

## ***WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD***

## PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES, OFFERINGS AND COMMITMENTS

OFFERTORY                      Barry Bless, Kassia Arbabi, and Twila Jane  
*Jenny's Farewell to Charlie* (Irish)

❖RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING #607 *The Trinitarian Doxology*

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

# INVITATION TO THE TABLE

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*(Everyone who acknowledges Jesus as Savior and Lord is welcome at the table. Please come to the table up the west aisle – closest to Route 301 – and return by the east aisle. You may have to go through the back door to do this. If you are unable to come to the front, signal to the pastor or an usher and communion will be brought to you. Gluten-free elements are available.)*

MUSIC FOR COMMUNION    Barry Bless, Kassia Arbabi, and Twila Jane  
*Lama Bada Yatathana* (Arabic)

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**SENDING**

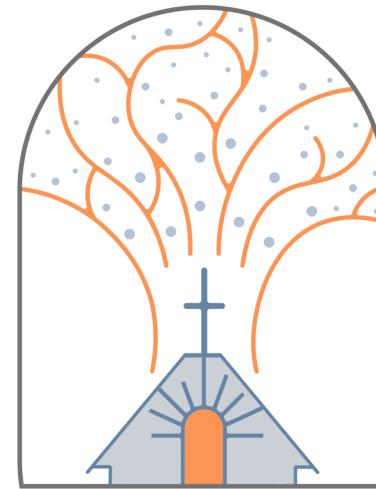
# ❖ HYMN #543 *God, Be the Love*

## ❖ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

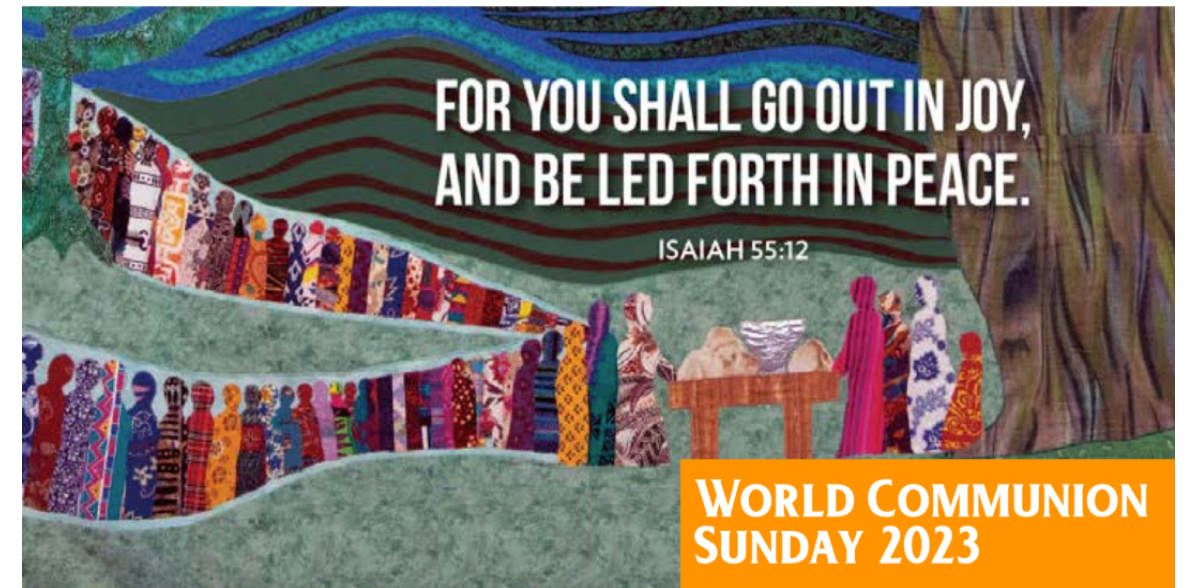
\*POSTLUDE

Barry Bless, Kassia Arbabi, and Twila Jane  
*Bella Ciao* (Italian)

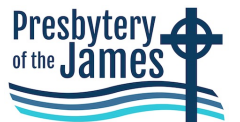
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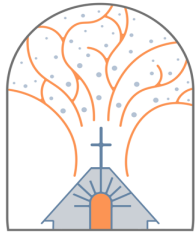


New  
Hanover  
Presbyterian  
Church



New Hanover Presbyterian Church  
is a congregation of  
the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the  
Presbytery of the James. We welcome you!





# New Hanover Presbyterian Church

**Our Vision:** Make Jesus Christ's life, death and resurrection relevant today

**Our Mission:** As a welcoming community of believers in Jesus Christ,  
we will unite our faith and works to share God's love

**Our Values:** Based on our understanding of the Bible, New Hanover  
Presbyterian Church believes that love, acceptance, inclusion, redemption,  
mercy and equity are values Jesus Christ taught and demonstrated.

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The Lord's Day, October 1, 2023

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

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❖ = Please stand in body or in spirit • Unison responses are in **bold print**  
Greet each other in the name of Jesus and prepare for worship.

You may use this prayer to assist you in your preparation:

*God of life, thank you for calling us to belong to something so much  
bigger than ourselves. Thank you for your church in all times and places.  
We pray that all who come to worship today may sense that the gospel of  
Christ is so much bigger than this congregation. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

## **GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS      The Rev. Dr. Eric Douglass  
*Welcome Visitors!*

PRELUDE      Barry Bless, Kassia Arbabi, and Twila Jane  
*Odessa Bulgar (Ukrainian / Jewish)*

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM      The Rev. Dr. Robert Johnson

### ❖CALL TO WORSHIP

From north and south and east and west,  
**all Creation sings forth your praises!**  
The mountains and the hills burst into song;  
**the trees of the field shall clap their hands.**  
Your steadfast love never ceases.  
**With joy and peace, let us worship God together.**

### ❖PRAYER OF ADORATION

### ❖SONG

*Mighty to Save*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Felecia Douglass

### CONFESSION OF SIN

**Gracious Lord, you created the whole world and called it good,  
but we look out at your world and see division and suffering. You  
call us to maintain the unity of spirit in the bond of peace, but we  
choose division over diversity, confrontation over civility, conflict  
over peace born from justice.**

**You call us to love the least of these among us, but we hear the  
cries of the oppressed and choose our own comfort.**

**We allow senseless suffering rather than sacrifice for our  
neighbors.**

**Forgive us. Grant us fresh vision to see one another as siblings in  
Christ. Rekindle in us your gifts — the spirit of power, love and self-  
discipline — that with faith in Christ, we might be made new and be  
part of bringing forth your peaceable kingdom. Amen. *(silent prayer)***

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### ❖RESPONSE OF PRAISE #612

*We Praise You, O God*

### MOMENT FOR MISSION

*Circles Ashland*

Peyton McCoy  
Debbie Williams

## **THE WORD**

### TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

The Rev. Dr. Eric Douglass

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

### LESSON FROM THE PROPHETS

Isaiah 49:1-7

### GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 18:1-7

### LESSON FROM THE EPISTLES

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

### SERMON

*Well-Lit Stumbling Blocks*

### ❖HYMN #749

*Come! Live in the Light*