

November 10, 2024
Liturgical Color – Green

25th Sunday After Pentecost

Slackwood Presbyterian Church
2020 Brunswick Avenue
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Micah 6:6-8

“With what shall I come before the Lord,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Embracing God. Extending Welcome. Celebrating All.



Sunday, November 10, 2024

10:30 a.m.

-- GATHER TO WORSHIP--

As a consideration to all who seek to worship this morning, please turn off or mute cell phones and other electronic devices.

Bell of Invitation
Welcome & Announcements

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Call to Worship

Leader: You are welcome in this place, where God meets us in love.

People: Why are we here? We are here to love God with all that we have and all that we are.

Leader: You are welcome in this place, where God loves us as children.

People: Why are we here? We are here to love ourselves as deeply as God loves us.

Leader: Welcome to this place, where God serves us at the Table of love and grace.

People: Why are we here? We are here to be sent forth to love others as deeply as we love God and ourselves.

*Hymn #307 "God of Grace and God of Glory" CWM RHONDDA

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*In unison*)

Merciful God, forgive our systemic sins, the way we build and support and collaborate with oppression. Open our eyes to the injustice of wealth inequality. Open our hearts to righting our societal wrongs. Forgive our excuses, our apathy, our votes cast only for our own benefit. Help us follow Christ in prioritizing the poor and vulnerable. Help us build your beloved community where all belong, and all may flourish. (*Moment of silent prayer*). Amen.

*Words of Assurance

*Gloria Patri (#581)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

(Following the time of confession, children 3 through 10 may leave for Children's Church.)

HEARING OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading – Psalm 146

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem "On Eagle's Wings" Michael Joncas

Second Scripture Reading – Micah 6:6-8

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "And Here We Are" The Rev. David Bowman

*Affirmation of Faith (from the *Confession of Belhar*)

1. We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

2. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

3. We believe:

- that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

- that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's lifegiving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world;

- that the credibility of this message is seriously affected and its beneficial work obstructed when it is proclaimed in a land which professes to be Christian, but in which the enforced separation of people on a racial basis

promotes and perpetuates alienation, hatred and enmity;

• that any teaching which attempts to legitimate such forced separation by appeal to the gospel, and is not prepared to venture on the road of obedience and reconciliation, but rather, out of prejudice, fear, selfishness and unbelief, denies in advance the reconciling power of the gospel, must be considered ideology and false doctrine.

*Hymn #754 “Help Us Accept Each Other” BARONITA

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Call for the Offering & Offertory

*Doxology (#606)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #372 “O For A World” AZMON

*Charge and Benediction

DEPART TO SERVE

**Those who are able may stand.*

Christ’s Ministers in the World: All members of the church

Pastor: The Rev. David Bowman

Director of Music: Dr. Shelley Sanders Zuckerman

Liturgist: Sandy Murray

Announcements

The Peace Candle in the Chancel is lit to remind us of the gift of Christ’s peace and our call to be peacemakers.

Welcome to everyone who is worshipping this morning. If you are visiting, we hope you will feel very welcome and that you will stay for refreshments and conversation in fellowship hall.

Pastor Bowman’s contact information:

Email: dfbsbv@gmail.com or Telephone: 732.547.3480

Reminder: If you have not already returned your 2025 pledge card and time and talent survey, please do so.

The Adult Forum meets Sundays at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. The link is in the Saturday announcements email.

Sunday School for Middle & High School Youth is held each Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

The **Property & Finance Committee** will meet following worship this morning.

The **Membership & Outreach Committee** will meet on Wednesday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m.

The **Truth & Reconciliation** group will meet on Thursday, November 14 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The link is in your Saturday announcements email.

The **Board of Deacons** will meet following worship on Sunday, November 17.

Also on **Sunday, November 17 at 4:30 p.m.** in the church sanctuary, the Presbytery of The Coastlands will conduct a service of installation for the Rev. David Bowman as pastor of Slackwood Church. A reception will follow. Plan to attend.

This year's **Advent Social** will be at the home of Andy & Deb Pratt on Friday, December 6. Let's be kind to our hosts and let them know how many to expect. The sign-up sheet is on the table in fellowship hall.

On Sunday, December 8 following the morning service of worship there will be a brief prayer service out in front of the church in recognition of Human Rights Day.

Those people and places remembered in last Sunday's morning prayer are the Slackwood congregation, Martina & Patrick, Colin, Samantha, Jonathan, Michael, Marvis, Jack, Mary, Carol, Sharon, Ben, Gianna, Brooke, Pam, Kim, Joan & Dennis, Doug, the country, war torn countries around the world, families still suffering effects of hurricanes, Robin Frank & family, Celeste Hardrick & family, Bette, Mylan, Jeremy & JoAnne Ward, Ramona, Jill, Sharon, Brittany, Jack, Kari & Sam, Marilyn, John, Johnny, Francine, MaryBeth, Joan, Jillian, Peggy, Melissa, Priscilla, Kate, Jim, Enc, Marisa, Arduini family, JD, MJ & Richard, Jacqui & Jimmy.

Collection for Workwell: The Deacons will be collecting toiletries for the clients at Workwell, a local non-profit that works to equip returning citizens with job skills, dignity and hope following their release from prison. The following items are needed:

- deodorant (men and Women)
- Toothbrushes (holders also) and toothpaste
- Sanitary Napkins
- Soap with holders
- Razors
- Wash cloths
- trial size shampoo and conditioner
- Socks

You can place your donations in the donation box in Fellowship Hall. Thank you for helping to share our blessings with those in need in our community.

Slackwood's Mission Statement

Slackwood Presbyterian Church is a diverse, caring Christian community: guided by scripture, committed to loving God, loving our neighbors as we love ourselves and sharing Christ's love with all people.

Slackwood's Vision Statement

We envision glorifying and serving God by being an example to each other, the community, and the world through:

vibrant worship,
faithful prayer,
relevant study,
joyful fellowship,
compassionate service.

We strive to build a safe community that embraces:

all ages,
people of color,
the LGBTQIA+ community,
people with disabilities,
other marginalized people.