

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

World Communion Sunday

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Oct. 6, 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE: *"In Dir ist Freude" BWV 615 by JS Bach* (02-39)

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.**

* CALL TO WORSHIP: *1 John 4: 16; Psalm 118: 24; Psalm 106:1*

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 God,

P: God abides in them.

L: Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

P: God's love endures forever.

L: With joyful hearts and grateful praise, let us worship God.

* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 267 All Things Bright and Beautiful*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**Almighty and most merciful God, giver of all relationships, we
confess we have not always loved and treated our fellow human
beings or creation with Christ-like love. Although Jesus is our
peace, we often live our lives as a people divided and divisive. We
cling to the values of a broken and corrupt world. We pursue
profit and pleasure, lay waste the land, and pollute the seas.**

**Forgive our sins, O Loving God. Have mercy on us and grant us
grace to be forgiving and merciful. In Jesus' name, we pray.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

L: Friends — live into Christ's joy. Believe and accept the good news of
the gospel!

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

* CELEBRATING CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS: *Give Thanks* (No. 647 GTG)

* *Please stand if you are able.*

* 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.

~ Children may go downstairs for Sunday School ~

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS & OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY & PRAYER OF DEDICATION: *No. 577 Glory Be to the Father*

DECLARING GOD'S WORD

HEBREW LESSON: Genesis 2: 15–24

God made humanity to live in relationship with one another and creation.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 10: 2–16

Jesus blesses the covenant of marriage.

ANTHEM: *"In Your House, O Lord" by Jay Turner* Chancel Choir

SERMON: *Faith of Our Founding Fathers* Pastor David Harvey
2) Faith & Benjamin Franklin

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *The Contemporary Apostles' Creed*

We believe in God who places joy in our souls, dancing in our toes and songs in our hearts. We believe in God, who wanted gladness to flow like a river, so the Good Lord created a bountiful earth with plenty for all to share.

We believe in Jesus, who turned water into wine, partied with outcasts and sinners, and touched the broken so they could leap and dance. We trust Jesus who opened the doors and set an extra place so we could feast.

We believe the Holy Spirit, who prompts us to smile, who sends us invitations to come and dine, who nudges us to openness and tenderness. We believe the Spirit is present everytime we gather to break bread and stirs within us the desire to live joyfully, to walk hopefully, and to enact justice boldly. Forever, we will live in the embrace of God and be a witness to Christ's resurrection joy. Amen.

* COMMUNION HYMN: *For Everyone Born* vv. 1, 3–5 | *No. 769 GTG*

PASTORAL INTIMATIONS

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE:

Deacon Erika Wulster

L: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

P: People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at the table in the kingdom of God.

L: Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell in unity.

P: God sent the whole world God's only Son. Since God loved us so much, we too, should love one another.

L: This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites all who are truly sorry for their sins and would humbly put their trust in him to come to the feast which he has prepared. Listen to the life-giving and life-empowering words of our Savior Jesus Christ:

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 11: 28–30

"This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day."

John 6: 40

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if those who hear my voice open the door, I will come in to them and eat with them, and they with me."

Revelation 3: 20

Pastor David Harvey

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And with your spirit.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

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

P: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

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

Pastor: Holy Lord . . . as we pray together:

All: May we be fed at this Table with the bread of life. May we thirst and hunger no more as we are nourished by the cup and bread. May we seek to do the work God calls us to. Through the Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, we bless you, God of glory, now and forever, as we pray together: "Our Father who art . . . For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

OFFERING OF THE ELEMENTS: *Approach the Table, receive the bread,
take the cup, and return to your pew.*

SHARING THE BREAD & DRINKING THE CUP

COMMUNION BLESSING:

Deacon Erika Wulster

L: Let us pray together.

