

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

*Third Sunday of Easter*

10:00 AM

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

April 14, 2024

**GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

PRELUDE: *When Morning Gilds the Skies* 02-32

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, &

AFFIRMATION OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Pete Peterson

**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.**

\* SONG OF PRAISE: *Sanctuary* No. 701 GTG

***Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true. With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.***

\* 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. Those who abide in love abide in God,

**P: And God abides in them.**

L: With a joyful hearts and praise on our lips, let us worship God.

\* HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 118 *The Day of Resurrection!* vv. 1 & 2

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**O God whose gift of Jesus' resurrection, by grace you walk with and speak to us, and maybe our hearts burn within us, and sometimes we just do not notice. Forgive us when we fail to hear and see Jesus with us.**

**Grant us grace to know our living Lord and to know he is our personal Lord and Savior. Even now Jesus is Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

L: Friends — believe the good news of the gospel, know that we are forgiven, and live into Christ's joy.

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

\* GLORIA PATRI: *No. 579 Glory Be to the Father*

***Glory be to the father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen***

\* Please stand if you are able.

\* EXCHANGE OF 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

PSALTER LESSON: Psalm 40: 1–11. A psalm inviting us to trust God.

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 24: 36–48. The disciples realize Jesus is with them.

\* HYMN: *God, We Sense Your Peace and Power (Taste)* vv. 1 & 2  
© 2017 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (tune: #355/6)

MEDITATION: *Walking with the Resurrection* Pastor David Harvey

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *A Declaration of Faith, 1977*

**We affirm in Christ God was reconciling the world to Godself, not holding our own sins against us. Each of us beholds on the cross the Savior who died in our place, so that we may no longer live for ourselves, but for Him. Christ is our only hope of salvation.**

**Jesus is our living Lord. We are certain that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. Jesus' lordship is hidden yet it is real. Jesus' lordship demands our loyalty sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us.**

**Jesus is Lord! He is Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now, Jesus is Lord! Amen.**

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

## DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

\* HYMN: *No. 210 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* vv. 1–3 & 5

\* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDECTION

\* CONGREGATIONAL BENEDECTION: *No. 596 (tune: "Edelweiss")*  
*May the Lord, Mighty God*

POSTLUDE: *'Voluntary' by Teke Bijlsma* 02-01

*Our Worship has ended — our Christian Witness begins!*

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## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

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**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, Barbara Smith, Stas Czarnuciewicz, 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, Peter Porzio, Jan Smith, Margaret Stephens, Betty Ann Weir, Ann, Carter, Demares, Evelyn, Tracy, Valerie

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## ASSISTING DURING TODAY'S WORSHIP

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**Greeter:** Elizabeth Topolski

**Ushers:** Jen McElroy & Gary Albrecht

**Worship Leader:** Pete Peterson

**Sound System:** Theo Padavano

**Pastor:** Rev. David Harvey

**DLP:** Jen Plut

**Ministers:** The Congregation

**Children & Worship:** : Joan Cameron; *Jesus is Risen –*

*Appearance to Mary Magdalene*

**Faith Works:** Deb Albrecht; *Feed My Sheep, John 21: 15-19*

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## THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

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### Sunday, April 14

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Sunday School

11:30 AM Elder/Deacon Meeting/OC

**Mon., April 15** *Office Closed*

7:00 PM Water Gap Singers

### Tuesday, April 16

10:00 AM Bible Study/OC

1:00 PM Library Book Club/OC

### Wednesday, April 17

10:00 AM S&F/OC

11:00 AM Qigong/OC

### Thursday, April 18

7:00 PM Session/OC

### Friday, April 19

6:30 PM 4-H Club/OC

### Saturday, April 20

9:30 AM Food Pantry/OC

### Sunday, April 21

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Sunday School

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**A big shout out to our Sunday School kids for collecting \$76.05 for One Great Hour of Sharing!** The kids collected money they earned doing chores and from their allowances. We are so proud of their generosity and desire to help others in need

**Joint Deacon and Session Meeting Today** after church at the Outreach Center. A light lunch will be provided.

**Bible Study:** Please join us for 10 AM bible study this Tuesday at the Outreach Center or via Zoom (Meeting ID: 851 8394 1364 Passcode: 699382). Contact the church office to be added to our weekly bible study email reminders/updates.

**Worship Helpers 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. Visit [fpcb-nj.org](http://fpcb-nj.org) for the sign-up link and pick a date that works for you! There is also a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

**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!

**Book Club:** Our next meeting will take place at 7 PM on Wed., May 29 hosted by Betsy Peterson. We will be discussing Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner. New members are always welcome. If you have any questions, please speak with Teri Harvey or Kaye Evans.

### Community News:

**Clothing Drive:** Cleaning out your closets? The NWR girl's lacrosse team is hosting a clothing drive through the morning, of Tues., Apr. 16 under a tent at the back parking lot of the high school. For details, visit [facebook.com/NWRLadyPatriotsLax](https://facebook.com/NWRLadyPatriotsLax) or speak with church members, Lisa Besser or Jen Plut.

**BWC Yard Sale:** Blair Woman's Club (BWC) of Blairstown is sponsoring a yard sale on Saturday, April 20 at Brook Hollow Winery from 10 AM to 2 PM. Yard Sale donations will be accepted the morning of the sale beginning at 9 AM. Proceeds from the sale will benefit service projects and charitable donations. BWC is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

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### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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