a surprise gift, good news, or a great achievement -- all of those things eliciting feelings of gratitude. But these days, full of grief, worry, and uncertainty did not easily nurture a sense of thanks. Indeed, they seem to be gnawing away our hearts and our hopes.*

*So what of gratitude now? When we don't feel grateful? In a 6-part course based on her recent book, Grateful, Diana Butler Bass takes us into a journey to understand what gratitude is, how it can strengthen us as individuals and in community, and the surprising ways in which it subverts hopelessness and injustice. In addition to lectures and mini-practice sessions, Diana will be joined by other writers in conversation about how giving thanks has made a difference in their own lives.*

Join us for this course wherein, we will watch brief videos and have discussion over the content. Purchasing Bass' Grateful, will be helpful but not necessary. Class size is limited to 25. Please contact Kim Champagne to sign up ([kim.champagne@gmail.com](mailto:kim.champagne@gmail.com))

**LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY** Every Wednesday at 10 am, we gather online for fellowship, Bible study on the upcoming Sunday scriptures, and prayer. This has been and continues to be a great way to deepen friendships and faith. Please join us, there is no commitment or homework. Contact Pastor Jon for the Zoom invitation ([jnelson@arkanddove.org](mailto:jnelson@arkanddove.org)).

**SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP** High School youth group (9th-12th grade) will kick-off on **September 13, 4:30-6 pm**. Our first gathering will be outside in the field, but we will have a mix of online and in-person gatherings going forward, as safety permits. All youth wishing to gather in-person outside will be asked to sign a covenant that outlines our safety precautions. We will send that to you next week. Please contact Pastor Jon for any questions ([jnelson@arkanddove.org](mailto:jnelson@arkanddove.org)).

**LOGOS** Please join us online for a LOGOS parent's info session on **September 15 at 6pm**. LOGOS is Ark and Dove's midweek intergenerational experience for children and youth up to 8th grade. It is a time for all ages to come together to learn about God and grow in their relationships. At the meeting, you can hear about how we will be doing things differently due to Covid-19 this year and have your questions answered. Unlike previous years, we will not be meeting in the church building. Instead, each week will have a different family-centered activity to do either at home or outside at church. There will also be opportunities to connect and build relationships with others in our church community. Sign up [here](#) to receive a login link for zoom or get on our mailing list. For any questions or if you're interested in connecting, contact Jen Roman at [jroman8414@gmail.com](mailto:jroman8414@gmail.com)

*Artwork by Avi Ohayan*

\*\*\*

**Welcome! We hope you enjoyed worshipping with us! Join us again, on livestream, every Sunday at 10:00 am.**

**Lay Reader: Brian Boudreau**

**DONATE ONLINE!**

**Or TEXT your donations! 410-983-3481**

Text **give** to get started. Text **commands** for more options.

**8424 Piney Orchard Parkway Odenton, Maryland 21113, [www.arkanddove.org](http://www.arkanddove.org), 410-674-6400**

**TIMOTHY STERN – PASTOR**

**MARGARET MCGILLIVRAY – DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

**PASTOR BETSY BAER – PARISH ASSOCIATE**

**PASTORS CAROLINE PRICE-GIBSON AND STEPHEN PRICE-GIBSON – PARISH ASSOCIATES**

**KARLA KOLL, COSTA RICA – MISSION CO-WORKER**

**JONATHAN NELSON – ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

**PATRICK SISE – DIRECTOR OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC**

**ONE LICENSE #A-713332**

**CCLI COPYRIGHT LIC. # 813863**

