

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

25th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Nov. 10, 2024

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE:

Introit Kyri

06-31

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, &

AFFIRMATION OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Robin Kasprenski

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: *Lord, Prepare Me (Sanctuary)* *No. 701 GTG*

* CALL TO WORSHIP: *adapted from Psalm 146*

L: Alleluia! Praise Yahweh, my soul!

P: Praise Yahweh all my life,

L: Make music to my God as long as I live.

P: How blessed is the one who has Jacob's God to help.

L: How blessed is the one whose hope is in Yahweh, our God.

P: Bless Yahweh, maker of the heavens and the earth,

L: Bless Yahweh, Creator of the seas and all that is within.

P: Bless Yahweh, who extends justice to the oppressed, gives food to the hungry, and sets the prisoner free.

L: Bless Yahweh, who restores sight to the blind, lifts up those who are bowed down, protects the stranger, and sustains the orphan and the widow.

P: Bless Yahweh, who loves the upright, frustrates the wicked, and reigns as our God from age to age.

L: With gladness and gratitude, let us worship God.

* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 285 God, You Spin the Whirling Planets*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *in silence and in unison*

Almighty God, you love us completely, but we have not loved you wholeheartedly. We have walked away from our neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns, condoning, at times, evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.

God, grant us humility of spirit to admit our sin, that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive your forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

* *Please stand if you are able.*

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS: 2 Corinthians 5: 17

L: If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

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

* GLORIA PATRIA: *No. 579 Glory Be to the Father*

* 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. 555 v. 1*
Now Thank We All Our God

DECLARING GOD'S WORD

HEBREW LESSON: Ruth 1: 12–22, 3: 1–5, 4: 13–22
Ruth builds bridges for the future children of God.

GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 12: 38–44 A widow offers her hope in God.

HYMN: *No. 304 Jesus Loves Me!*

SERMON: *Hope's Mystery* Pastor David Harvey

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Philippians 2: 5–10*

L: Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself.

P: We affirm Christ Jesus, who, though, he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human likeness, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore, God also highly exalted himself and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Amen

* HYMN: *No. 293 This Is My Father's World*

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

DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN: *No. 343 Called as Partners in Christ's Service* vv. 1, 2, 4

* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE: *Zipoli – Offertorio* 01-24

Our Worship has ended — our Christian Witness begins!

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: Bill Olivier

Choir Director: Maggie Morokutti

Sound System: Theo Padavano

Worship Leader: Robin Kasprenski

Ushers: The McElroy family

MIDI: Frank Wilson

DLP: Jennifer Plut

Ministers: The Congregation

Children & Worship: Joan Cameron; "Exile & Return"

Faith Works: Lisa Besser | "David Dances" 2 Samuel 6:1-19

We offer a cheerful welcome to each of you. We're pleased that you're here. We especially greet all veterans, remembering that Nov. 11 is Veterans Day.



THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH { Dates/times subject to change }

Sunday, Nov. 10

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

Monday, Nov. 11 *Office Closed*

Tuesday, Nov. 12

10:00 AM Bible Study/OC

Wednesday, Nov. 13

1:15 PM BWC Exec. Board/OC

Friday, Nov. 15

1:30 PM S&F/OC

Saturday, Nov. 16

9:30 AM Food Pantry/OC

Sunday, Nov. 17

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 November PW flower lady is Deb Albrecht.

Bible Study: Please join us for 10 AM bible study this Tuesday at the Outreach Center or via Zoom. Contact the church office to be added to our weekly bible study email reminders/updates.

Wish List for Thanksgiving Boxes: We are planning for 28 boxes from each Church. The distribution will take place at St. Jude on Saturday, Nov. 23. Here's our current wish list: canned yams (30 oz), peaches (jars or cans), and applesauce (jars). These items may be dropped off at the Outreach Center or brought to Fellowship Hall on Sundays. If you have any questions, please speak with Erika Wulster or Judy Trigg.

Sweets with Santa: Sat., Dec. 7 at 11 AM. Hot cocoa bar, desserts, and photos with Santa in Fellowship Hall! \$5 per person; ages 2 and under free. Register with Jen McElroy at jenhillsdon@yahoo.com or 973-879-6279.

Youth Movie & Craft Night: Saturday, Dec 7; More information to follow.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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