



CONCORD LIBERTY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Come as Visitors - Leave as Friends - Return as Family"

To talk to someone about a particular area of ministry, please call the church office, (610) 358-2105 and Mary Ann, our church secretary, will direct your call to one of the Leaders, Directors, or Pastor below.

Rev. John King, Pulpit Supply
Marcia Bickley, Clerk of Session
David Steel, Service Leader

Charlie Jones, Dir., Community
Outreach & Congregational Care
Dino Firmani, Sexton
Mary Ann Emely, Office Secretary

Office Phone: 610-358-2105

Web Site: www.concordliberty.org

E-Mail: office@concordliberty.org

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/concordliberty>

If you have any concerns or questions about our church please feel free to contact any of our session elders listed below.

CLPC Session

Marcia Bickley, Clerk of Session

Beth Berstecher	Worship
Tom Long	Property
Judy McCleary	Discipleship
Tom McGrail	Outreach, Communications, Missions
Frank Sangster	Finance
Marian Spor	Congregational Care
Brenda Wilson	Discipleship

CLPC Deacons

Gary Cannon
Betty Culver

Denise Jingoian
Dave Lengel

Kim Lengel
Connie O'Donnell

Pray for our missionaries:

Nate & Jenny Bacon
InnerChange
Skip and Carol Tobin, VMM
Chester Eastside Inc.
Carolyn & Dan Hennings,
World Impact
Michele Rickett — She is Safe
David & Bethany Wilkinson,
Chop Point

Ray Garcia, Philadelphia Project
Jacob & Hosanna Thomas, VMM
City Team - Chester
Cornerstone Christian Academy
Young Life of Delaware County
Greenhouse Project
Delaware County Pregnancy Center
Doug Dicks, PCUSA's Regional Mission
in Israel-Palestine

CONCORD LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Seventh Sunday of Easter, Ascension Sunday

Communion Sunday

JUNE 1, 2025



*L'Ascension, Gustave Doré, 1879,
musée des Beaux-Arts de la ville de Paris*

CONCORD LIBERTY WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY

June 1st

9:15 am Prayer Time. *All are welcome.*
 10:00 am Worship Service, Communion
 10:00 am First Fruits
 10:00 am KOTM Pre-school and Elementary
 10:00 am Nursery Care — Laurie Cannon, Sandy Mueller
 11:00 am Teacher Treat Box Assembly — Kitchen

MONDAY

June 2nd

7:15 pm Children's Ministry Team Meeting (Zoom)

TUESDAY

June 3rd

4:00 pm Property Committee Meeting (Library)
 7:00 pm Women's Tuesday Night Bible Study
 7:00 pm Session Meeting (Library)

WEDNESDAY

June 4th

1:00 pm Wednesday Afternoon Prayer Time, Sanctuary
 6:00 pm Women's Wednesday Night Bible Study (Zoom)
 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study (Library)

THURSDAY

June 5th

FRIDAY

June 6th

SATURDAY

June 7th

10:00 am VBS Decorating (until 2 pm)

CONCORD LIBERTY HIGHLIGHTS

WORSHIP

To view live or recent worship services, please go to the Concord Liberty YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/@concordlibertychurch19342/streams>
 You may also access it from the Concord Liberty home page by clicking on the **CLICK HERE** button.

To view a recent sermons only, go to the CLPC website — under Worship, select Services and Sermons. Then choose the date/sermon you wish to view and click on the link provided.

Nursery service will be offered during Worship. If you need nursery service on Sunday morning, please let a Greeter know and they will assist you.

STEPHEN MINISTERS - If you are going through a difficult time, or you know of someone who is facing difficulties, consider a caring relationship of a Stephen Minister. To learn more contact, Sylvia Schaffer or Joann Smith.

PRAYER CHAIN — Prayer requests for the emailed prayer chain should be sent to office@concordliberty.org.

DEACONS AND SESSION MAILBOXES are located in the Berstecher Library.

WORSHIP DETAILS — Any schedule changes to worship service roles (KOTM, communion, tellers, etc.) should be sent to office@concordliberty.org at least a week in advance of the respective service date.

Communion Cups Request!

Please place your used small Communion cups in the hole in the rack of the chair in front of you. The Deacons will collect the used cups and discard them. Thank you.



Sermons for the Sundays of Easter*

Ascension Sunday, June 1, II Kings 2:1-15

"A Double Dip"

Day of Pentecost, June 8, John 14:8-17, 25-27

"Making Sure"

Trinity Sunday, Father's Day, June 15, John 16:12-15

"More Than You Can Bear"

Sermon Notes

JUNE 1, 2025

I. A Double Dip

II Kings 2:1-15

A. A curious mystery.

1. It is apparent that Elijah knows that the Lord is going to take him, but the text does not reveal how he knows.
2. It is also apparent that Elisha and the companies of prophets know, but the text does not reveal how they know, and it seems that Elijah, at least in the beginning, doesn't realize that they are anticipating this event, the final particulars of which are still a mystery to them and, probably, to him, as well.

