

The Sixth Sunday of Eastertide

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.”

May 25, 2025

8:00 a.m. In Person in Sanctuary

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

Mike Huddleston was traveling for a training. He had flown from Maryland to San Francisco and needed to get to a rental car agency. But because of a degenerative neuromuscular condition that weakens his muscles, he wouldn't be able to climb the stairs of the shuttle bus. Instead, the car agency sent someone to pick him up.

But as he was walking outside to meet them, he fell. And due to his condition, he couldn't get up. "I remember sitting there in the middle of the sidewalk in front of San Francisco Airport, thinking, 'What in the world am I going to do?'"

"[Then] out of nowhere I heard, 'What can I do to help?'" Huddleston turned his head to see a man in his late thirties standing behind him. "I said, 'Are you kidding?' He said, 'No. What can I do to help you, man?'"

Huddleston described what the man could do to help him get off the ground. Once he got him up, the man fetched Huddleston's baggage, which had rolled a few feet away when he fell. "He asked me if I was good and I said, 'I am because of you. So, thank you very much.' He just said, 'No problem,' and turned and walked away."

This encounter struck Huddleston. Not just because of the man's kindness, but also because of the way he offered that kindness. His unsung hero didn't step in and start helping when he saw Huddleston on the ground. He took a moment to ask Huddleston how he could help.

Different people who need assistance may need it in different ways. So, asking them how you can help them is amazingly helpful. It allows the individual who's in need of assistance to maintain a sense of self, to maybe feel a little less helpless, and maybe even a little less vulnerable.

It's been more than 20 years since Huddleston was helped up, but he continues to think about it to this day. "His willingness to help me — and the compassion he showed in a very challenging situation — for me is something I will never forget."

We Praise and Confess
The * invites you to rise in body or spirit.

Prelude

Chiming of the Trinity

Call to Worship

*Entrance Hymn: No. 265

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun – Duke Street

*Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

You promise peace, yet we cling to fear.

You send visions, but we close our eyes.

You pour out love, and still we hold back.

Forgive us for the ways we resist your movement in our lives.

Forgive us for ignoring your Spirit's nudge.

Forgive us for building walls where you are creating welcome.

Make our hearts soft and our minds open.

Renew us in your mercy and lead us in your way.

This we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Silence

Declaration of Pardon

Revelation 21:5

The one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new. Friends, hear the good news: God is not done with

us. The One who makes all things new is at work even now – restoring, renewing, redeeming. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and being made new.

Praise

O Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall show forth Your praise.

*Song of Praise

Benedictus es, Domine – John Rutter

Glo-ry to you, Lord God of our fa-thers; you are
 wor-thy of praise; glo-ry to you. Glo-ry to you for the ra-di-ance
 of your ho-ly Name; we will praise you and high-ly ex-alt you for ev-er.
 Glo-ry to you in the splen-dor of your tem-ple; on the throne of your
 ma-jes-ty, glo-ry to you. Glo-ry to you, seat-ed be-tween the
 Cher-u-bim; we will praise you and high-ly ex-alt you for ev-er.
 Glo-ry to you, be-hold-ing the depths; in the high vault of
 hea-ven, glo-ry to you. Glo-ry to you, Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly
 Spir-it; we will praise you and high-ly ex-alt you for ev-er.

*Collect

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. . .

We Hear and Respond

From the Book of Last Things

Revelation 21:10, 22-27, 22:1-5

¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God,

²² And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵ and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

22 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.¹

¹ *Revised Common Lectionary* (Bellingham, WA: Faithlife, 2009).

The Word of the Lord, the Light of the World.

Thanks be to God!

The Psalter Sung: No. 341 – Psalm 67

O God, Show Mercy to Us – Thaxted

*Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

St. John 5:1-17

Hear the Gospel of Christ.

Glory to Christ our Savior.

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

² Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. ³ In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵ One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" ⁷ The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me." ⁸ Jesus said to him, "Get up, take up your bed, and walk." ⁹ And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.

Now that day was the Sabbath. ¹⁰ So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed." ¹¹ But he answered them, "The man who healed me, that man said to me, 'Take up your bed, and walk.' " ¹² They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk?'" ¹³ Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. ¹⁴ Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you." ¹⁵ The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. ¹⁶ And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. ¹⁷ But

Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working." ²

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

The Word of God Proclaimed

Dr. Williams – "PD"

The Pool!

*An Easter Proclamation of Faith

LEADER: The manifold wisdom of God has been revealed.

PEOPLE: **Rulers and authorities in heavenly realms now know of his marvelous plan.**

LEADER: For the Son of God, Jesus Christ died on a cross for our sin.

