

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

*Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*

10:00 AM

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

August 11, 2024

**GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

PRELUDE: *"Lux Aeterna" by Maurice Duruflé*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, &

AFFIRMATION OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Bill Olivier

**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: *No. 333 Seek Ye First* *v. 1*

\* CALL TO WORSHIP: *(adapted from Psalm 86: 8-10, 13, 15-16)*

L: Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord, our God.

**P: All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, God!**

L: For you are great and do marvelous deeds

**P: You alone are God. Great is your love for us.**

L: You alone are God, sovereign and majestic in Being!

**P: You, O Lord, are compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.**

L: With joyful praise in our lives, let us worship God!

\* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 142 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! vv. 1 & 4*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**Faithful God, we confess that our doubts and insecurities often keep us from doing what is right. And yet you do not abandon us when we become too self-absorbed and unable to recognize your presence with us. Forgive us for our lack of faith and courage.**

**Grant us grace to accept ourselves as acceptable by you. Hold us in your eternal keeping. Grant us confidence to do and live your will in the world. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

L: Friends — hear and believe the good news of the gospel and live into the joy of Christ's kingdom on earth.

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

\* *Please stand if you are able.*

\* CELEBRATION OF CHRIST'S LOVE: *No. 466*  
*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

*v. 1*

\* EXCHANGE OF CHRIST'S PEACE:

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

*Welcome one another with Christ's peace.*

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS & OFFERTORY

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

## DECLARING GOD'S WORD

EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 4: 17–18, 29–5:2. Life lived as Christ's light.

EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 15: 1–13. Welcome One Another.

MEDITATION: *Joyful Hospitality*

Pastor David Harvey

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *The Barmen Declaration, (8.11–8.14, 16)*

**We believe Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to bear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death. We reject the false doctrine, as though the church could and would have to acknowledge as a source of its proclamation, apart from and besides this one Word of God, still other events and powers, figures and truths, as God's revelation.**

**As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to all Christ's creatures.**

**"Rather speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him which is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body is joined and knit together" (Eph. 4: 15-16). Amen.**

\* HYMN: *No. 144*

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!*

*vv. 1 & 4*

## DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

\* HYMN: *No. 151*

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

*vv. 1 & 3*

\* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:

*Zipoli – Offertorio*

*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:** Stas Czarnuciewicz, Judy Dales, Gordon Dugan, Samantha Elwell, Olivia Hollis, Adam Hubble, Tracy Lance, Troy Lutz, Caitlyn McMorrow and her family, Peter Porzio, Monica Salvadore, Andrew Shan, Robert Talmadge, Addie Wasserman, Molly Grace Young, Audrey, Eva, Gail, Liza, Joan

**Illness & Injuries:** Robert Benz, Sue Bonkowski, George Burke, Derek Cameron, Elaine Canonico, Kyle Canonico, Lucy Cuipa, Noah Haiduc-Dale, Ashley Farhat, Anna Nagyhetenyi, Jan Smith, Margaret Stephens, Gail Weber, Betty Ann Weir, Ed Williams, Ann, Carter, Demares, Evelyn, Michelle, Tracy, Valerie, Messina Family

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## ASSISTING DURING TODAY'S WORSHIP

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**Greeter:** -

**Ushers:** -

**Worship Leader:** Bill Olivier

**Pastor:** Rev. David Harvey

**Sound System:** Theo Padavano

**MIDI:**

**DLP:** Jennifer Plut

**Ministers:** The Congregation

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## THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

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**Sunday, Aug. 11**

10:00 AM Family Worship

**Monday, Aug. 12** *Office Closed*

**Tuesday, Aug. 13**

10:00 AM Bible Study/OC

6:00 PM NW Garden Club/OC

7:00 PM M&W and Christian Ed./OC

**Wednesday, Aug. 14**

1:15 PM BWC Exec. Board/OC

**Thursday, Aug. 15**

7:00 PM Session/OC

**Saturday, Aug. 17**

9:30 AM Food Pantry/OC

**Sunday, Aug. 18**

10:00 AM Family Worship

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Bible Study** will resume Tuesday, August 13.

**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! The PW flower lady of the month of August is Deb Albrecht.

**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. Gift cards can also be ordered online and shipped directly to you! Inquire with Jen in the church office if you are interested in learning more.

**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](https://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. You can also speak with Deb Albrecht if you are interested in helping next Sunday. Thank you!

**Projector & Sound Operators:** There is a sign-up sheet on the communication table for projector and sound operators. Training will be provided for anyone who is interested. Please speak with Jen Plut if you are interested in volunteering.

The next **FPCB Book Club** discussion will be at 7 PM on Wednesday, Aug. 28 hosted by Jen Plut. We will be discussing [The Moonshiner's Daughter](#) by Donna Everhart, a compelling coming-of-age novel set in 1960s North Carolina. It follows the story of sixteen-year-old Jessie Sasser, who is determined to escape her family's moonshining legacy. The Book Club meets every 6–8 weeks and reads 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.

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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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