

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

Seventh Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 21, 2023

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE: *"Concerto for Trumpet in D major"-
Opus 6, No. 7 by Tomaso Albinoni*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & Deb Albrecht
AFFIRMATION OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

**As disciples of Jesus Christ, led by the Holy Spirit, we
experience God's unconditional love, and we witness to others
by discovering and sharing our gifts.**

CHORAL INTROIT: Chancel Choir

* CALL TO WORSHIP: *Psalm 118:24; 1 John 4:16*

L: This is the day the Lord has made.

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

L: God is love and those who abide in love, abide in God.

P: And God abides in them.

L: This is the day the Lord has made. Let us worship God and be glad!

* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 210 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past (vv. 1, 2, 4, 5)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**Almighty and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned
against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done
and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with
our whole heart, our mind, or our strength. We have not loved
our neighbor as ourselves.**

**In your mercy, dear God, forgive what we have done, help us
amend what we are, and guide us in your truth that we may
delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory and power
of your holy name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

Leader: Hear and accept the good news! . . . Believe that you are
forgiven and live in peace.

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Let us forgive one another.**

* Please stand if you are able.

* CELEBRATING CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS: *No. 466*

v. 1

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

***O for a thousand tongues to sing My dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of God's grace!***

* EXCHANGE OF CHRIST'S PEACE

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERTORY:

"Adoration " by Florence Beatrice Price

* DOXOLOGY & PRAYER OF DEDICATION: *No. 592*

***Praise God, from whom all blessing flow; praise God all
creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

*Being baptized today is Josephine Violet Yock,
born September 9, 2020 to parents Jason & Kristin Yock*

PRESENTATION OF THE CHILD:

Elder Deb Albrecht

RENUNCIATION OF EVIL & AFFIRMATION OF GOD'S LOVE

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; and he ascended into heaven; he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life-everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: Holy Lord, God almighty. We give thanks . . . now and forever. Amen.

THE ACT OF BAPTISM & THE BLESSING

PRESENTATION OF JOSEPHINE YOCK:

Jesus, Friend, So Kind and Gentle (v. 1) No. 451, The Hymnbook

***Jesus, Friend, so kind and gentle, little ones we bring to thee;
Grant to them Thy dearest blessing, let Thine arms around them be;
Now enfold them in Thy goodness, from all danger keep them free.***

Elder: Josephine Violet Yock, you are now received into the holy catholic church.

In baptism, God has made her a member of the household of God, to share with us in the fellowship of Christ. I charge you, the people of this congregation, to nurture her, to love her, and to encourage her as she grows in the way of Christ. Let us affirm our commitment to this child of God.

People: With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Josephine Violet Yock into the Body of Christ and the family of God. We promise to love her, encourage her, share the good news of the gospel with her and teach her the way of Jesus that she might grow in the full knowledge and truth of Christ's love. Amen.

* HYMN: *No. 498 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (vv. 1, 3, 4)*
~ *Children may go downstairs for Sunday School* ~

DECLARING GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT: Exodus 3: 13–20. Moses assembles the elders to lead.

GOSPEL LESSON: John 17: 1–11. Jesus prays for the disciples' unity.

ANTHEM: *"My Prayer" by Penny Rodriguez* Chancel Choir
Soloist, Willow Kessler

MEDITATION: *Spelling PRESBYTERIAN* Pastor David Harvey
— *History Matters*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN: *No. 280 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (vv. 1, 4, 5)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, OF THE PEOPLE, & THE LORD'S PRAYER

DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN: *No. 339* *Be Thou My Vision* vv. 1, 3

* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

* CHORAL BENEDICTION: Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE: *"Preghiera" by Cesar Franck*

Our Worship has ended — our Christian Witness begins!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

The Human Family: Persons and individuals impacted by the COVID-19; essential workers; the homeless; people of Afghanistan, Haiti, and the Ukraine; families impacted by gun violence

Men & Women Serving in the Armed Forces & America's Veterans

Those in elected office: The President, the Congress, State Assembly, local community servants

Healing for Friends & Families with:

Cancer: Judy Dales, Gordon Dugan, Samantha Elwell, Olivia Hollis, Adam Hubble, Tracy Lance, Troy Lutz, Caitlyn McMorrow and her family, Jay Ohland Jr., Bill S., Andrew Shan, Robert Talmadge, Tracy Wolfe, Molly Grace Young, Alicia, Audrey, Darlene, Eva, Gail, Liza