PEOPLE: **His body was pierced, His blood was shed as the perfect sacrifice lamb.**

LEADER: After he died the death of man, his lifeless body was placed in a tomb.

PEOPLE: **He was wrapped in linens and spices and a large stone sealed him in darkness.**

LEADER: But God broke the darkness with the light of life; on the third day Jesus rose from the dead.

PEOPLE: **Resurrection power surged through every part of his being.**

LEADER: He became the Risen Christ—conqueror of sin and death.

PEOPLE: **The firstborn from the dead, that we, too, might taste the power of light and life.**

LEADER: He who rose now sits at the right hand of the Father.

² *The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Jn 5:1–17.

PEOPLE: **The Risen One is the Ascended Christ—the high priest of heaven and head of the church, his body.**

LEADER: We declare today that we, as his church, are his blood-bought bride.

PEOPLE: **That we are his people, a royal priesthood, a new and holy nation in his sight.**

LEADER: He will come again for us ... Maranatha!

PEOPLE: **That we might be where he is ... Maranatha, Lord Jesus!**

LEADER: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: **Who was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.**³

Morning Prayer

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

Welcome and Announcements

Offering Our Gifts, Tithes and Offerings

Give via PayPal, a Credit Card, or Debit Card by scanning the QR code with your camera



*Offertory Response: No. 606

The Doxology

*Offertory Prayer

*Hymn of Dismissal: No. 796

We Come to You for Healing, Lord — Land of Rest

Following the Light of Christ into the World

³ Robert Webber, *The Services of the Christian Year*, vol. 5, The Complete Library of Christian Worship (Nashville, TN: Star Song Pub. Group, 1994), 404.

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

*Sung Dismissal and Blessing

Now Unto Him Who Is Able

Now unto Him who is able to keep you from falling.
To make you stand in His presence blameless and with great joy.
To the only God our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Be the glory, and the majesty, dominion, and authority.
Both now and forevermore, Amen.

**Give Him the glory, and the majesty, dominion, and authority.
Both now and forevermore, Amen!**

*Postlude

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MAY 25, 2025

The People of New Goshenhoppen, Ministers
Rev. Dr. David A. Williams, Senior Pastor and Organist
Rev. Dr. Deborah Rahn Clemens, Pastor Emerita
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**

NEXT SUNDAY: Please read Luke 24:44-53.

MEMORIAL DAY CEMETERY SERVICE: Today at 10:00 a.m. you are invited to join Pastor Dave in the very oldest section of the cemetery for a commemoration of those who have served this country. If the weather is "rainy," we will gather in Fellowship Hall.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION AND HILLEGASS FUND SCHOLARSHIP

AWARDS: On Sunday, June 8 at the 10:30 a.m. service, we will recognize those students who are graduating from high school, college, and graduate school. A gift from Christian Education will be presented to them. The Hillegass Scholarship Committee will also present their awards for the academic year 2025-2026. Families of graduates, please call the Church Office by Monday, June 2 to provide information of the graduate and their future plans so that it may be included in the Sunday bulletin.

ATTENTION ALL COOKS: The Anniversary Cookbook Committee is collecting recipes for our publication. We are looking for your favorites. Please dig deep and send us recipes for the ages. Include those from your grandparents, friends, and family members with a focus on, but not exclusively, old German and PA Dutch foods. Recipes can be dropped off in the appropriately marked box in the Social Room, handed to a committee member, or emailed to krause1123@comcast.net. Please include your name and contact information. We are looking forward to some tasty treats.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

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

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

**In loving memory of the birthday anniversary of
Donald Endy, loving Husband, Dad and PopPop**

by Mildred, David, Steve, Lisa and families

In memory of Patricia Nichols

by Emy & Steve Moyer

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Patricia E. Nichols

by The Shaw Family

In memory of Richard Bieler

by Amy Hangey, Andy and Ben Whitcomb

CEMETERY FUND

**In loving memory of our parents,
Russell & Eva Adam and Richard & Pauline Schuler**

by David & Delores Schuler

In loving memory of brother, Rick Schuler

by David Schuler

In memory of father, Richard Schuler, Sr.

by Gary & Sandy Schuler

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL: Many hands are needed to help with this Sunday School event. Help is needed to clean the refreshment stand and dining hall at the park, clean berries, serve hot foods, prepare desserts and washing dishes. Help is needed in both the refreshment stand and the dining hall. Signup sheets with details are on the bulletin boards in the Social Room and the Fellowship Hall. Please consider helping with this fundraiser for the Sunday School.

