

***The vision of Dover UCC is to seek justice, love kindness  
and walk humbly with our God.***

***Dover Congregational United Church of Christ***

January 18, 2026



***Rev. Melinda Quellhorst, Senior Pastor  
An Open & Affirming Congregation  
A Just Peace Congregation  
Epiphany Sunday***

***2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
All that we are!***

**Announcements**

**Prelude**

*"This Is My Father's World"*

*Mark Hayes*

**Centering**

**\*Opening Song #570 verses 1,5,6** *"We Shall Overcome"*

**\*Call to Worship**

One: Moses protested intensely as the Spirit spoke at the burning bush; Mary stood amazed as the Spirit proclaimed impending birth; God calls today...

**All: Here I am. Send me.**

One: Rosa Parks followed God to the front of the bus; Martin Luther King, Jr. heard God as the bullet shattered; God beckons today... can you hear?

**All: Here I am. Send me.**

One: The Spirit beckons from humble places--in the tears of hungry children, in the cries of the frail and frightened elderly, in the pleas of those whose dreams have been too long deferred; God beckons today... can you hear?

**All: Here I am. Send me.**

**\*Hymn #593**

*"Lift Every Voice and Sing"*



**\*Opening Thoughts** (Remain Standing)

One: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, said...

**All: The living of the dream will give us courage to face the uncertainties of the future. When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds, and our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, we will know that we are living in the creative turmoil of a genuine civilization struggling to be born. If we but live the dream of love, we will bring about a new day of justice and peace. In that day the morning stars will sing together, and the sons and daughters of God will shout for joy. For God will have made all things new.**

**\*Gloria #756**

*"Gloria, Gloria"*

*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!*

**Scripture**

Isaiah 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me. <sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "You are my servant Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have labored in vain I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord and my reward with my God." <sup>5</sup> And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—<sup>6</sup> he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." <sup>7</sup> Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."



## John 1:29-42

Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born; while I was in my mother's womb he named me. <sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "You are my servant Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have labored in vain I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord and my reward with my God." <sup>5</sup> And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—<sup>6</sup> he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." <sup>7</sup> Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

### **Offering of music (10:00 AM)**

*"Holy Art Thou"      edited by Richard Bronson*

### **Children's time (10:00 AM)**

### **Hymn #293**

*"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"*

### **Scripture**

I Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, <sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— <sup>6</sup> just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any gift as



you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Sermon**

Rev. Melinda Quellhorst

### **Call to Prayer #772**

*"Nothing Can Trouble"*

*Taize*

*Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. Those who seek God shall never go wanting.*

*Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten, God alone fills us.*

## **Joys and Concerns/Prayers- both silent and spoken**

### **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.**

## **Invitation to Gratitude (10:00 AM)**

### **Offering our Gifts**

### **Offering Music**

*"Abide With Me"*

*Bach*

### **\*Doxology**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise Christ all creatures here below;***

***Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter***

***One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen***

### **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

### **\*Hymn #575**

*"O for a World"*

### **\*Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*"Psalm XIX"*

*Marcello*



## **Serving You in Church Today**

**Sermon:** Rev. Melinda Quellhorst

**Music Director:** Jamie Kunselman

**Liturgist:** Don Nichols

**Organist:** Carol Sue Beck

**Media:** Dave MacKeigan

**Please join us after worship for Coffee Hour in Thomas Hall—  
your hosts are Bobbi Knoepp and Leita Spencer.**

### **\*\*\*\*\*COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!!\*\*\*\*\***

The new year is here and it is again time to sign up for Coffee Hour! Volunteers are needed each Sunday to prepare coffee and set out snacks/pastries, then clean up. You do NOT need to be a great baker—store-bought treats are welcome! If you have any questions, or need help with coffee hour, please contact Dawn Smith.

### **Stream Events at Dover**

~The **worship service** will be live on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. on the Dover Congregational UCC website (<https://www.doverucc.org>) and Facebook page and the recording will be posted immediately after the service.

~Monday thru Friday, the office will be open from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Please call the office to ensure someone is in to assist you.

~If you have a care or concern you need to discuss, please contact Rev. Quellhorst at [revmql@gmail.com](mailto:revmql@gmail.com) or call her on her cell, 330-717-5357

~During the 10:00 AM service, child care is available for children five years and younger in room 104, on the lower level, Faith Formation for older children.


**Large print bulletins and hearing amplifications are available in the back.**



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Dover UCC will once again partner with four area churches for Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is "Snowball Mountain Challenge." VBS will take place June 15-19, 2026 at Prince of Peace Church. Dover UCC will lead snacks again, partnering with Church of Redeemer. We are currently in need of volunteers for Music/Bible stories, Games (outdoor recreation), and Crafts. And the big one: we are collecting 600 empty one gallon water jugs to build an igloo for VBS. Please place donated water jugs in the collection box in Thomas Hall. Thank you for your support—let's keep shining bright! Jacquie DelMonte 440-463-6460

~ **Contributions**~ At the home page click on the "**Give**" button and

 Follow the directions **OR** you can easily connect to our online donation page by scanning this QR code with the camera on your phone or a QR app--will take you directly to our online donation page!

### Open and Affirming Statement

Dover Congregational United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming congregation. We affirm that God's grace is available to all. We welcome people of all ages, genders, races, views, abilities, sexual orientations, expressions and identities, ethnic educational and economic backgrounds into the full life and ministry of our church. We declare this in the name of God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, welcomed all people into God's circle of grace.

Approved by the congregation September 21, 2008  
Additions approved by the congregation April 13, 2014

### Just Peace Covenant

As a Just Peace church continuing the work of Jesus, we commit to work toward a world where all persons are treated with dignity and equality, where societies are structured in ways that promote the well-being of all people, and where conflicts are resolved through communication and negotiations, without resorting to exploitation or violence. We strive to embody these principles in our lives and witness as individuals and as a congregation. Our specific focus is: Just Peace in the community- so that all may live free from fear. Just Peace with the Earth – so that life is sustained. Just Peace in the marketplace- so that all may live with dignity. Just Peace among nations- so that human lives are protected. Through our worship, programs, and outreach we seek to be a community of reconciliation, hope, and courage as we work for peace and justice in our world.

Adopted and approved by congregation September 14, 2025