

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

Fourth Sunday in Lent

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 10, 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PIANO PRELUDE:

Andrea Morokutti

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, &

AFFIRMATION OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Erika Wulster

**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:

L: Let us worship God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ.

P: We are new creations; the old has gone, the new has come!

L: Let us worship God as Christ's ambassadors.

**P: Through us and through our worship may we announce the
good news to all.**

L: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

P: Praise God! We are reconciled, redeemed, renewed!

* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 281 Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**O Christ, out of your fullness we have all received grace upon
grace. You are our eternal hope; you are patient and full of
mercy; you are generous to all who call upon you. Save us, Lord.
O Christ, fountain of life and holiness, you have taken away our
sins. On the cross you were wounded for our transgressions and
were bruised for our iniquities. Save us, Lord. O Christ, obedient
unto death, source of all comfort, our life and our resurrection,
our peace and reconciliation: save us, Lord. O Christ, Savior of
all who trust you, hope of all who despair, and joy of all the
saints: save us, Lord. Restore in us such trust and love that we
may walk in your ways and delight in doing your will. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

L: This season of Lent, let us return to the Lord our God, and re-center
lives on God's grace and mercy.

* *Please stand if you are able.*

P: God who is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, in Jesus Christ, has forgiven us. Thanks be to God!

* SONG OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS: *No. 304 Jesus Loves Me!* v. 1

* EXCHANGE OF CHRIST'S PEACE:

Welcome one another with Christ's peace.

~ Children may go downstairs for Sunday School ~

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERTORY

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

DECLARING GOD'S WORD

Encountering Jesus Sermon Series: Deepening Our Faith through the Lives of Those Who Encountered Jesus First

HEBREW LESSON: Exodus 17: 1-7 The Lord provides water for the Israelites from a rock.

GOSPEL LESSON: John 4: 1-30 Jesus and the woman of Samaria.

ANTHEM: *"These Alone Are Enough"* Chancel Choir
 by Dan Schutte

MEDITATION: *Jesus and the Samaritan Woman* Melanie Williams

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Romans 12: 9-13 — Love in Action*

As followers of Jesus Christ, we affirm that: Our love must be sincere, that we are to hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep our spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Further, we are called to be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer, to share with the Lord's people who are in need, and to practice hospitality. Amen.

* HYMN: *No. 339* *Be Thou My Vision* vv. 1 & 2

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

DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN: *No. 446* *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken*

* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

* CHORAL BENEDICTION:

Chancel Choir

PIANO POSTLUDE:

Andrea Morokutti

Our Worship has ended — our Christian Witness begins!

*Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries and have trust in God.
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.*

Submitted by Jan Swift

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

The Human Family: Persons and individuals who struggle with food insecurity and homelessness, the people in the Ukraine and the Middle East; families and communities impacted by gun violence; those impacted by severe weather.

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

Those in elected office: The President, the Congress, State Assembly, Municipality officials

Healing for Friends & Families:

Cancer: Judy Dales, Gordon Dugan, Samantha Elwell, Olivia Hollis, Adam Hubble, Tracy Lance, Troy Lutz, Caitlyn McMorro and her family, Bill Salvadore, Andrew Shan, Abbi Sparkman, Robert Talmadge, Molly Grace Young, Audrey, Eva, Gail, Liza

Illness & Injuries: Robert Benz, Sue Bonkowski, George Burke, Derek Cameron, Elaine Canonico, Kyle Canonico, Lucy Cuipa, Noah Haiduc-Dale, Ashley Farhat, Anna Nagyhetenyi, Peter Porzio, Jan Smith, Margaret Stephens, Betty Ann Weir, Ann, Carter, Demares, Tracy, Valerie

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

Sunday, Mar. 10

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Worship
10:15 AM Sunday School
11:15 AM Children's Choir

Mon., Mar. 11 *Office Closed*

7:00 PM Water Gap Singers

Tuesday, Mar. 12

6:00 PM Lenten Reflections/OC & Zoom
6:00 PM NW Garden Club/OC

Wednesday, Mar. 13

11:00 AM Qigong/OC
1:15 PM BWC/OC

Friday, Mar. 15

11:00 AM Qigong/OC
6:30 PM 4-H Club/OC

Sunday, Mar. 17

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Worship
10:15 AM Sunday School
11:15 AM Children's Choir
11:15 AM Kindness Rocks!



Palm Sunday, March 24 Worship:

Church Sanctuary at 10:00 AM

Easter Egg Hunt for Sunday School Students following worship

Combined Maundy Thursday / Good Friday Worship:

Thursday, March 28:

Church Sanctuary at 7:00 PM

Sunday, March 31 Easter Sunrise Worship:

Blair Lake at 7:00 AM

Sunday, March 31 Easter Worship & Communion:

Church Sanctuary at 10:00 AM

ASSISTING DURING TODAY'S WORSHIP

Greeter: Bill Olivier

Ushers: Betsy Peterson & Gail Weber

Worship Leader: Erika Wulster

Church Intern: Melanie Williams

Pastor: Rev. David Harvey

Choir Director: Maggie Morokutti

Sound System: Theo Padavano

DLP: Lisa Besser

Ministers: The Congregation


Children & Worship: Joan Cameron; *Jesus and Zacchaeus*

Faith Works: Deb Albrecht; *Jesus Shows Love at the Last Supper*
(Matthew 26: 17-30)

Easter Flower Dedications



Continuing with the tradition of placing Easter flowers *in memory, in honor, or in celebration of*, you may do so by returning this order form and payment Sunday's offering plate or by mailing it to the church office. The cost of each plant this year is \$12, and donations should be made to "Presbyterian Women."