B. All of this makes for an entertaining narrative, leaving it to us (and many biblical commentators) to imagine what all these characters have in mind as the events proceed.

1. Elisha obviously, is devoted to Elijah, and, although he has already been designated and blessed to succeed him, he does not want to let him go.
2. Elijah, it seems, wants to protect Elisha from witnessing his leaving, even though he seems to have knowledge that he will not die, but "be taken from you" (v. 10).
3. So, we observe a little game of cat and mouse, with the young prophets in training adding to the drama.

C. The conclusion.

1. They all end up at the Jordan, Elijah and Elisha at the shore, and the prophets spying from a distance.
 - a. Elijah, the servant leader, asks Elisha how he might serve him. Elisha requests "a double portion of your spirit" (v. 9). This request is a reference to an eldest son's inheritance, not to a double amount, i.e., that all that was Elijah's anointing as head prophet, might become his.
 - b. Elijah, makes it clear that this is a gift that is in God's hands, but he declares to him a sign of confirmation (v. 10), "If you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours."
2. Elijah, taking up his cloak (mantle), uses it as Moses used his staff, to divide the waters. They walk across on dry land.
3. As is often the case in some of the great events of all of our lives, "as they were walking along and talking together," the chariot of fire and the horses (representing the power, presence and glory of God) appear and Elijah is taken up in a whirlwind. Elisha sees the event (v. 12) and then everything disappears.

D. Drama at the river.

1. What's a newly promoted assistant prophet to do? Swim across? Walk upstream to find a ford in the river? And he probably knows that the company of prophets were watching.
2. He takes the mantle and, like Elijah, he strikes the water. The Hebrew in the manuscripts is very difficult here. Some translators have him striking the water twice and, when it doesn't divide on the first try, he exclaims, "Where now is the Lord, the God of Elijah?" On the possibly second try, the water divides!
3. The company of prophets correctly acknowledge this as a sign of the spirit of God now resting upon Elisha and they bow before him.
4. What a way to start a ministry!

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

CONCORD LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Seventh Sunday of Easter, Communion Sunday

Ascension Sunday

June 1, 2025

10:00 am WORSHIP SERVICE

Rev. John King, Pulpit Supply
Charlie Jones, Worship Leader
David Steel, Service Leader
Victoria Temple, Soloist



Silent Preparation

Emerson's phrase "artful thunder" has long attached itself in my mind to the Hebrew prophets. Thunder is attention-getting. The rumble and crash of thunder forces us into an awareness of Weather, which we hardly notice on calm and sunny days. All the conditions for thunder, though always present, are usually unnoticed – moisture, wind currents, barometric pressure, temperature, electrical charges – but when the proportions and combinations of the elements are just right, there is thunder. We notice. Prophets constitute such moments. The taken-for-granted elements of life that for our ease and convenience we keep in separate categories – God and the soul, righteousness and injustice, politics and war, poverty and exploitation, public and private – come together in the prophet in a thunderclap. We run for cover, but there is no cover. We are caught, exposed, in the Weather, God's Weather – all of life.

Eugene Peterson in *Praying with the Prophets*

*Congregation is requested to stand if able.
Please adjust all electronic devices so as to not interrupt the service.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"The Gift of Finest Wheat"
Westendorf/Kreut
Victoria Temple, Soloist

LEADER: Let us join in worshipping the Lord our God.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 97)

LEADER: The Lord is King! Let the earth rejoice. The heavens proclaim His righteousness and all the peoples behold His glory

PEOPLE: **All worshipers of images are put to shame. For You, O Lord, are most high over all the earth. You are exalted far above all false gods.**

LEADER: Light dawns for the righteous and joy for the upright in heart. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to His holy name. Come, let us worship our God!

*THE HYMN OF ADORATION

"How Majestic is Your Name"
No. 300

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Apostles' Creed*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*HYMN

"Seek Ye First"
No. 42

*THE DEDICATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS (responsively)

LEADER: With grateful hearts, O Lord, we commit our gifts to You.

PEOPLE: **May we always know the privilege and joy of participating in Your generosity; in the distant corners of the world, in our community and in our church.**

LEADER: Shine Your face on each gift, Lord, so that together they might be a reflection of Your blessing in Jesus' name. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"
No. 625

SCRIPTURE

II Kings 2:1-15

THE MESSAGE

"A Double Dip"
Pastor John King

*HYMN

"Break Thou the Bread of Life"
No. 274

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Invitation to the Lord's Table
The Prayer of Blessing
The Lord's Prayer No. 426 (sung in unison)
The Words of Institution
The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup
The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: We thank You, O God, that through Word and Sacrament You have given us Your Son who is the true bread from heaven and food of eternal life.

People: **Strengthen us in Your service so that our daily living may show our thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING AND SENDING

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"He Is Lord" (chorus)
He is Lord, He is Lord!
He is risen from the dead and He is Lord!
Ev-'ry knee shall bow, ev-'ry tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord.

POSTLUDE

"Break Thou the Bread of Life" (reprise)