Illness & Injuries: Les Ashburner, Robert Benz, Sue Bonkowski, Derek Cameron, Elaine Canonico, Kyle Canonico, Lucy Cuipa, Noah Haiduc-Dale, Cameron McIntyre, Carol McLain, Jan Smith, Margaret Stephens, Betty Ann Weir, Ann, Tracy, Carter

TODAY'S WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSISTANTS

Greeter: Bill Olivier

Usher: Mark Nelke

Pastor: Rev. David Harvey

Ministers: The Congregation

Sunday School: Stephanie Burke

Peter and Tabitha

Acts 9: 36-43

Choir Director: Maggie Morokutti

Worship Leader: Deb Albrecht

Elder Assisting with Baptism:

Sound System: Theo Padavano

MIDI: Frank Wilson

DLP: Jennifer Plut

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1 Main St., P.O. Box 385, Blairstown, NJ 07825

Church Office: 35 Main St., P.O. Box 385, Blairstown, NJ 07825

Office/Pantry Phone: (908) 362-5254 Fax: (908) 362-8060

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Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Study: Please join us for 1:00 PM bible study on Fridays at the Outreach Center or via Zoom. Contact the church office to be added to our bible study contact list.

Spelling Presbyterian: Beliefs and Behaviors of the One and Only Church on Main Street. Following worship on: May 21 & 28 and June 4 & 11

You are Invited to attend a covered dish dinner Celebration of Pastor Dave Tillisch and his family on Saturday, May 27 at 3:00 PM at the First United Methodist Church of Blairstown honoring his 9 years here in Blairstown as he has been reassigned to Basking Ridge. Please RSVP by May 23 to Michelle Peterson, church administrator, at michelle@firstumcblairstown.com and also let her know what type of covered dish you will bring.

Graduations and Milestones: You won't want to miss this! Please mark your calendar for a very special Sunday. On June 11, at the 10:00 AM worship service, the First Presbyterian Church of Blairstown will recognize and celebrate our graduates and milestone members. Whether it's graduation from elementary school, the completion of a graduate degree or anything in between, we want to honor those individuals and their accomplishments. Equally important, we also wish to recognize our members who have reached a milestone in serving Christ and the Church. We have members who have made 20 years of service and several congregants who have served for more than 50 years! You'll have to be in church on June 11, to find out who's who. It may even be you! A delicious brunch and a wonderful time of fellowship will take place immediately after the service in Fellowship Hall to honor our graduates, their families and the long-time members of First Presbyterian Church of Blairstown. You don't want to miss this celebration and wonderful gathering, so mark your calendars! Hosted by Presbyterian Women and Membership & Fellowship.

ShopRite (\$25/\$100), **Acme** (\$25/\$100), **Dunkin** (\$10), **IHOP** (\$10), **Starbucks** (\$10), and **Panera** (\$10) **gift cards** are available. See Gail Weber (or Jen Plut) to order additional cards or if you have any questions about how to support this ministry!

Ushers/Greeters/Worship Leaders are Needed! For anyone interested in trying out these easy (yes, really!) jobs for the first time, we provide instructions and training—and would love to have you involved. **Additionally, the worship team has sound system tech and projector/DLP openings.** Please consider volunteering for these important roles. Please contact the church office or speak with Bill Olivier if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. A foundation of faith established during childhood through young adulthood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. When you give to the Pentecost Offering, you are helping to provide opportunities for young people to grow and share in their faith in Christ.

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

{ Dates/times subject to change }

Sunday, May 21

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Worship
10:15 AM Sunday School /FH
11:15 AM *Spelling Presbyterian*
4:00 PM Water Gap Singers

Monday, May 22

Office closed

Friday, May 26

1:00 PM Bible Study/OC

Sunday, May 28

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Worship
10:15 AM Sunday School/FH
11:15 AM *Spelling Presbyterian*



Spelling Presbyterian

Beliefs and Behaviors of the One and Only
Church on Main Street
Following worship on:
May 21 & 28 and June 4 & 11

Altar Flowers:

Do you have a special occasion you would like to commemorate with altar flowers?

There are sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall.

You may also sign up electronically through

SignUpGenius which can be accessed through our website at <https://fpcb-nj.org/altar-flowers/>.

Thank you, in advance, by providing altar flowers!