Easter flower dedications may also be ordered at our website. Simply visit fpcb-nj.org and select  (or scan the QR Code below); contribute through "Presbyterian Women" and leave your dedication in the Notes section!

The deadline is Wed., March 27.

\$12 PER EASTER FLOWER DEDICATION
(checks payable to PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN)



- A. In Honor of B. In Memory of
C. In Celebration of D. Other (specify)

(A., B., C.,
or D.)

Dedication

Please print clearly. Thank You!!

Name of Contributor: _____

-----For Office Use Only-----

Amount Paid: _____ ☐ By EFT ☐ By Cash ☐ By Check #: _____

← Cut Here →

ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Today's Altar Flowers were placed by
Carol McLain in Memory of Jim McClain
and in appreciation of the
First Presbyterian Church Congregation.*

Children's Choir: A short (15 min.) Children's Choir practice will be held each Sunday at 11:15 in the Sanctuary. Children may have a snack first in Fellowship Hall, then come upstairs and sing! Please speak with choir members Doris Sless or Maggie Morokutti if you have questions.

Lenten Reflections: The Lenten Reflections will be a 30-minute chapel-meets-Bible Study reflection on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM (at the OC or via Zoom: Meeting ID: 718 5972 4011; Passcode: 2ZapVs) through the Lenten season. Lent is a time when we prepare for the death and resurrection of Jesus, but sometimes we forget that Jesus had an earthly ministry too. Join us as we meet some of the people who encountered Jesus and what their stories mean for us today.

"Through Our Voice: Women in Song": A recital by church member, Andrea Morokutti, pianist and Andrea Bickford, soprano, showcasing the brilliant minds of Nadia Boulanger, Florence Price, Alma Mahler, Undine Smith Moore, and Libby Larsen will perform in our Sanctuary this Wednesday, Mar. 13 at 6:30 PM.

Habitat for Humanity: Our church will be providing a hearty lunch for about 12 to 15 volunteers at their work site on Sat., Mar. 16. The deacons are asking for donations of fruit, iced tea, water, sandwiches, chips, and some baked goods to be dropped off at the Outreach Center no later than 10 AM on Mar. 16. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall for those who would like to donate. If you have any questions, please contact Joan Cameron at (908) 459-9068. The lunch is greatly appreciated by the Habitat volunteers so any assistance would be greatly welcomed.

Kindness Rocks! All are invited to join us on Sunday, Mar. 17 following worship and help us paint rocks with inspirational messages or pictures and enjoy a St. Patrick's themed coffee hour. All ages are invited! Thank you to those who have signed up to bring an item, we are still in need of finger sandwiches. Sign-up in Fellowship Hall or through Sign-up Genius on the church website fpcb-nj.org. Hosted by Presbyterian Women.

Rescheduled Book Club: The next meeting will now be held at 7:00 PM on Wed., Mar. 20, hosted by Chris McGrath. We will discuss the book, [A Gentle Rain of Compassion](#) by David R. Shlim. New members are always welcome. If you have any questions, please speak with Teri Harvey or Kaye Evans.

Joint Deacon and Session Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 14, after church. A light lunch will be provided.



Worship Helpers: You are invited to sign up online through Sign-Up Genius — pick a date that works for you! Visit fpcb-nj.org for the sign-up link.

Loaves & Fishes: ShopRite (\$25/\$100), Acme (\$25/\$100), Dunkin' (\$10), IHOP (\$10), Panera (\$10), and Starbucks (\$10) gift cards are available at the OC during office hours. See Gail Weber to order additional cards or if you have any questions about how to support this ministry!

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS): Your gift to the Special Mission offering, *One Great Hour of Sharing*, enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. We will receive the OGHS Special Offering through Easter, Mar. 31. You may contribute to OGHS electronically on the church website: fpcb-nj.org (donate through "PC(USA) Special Offerings") or by sending your offering to the church.

PW Bakeless Bake Sale: *No fuss, no muss! No haste, no waste! Not even a pound to gain!* Make your list of ingredients, and instead of driving to the store to buy those special items, sit back and relax. Instead of shopping and baking, a monetary donation is so much simpler, and you'll know your contribution will be supporting Presbyterian Women (PW) mission projects such as PW of the Highlands Presbytery, St Jude's Children Hospital, camperships to deserving young people of our church to attend Johnsonburg Summer Camp, and many other worthwhile endeavors. Contribute to the PW Bakeless Bake Sale online at fpcb-nj.org, mail a check payable to "Presbyterian Women" to P.O. Box 385, Blairstown, NJ 07825, or leave a contribution in the offering plate on Sunday. Please be sure to specify it's for the "bakeless bake sale"! Thank you for your support!!



Johnsonburg Summer Camperships: The Presbyterian Women support children from our church who are interested in attending Johnsonburg summer camp. Any child interested in attending should write a letter to Presbyterian Women indicating their reason for wanting to attend camp. Letters should be in the church office by April 30. More information may be found at fpcb-nj.org/summer-camperships. Check out the summer camp options at campjburg.org/summer-camp.

KINDNESS ROCKS!

*Sun., Mar. 17 following worship
in Fellowship Hall*



ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US THIS SUNDAY DURING OUR ST. PATRICK'S DAY THEMED COFFEE HOUR AND HELP US PAINT ROCKS WITH INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGES OR PICTURES. ALL AGES ARE INVITED!

A SIGN-UP SHEET IS AVAILABLE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL OR THROUGH SIGN-UP GENIUS FROM OUR CHURCH WEBSITE AT FPCB-NJ.ORG/PW-CALENDAR/ (OR JUST SCAN THE QR CODE TO GO DIRECTLY TO SIGN-UP GENIUS).



IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE SPEAK WITH HOSTESSES, AMANDA MACCHIA OR DEB ALBRECHT. THANK YOU !



Hosted by Presbyterian Women

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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