P: God of glory, in this holy feast you have made us one with Christ and with that great multitude of the faithful—those who hunger and thirst no more and worship night and day in your temple. Lead us in the paths of righteousness and guide us to the springs of the water of life, until we join the choir of the redeemed, singing—Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb—Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DEPARTING IN GOD’S NAME

* HYMN: *No. 450* *O Day of Peace*

* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *"Jesu, Meine Freude" BWV 227 by JS Bach* (02-29)

Our Worship has ended — our Christian Witness begins!

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

e-Mail: fpcb@ptd.net Website: fpcb-nj.org

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

CCLI Copyright License #: 2309277, Streaming License #: 20761595



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

Illness & Injuries: Robert Benz, Sue Bonkowski, George Burke, Derek Cameron, Elaine Canonico, Kyle Canonico, Thomas Cheevers, 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

ASSISTING DURING TODAY'S WORSHIP

Greeter: Robin Kasprenski

Sound System: Theo Padavano

Worship Leader & Communion

Assistant: Erika Wulster

Pastor: Rev. David Harvey

Ministers: The Congregation

Usher: Bill Olivier

MIDI: Frank Wilson

DLP: Jennifer Plut

Communion

Prep.: Jen & Kelly McElroy

Children & Worship: Joan Cameron; "Noah"

Faith Works: Lisa Besser | "Samuel Anoints Saul" 1 Samuel 7:15-8:22

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

{ Dates/times subject to change }

Sunday, Oct. 6

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:00 AM Worship & Communion

10:15 AM Sunday School

11:15 AM Children's Choir

Monday, Oct. 7 Office Closed

Tuesday, Oct. 8

10:00 AM Bible Study/OC

Wednesday, Oct. 9

1:15 PM BWC Exec. Board/OC

Thursday, Oct. 10

7:00 PM 4-H Club/OC

Sunday, Oct. 13

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Sunday School

11:15 AM Children's Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You to all who assisted with, sold tickets for, who baked, and/or who dined on food from the Tastefully British Fish & Chips dinner on Friday evening. We greatly appreciate everyone's help as we could not pull this off without all of YOU!!

The Peace & Global Witness Offering is received during the Season of Peace, which ends today—World Communion Sunday, Oct. 6. As we work to share Christ's peace with one another, let's share that peace with those beyond our doors, beyond our communities and beyond our borders.

The next **FPCB Book Club** discussion will be at 7 PM on Wed., Oct. 9 hosted by Jan Swift (39 High St., Blairstown). We will be discussing The Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards. 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.

FALL FUN DAY at Camp Johnsonburg: Enjoy a fall afternoon at Camp Johnsonburg on Oct. 6, from 1:00–6:30 PM. Weather dependent, all activities will be available, and dinner is included.

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 at <https://fpcb-nj.org/altar-flowers/>. The PW flower lady of the month of October is Gail Weber.

Fall Fest: Our food pantry and the other area food pantries we partner with can always use more food. Here's a fun opportunity to help support our local food pantries. On Saturday, Oct. 19, our church will be hosting a table at the Blairstown Fall Festival to collect food. We need help with setting up our booth, volunteers to take an hour or two sitting at the table to receive donations, and then a few hands to take down the booth and clean up. The Festival will run from 11 AM – 4 PM. A signup sheet can be found in Fellowship Hall, or you can call Jen at the church office to sign up. Thank you in advance to those able to give of their time.

Community News:

Blood Drive: Saturday, Oct. 26 between 9 AM and 3 PM at the Knowlton Lion's Den, 505 Rt. 94. For more information and to register (recommended), please visit www.blairstownrotary.org. Blood drive is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Blairstown.

Silent Auction: Blair Woman's Club of Blairstown is hosting a Silent Auction on Thursday, Nov. 7 at Brook Hollow Winery beginning at 6PM. A \$10 pre-registration is required by Oct. 28. To register, You register online visit <https://sites.google.com/view/blairwomansclubnj>; send checks to Blair Woman's Club, PO Box 341, Blairstown, NJ 07825 (or give to Jen Plut in the church office). Wine tasting available. Proceeds benefit education, service projects, and charitable donations.
