

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



**Dover Congregational United Church of Christ**

January 4, 2026

**Rev. Melinda Quellhorst, Senior Pastor**

**An Open & Affirming Congregation**

**A Just Peace Congregation**

**Epiphany Sunday**

*Arise, Shine!*

*\*Please Stand if able*  
***Black New Century hymnal***

**Announcements**

**Prelude**

"Joy to The World"

*arr. Mark Hayes*

**Centering**

**\*Carol #104 verse 3**

"We Hail You God's Anointed"

***The wise shall bow before you and gold and incense bring;  
all nations shall adore you, and praise all peoples sing;  
to you shall prayer unceasing and daily vows be said,  
your realm is still increasing, with you, O Christ, as head.***

**\*Call to Worship**

One: Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!

**All: Darkness has been banished!**

One: God's light of hope floods the earth.

**All: God's light comes to us all.**

One: Work with us, O God, to be ready to journey to this light.

**All: Prepare our hearts to accept this light.**

**\*Carol #139 verses 1-2**

"The First Nowell"

**Lighting of Christ Candle** (Please be seated) Light candle

One: As the Magi sought him and found him by the light of the star, so we,  
following the light that God has given us, find Jesus this day in the praise and  
the prayers, the words and the actions, of God's faithful people

**All: We thank God for the Christ child and for the hope, the peace, the joy,  
the love that his coming has brought to the world. Arise, shine,  
for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

One: Loving God, Emmanuel, as we celebrate the light coming, we give thanks to  
you for how you have blessed us. Lead us in the days ahead as we go home  
another way like the Magi. Help us to walk in the light with one born in  
Bethlehem, as they became refugees, following Joseph's dream to leave to  
stay safe. May we too offer the light.

**Carol #139 Verses 3, 4, 5**

"The First Nowell"

## Scripture

Matthew 2:1-12

**Offering of music (10:00 AM)** "We Three Kings of Orient Are" *arr. John Leavitt*

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

**Men's choir**

"Go Home By Another Way"

*Christopher Grundy*

## Scripture

Isaiah 60:1-6

**Carol #164**

"Arise, Your Light Is Come"

**Sermon**

Rev. Melinda Quellhorst

**Pastoral Prayer / Silent Prayer**

**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**

"What Child is This"

*arr. Johnson*

**\*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**

**Communion**

*(Gluten free option is the wafer. As the tray is passed to you, please hold it for the person next to you as they take the bread/cup, then pass it to the next person. Please assist your neighbor, if they need help. When you receive the bread and then the juice, please hold it until the Minister indicates to eat and/or drink it, so that we commune together.)*

**Invitation**

**Prayer**

**One:** It is not over, this birthing, the star, this light. There are always newer skies into which God can throw stars. When we begin to think that we can predict the Advent of God, that we can box the Christ in a stable in Bethlehem, that's just the time that God will be born in a place we can't imagine and won't believe.

**All: Those who worship God, we watch with our hearts, listening, always looking for God's light!**

**Sharing the elements**

**\*Prayer after Communion**

**All: We thank you gracious God for this meal which you have given us. As we gather around our own tables in the days ahead, might we be reminded of this table, where all are welcome, and love always is the answer to hate. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #154**

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

"We Three Kings"

*Gordon Young*

**Serving You in Church Today**

**Sermon:** Rev. Mindy Quellhorst

**Liturgist:** Judy MacKeigan

**Music Director:** Jamie Kunselman

**Organist:** Carol Sue Beck

**Media:** Dave MacKeigan

**3 KINGS CELEBRATION COFFEE HOUR**

Join us after 10:00 AM worship for a 3 Kings Celebration! Your hostess is Maria Velez.

**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 [revmq1@gmail.com](mailto:revmq1@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.**



Faith Formation and Faith Explorers are in full swing. Come grow with us—there's something for every age!

Any questions—please contact 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