BAKED BEANS: Volunteers are needed to make baked beans for the upcoming Strawberry Festival on June 7th. Beans and recipe will be provided, however, you are welcome to use your own favorite recipe if you wish. Interested persons may pick up their beans in the Social Room or outside the elevator entrance on the upper level. Please drop off the prepared beans at the New Goshenhoppen Park the afternoon of June 5th or June 6th. Thank you for your help.

NEW ITEM AUCTION: There is one week remaining to consider a donation for the "new item" raffle to be held at the Strawberry Festival. Brand new items and gift certificates make up beautiful and popular gift baskets. Larger ticket items will be bid on in a silent auction format. We appreciate all donations. All proceeds go directly to the Sunday School. Please bring your items to the church by Monday morning, June 2nd. Please contact Bev Benner or Delores Schuler if you are able to make a contribution.

FIRST MONDAY MEAL: Dinner is served! Join us Monday, June 2 for a delicious meal catered by Toscos . . . BBQ, mac and cheese and a sweet treat, served by Lechner and Stauffer. As always, we will serve take out style from 6:00-7:00 p.m. OR Pennsburg UCC will offer dine-in promptly at 6:00 p.m. Dinner there is Redner's fried chicken, mashed potatoes, corn and a dessert. Everyone is welcome!

UPPER PERK YOUTH FOOTBALL & CHEER SPAGHETTI DINNER: Friday, June 13, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at New Goshenhoppen Church. Dinner will be provided by Mercatino Italiano and Giovanni's Pizza. Cost \$12.00 per person (3 and under free). You have the option of eating in the Fellowship Hall or pre-ordering a take-out meal. If pre-ordering a take-out meal, kindly sign up by June 6th on the sheet located in the Social Room. Take-out orders may be paid for when picked up; simply drive-up to the Fellowship Hall side door for pick up. Thank you for your support.

SMILE GIFT BAGS is collecting new items for gift bags for the residents of Pennsburg Manor and needs your help! They are seeking donations of the following items:

- Trial-sized body lotions, shampoos, body wash, lip balm, hand cream
- Large print crossword puzzles and word searches
- Large print books
- Grippy socks
- Lap blankets

Please place your donations in the box located in the Social Room by June 15th. Your generosity will bring joy and comfort to the residents. Thank you for your support!

CONGRATULATIONS to **Janine F. Krans Jacobs** and **John Andrew McGinty**, who were united in marriage on May 17, 2025, at New Goshenhoppen UCC. Rev. Dr. David Williams was the officiant.

CEMETERY WORKDAYS: The following are the dates for cemetery workdays: June 28, July 26, Aug. 23, and Sept. 27. We begin the morning with a cup of coffee and a planning meeting at 7:30 a.m. with work commencing at 8:00 a.m. We appreciate any time your schedule will allow. *More helpers make tasks easier.*

BULLETINS are presented in honor of the birthday anniversary of daughter, Sheri Ackerman by parents, David & Delores Schuler; and in thanks to the New Goshenhoppen congregation for their support of the First Monday Meal program.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented in honor and memory of veterans by Deb Nester; and in memory of departed loved ones by the Chris Weikel family.

THE FLOWERS IN FRONT OF THE PULPIT are presented in memory of my husband, Darcy; my parents, Dorothy & Carl Wahl; and my brother, Bruce Wahl by Linda Sheaffer.

THE FLOWERS IN THE SOLDIERS VASES are presented in loving memory of S/Sgt. Raymond C. Schmoyer and all those who sacrificed their lives in military service by the Whitcomb family.

ATTENDANCE: 5/18/25 – 8:00 a.m. 54; 10:30 a.m. 61; Livestream (YouTube) 24. Sunday School 30.

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 5/18/25: Current & Benevolences \$4,334.50; Building, Improvement & Maintenance \$225. Monthly EFT income \$5,060.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE: 73 units have responded. There is \$84,130 pledged. The amount received since 2023 is \$87,431 (including Capital Campaign memorial gifts.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS:

Year to Date Income	\$328,281.56
Less Investment Withdrawals	<u>\$44,424.00</u>
	\$283,857.56
Year to Date Expenses	\$271,346.89
Special Income	\$14,728.68
Capital Campaign Income	\$16,484.75
Special Project BIM Expenses	\$12,345.60
Meadows Paid Back Year to Date	\$12,500.00

ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sun.	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School (Christian Education building)
	10:00 a.m.	Cemetery Service (Oldest cemetery)
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)
	1:00 p.m.	Private Event (Park)
Mon.		Office Closed – Memorial Day
Tues.	8:00 a.m.	Quilting (Pathfinder Room)
	9:00 a.m.	Kindergarten “Boot Camp” begins
	6:30 p.m.	Cub Scouts (lower-level classrooms)
Wed.	7:00 p.m.	Mike Hofke’s band – rehearsal (Confirmation Room)
Thurs.	7:00 p.m.	Red Hill Band rehearsal (Park)
Sat.	9:00 a.m.	PSEC Spring Meeting (Zwingli UCC, Souderton)
Sun.	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary) – Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School (Christian Education building)
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Sanctuary & Livestreamed) – Communion
	3:00 p.m.	UPHS Baccalaureate (Park)

Thank you to our Service Participants

8:00 a.m.	Narthex – Will Howe Roberts’ Church Office – Melissa Jamison Elevator – Gene Basara Upper Narthex – Nonna Stankunas
10:30 a.m.	Liturgist/Acolyte – Delores Schuler Narthex – Thomas Bancroft Roberts’ Church Office – Terry Dworkin Elevator – Peter Hemperly Upper Narthex – Doug Atno Liturgist/Acolyte – Steve Lentz



THE FATHER'S DAY CARNATION PROJECT!

REMEMBERING FATHER, GRANDFATHER, UNCLE ON
FATHER'S DAY, JUNE 15th

We are pleased to have this opportunity both to honor men and financially support Old First Reformed UCC, Homeless Men's Shelter in Philadelphia, PA.

This year, instead of delivering carnations to a health care facility, we wish for all men of New Goshenhoppen to be remembered. At the conclusion of both services, every man is invited to come to the chancel railing and receive a carnation.

Use a separate form for each carnation ordered.

My gift is: (*check one*) ____ In Honor of: or ____ In Memory of:

Name (first, last)

(Please indicate Father, Grandfather, etc.)

Given by _____

Please mail this completed form, along with **\$5.00**,
to New Goshenhoppen UCC, 1070 Church Road,
East Greenville, PA 18041.

**Checks should be made payable to
New Goshenhoppen Church.**

Deadline: Monday, June 9th.

265 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - oners
 5 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 throng to crown his head; his name, like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song, and in - fant voic - es
 leap to loose their chains; the wea - ry find e -
 cu - liar to our King; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume, shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud A - men!

This hymn is a classic example of how Isaac Watts Christianized the Psalms, in this case Psalm 72:5–19, by turning their messianic language to New Testament equivalents. The tune was at first nameless and anonymous, but is now called by the address of the supposed composer.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.
 MUSIC: Attr. John Hatton, c. 1793

DUKE STREET
 LM

341 O God, Show Mercy to Us

(Psalm 67)

1 O God, show mer - cy to us, and bless us with your
2 For you will judge the peo - ples in truth and righ - teous -

grace; and cause to shine up - on us the bright - ness of your
ness, and on the earth all na - tions will your just rule con -

face, so that your way most ho - ly on earth may soon be
fess. Let all the peo - ples praise you; let all the na - tions

known, and un - to ev - ery peo - ple your sav - ing grace be
sing. Then earth in rich a - bun - dance to us its fruit will

As this paraphrase shows, Psalm 67 combines many themes: a communal prayer for blessing, a prayer for all people to acknowledge God, and thanksgiving for a bountiful harvest. In Jewish practice it was recited at the end of every Sabbath, a reminder of God's universal sovereignty.

TEXT: *The New Metrical Version of the Psalms*, 1909, alt.
MUSIC: Gustav Holst, 1918; harm. composite

THAXTED
13.13.13.13.13.13

THE LIFE OF THE NATIONS



shown. Let all the peo-ples praise you; let all the na - tions
bring. The Lord our God will bless us; our God will bless - ing

The first system of the musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The lower staff is in bass clef and provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes.



sing; in ev - ery land let prais - es and songs of glad - ness ring.
send, and all the earth will wor-ship to its re-mot - est end.

The second system of the musical score continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It also consists of two staves in the same key signature and clefs. The lyrics continue below the staves, ending with a double bar line.

606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise *him, all creatures
here below; praise *him above, ye heavenly host; praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

**Or "God"*

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

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

We Come to You for Healing, Lord 796

1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
 2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
 3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
 4 Through nights of pain and wake - ful - ness, through
 5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in

bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
 reached toward those in pain, we know you come a -
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our

Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
 mong us still with power to heal a - gain.
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

Unlike many hymns on the theme of healing, this text appropriately includes the ministry of medical personnel as instruments of God's healing activity. It also acknowledges that illness is not limited to physical symptoms, but involves mental, emotional, and spiritual dimensions.

TEXT: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 2002

MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Annabel Morris Buchanan, 1938

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LAND OF REST

CM

(alternate harmonization, 691)