

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

Day of Pentecost & Memorial Day Weekend

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 28, 2023

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE:

Andrea Morokutti

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, &

Elizabeth Topolski

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:

Job 12: 10, 7-8, 10, NRSV

Leader: In God's hand is the life of every living thing,

People: And the breath of every human being.

Leader: With God are wisdom and strength . . . ask the animals,

People: And they will tell you.

Leader: Ask the plants of the earth

People: And they will teach you.

Leader: The fish of the sea, they will declare to you;

People: In God's hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being.

Leader: With humility and sincerity, let us worship God!

* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 457 I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Spirit of God, we hesitate and doubt. You call us to act boldly but our fear keeps us from following your call. Forgive our lack of courage. Embolden us to dream big and trust the Spirit to fill us and use us. Help us be Christ's church without hesitation. Guided by your Holy Spirit, help us usher in your kin-dom to come. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

Leader: Friends — hear, believe, and accept the good news of the gospel of Christ's love.

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

* *Please stand if you are able.*

* CELEBRATING CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS: *No. 582, v. 1, Glory to God*
***Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

* EXCHANGE OF CHRIST'S PEACE

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERTORY:

Musical Interlude:

Andrea Morokutti

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

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

DECLARING GOD'S WORD

NEW TESTAMENT: Acts 2: 1–21

Stunned, the people hear the Spirit speak.

GOSPEL LESSON: John 7: 37–44 Jesus anticipates the Spirit.

ANTHEM: "Spirit Come Down" by Mark Hayes Chancel Choir

MEDITATION: *Spelling PRESBYTERIAN:* Pastor David Harvey
II. Awed by the Spirit

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*A Litany from The Book of Worship for United States Forces (1974)
Used with permission by the Armed Forces Chaplains' Board, Washington, D.C.*

* A LITANY FOR MEMORIAL DAY:

Leader: Let us give thanks to God for the beauty, the bounty, and the blessing of this land with all its chartered liberties and opportunities given to us; for the awesome wonder of America.

People: We offer our thanks and praise, O God.

Leader: For elected leaders who serve us at the federal, the state and the local levels, for their aspirations and inspiration of upholding the ideals that perpetuate our nation's story,

People: We offer our hearts in thankful praise, O God.

Leader: For men and women, young and old, who bravely and boldly enlist in our nation's armed services, placing their lives on the line in our country's finest hour, and especially those who gave even their lives in service, defending freedom and faith.

People: We declare our thankful praise, O God.

Leader: Almighty God and merciful Father, as we remember these your servants, remembering with gratitude their courage and compassion, their heroic strength and valor, we also hold before you those who mourn them.

All: Look upon your bereaved servants with divine and tender mercy. As we enjoy the freedoms that we do, may we remember with appreciation and gratitude the men and women who have fought and who have died, and who in their dying allow us to live freely and enjoy life abundantly. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

* HYMN: *No. 564 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

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

DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN: *Pentecost Had Come* © 2010 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
Tune #432

* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

* CHORAL BENEDICTION: Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE: Andrea Morokutti

Our Worship has ended — our Christian Witness begins!



MEMORIAL DAY
WEEKEND

Remember and Honor

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 McMorro 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, Joan Caldwell, 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

Prayers of Condolences for the family of Charles Cowell, eldest brother of church member, John Cowell

TODAY'S WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSISTANTS

Greeter: Bill Olivier

Usher: Gail Weber

Worship Leader: Elizabeth Topolski

Pastor: Rev. David Harvey

Ministers: The Congregation

Choir Director: Maggie Morokutti

Pianist: Andrea Morokutti

Sound System: Theo Padavano

DLP: Jennifer Plut

PENTECOST
SUNDAY



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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

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 GIVE NOW

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

OFFERING DISTRIBUTION:

40% Congregational ministries with children at risk

60% Presbyterian Mission Agency

> 50% ministries with youth and young adults

> 10% child advocacy/children at risk

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 today and on June 4 & 11

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.

FPCB Book Club: The next meeting of the Book Club is scheduled for Wed., June 21 at 7 PM hosted by Carol McLain. We will be discussing the The Twyford Code, a mind-bending, heartwarming mystery by Janice Hallett. The Book Club meets every 6–8 weeks, and we read a variety of titles: fiction and nonfiction; mysteries and suspense. New members are always welcome. If you have any questions or would like a copy of our reading list, please speak with Teri Harvey or Kaye Evans.

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.

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

{ Dates/times subject to change }

Sunday, May 28

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Family Worship
11:15 AM *Spelling Presbyterian*
Monday, May 29 *Memorial Day*
Office closed

Friday, June 2

1:00 PM Bible Study/OC
Sunday, June 4
8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Worship
10:15 AM Sunday School/FH
11:15 AM *Spelling Presbyterian*

**NEVER
STOP
LEARNING**

Spelling Presbyterian

Beliefs and Behaviors of the One and Only
Church on Main Street
Following worship on:
May 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/> (or scan the QR code/flower). Thank you, in advance, by providing altar flowers!

