

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

Christ the King/Consecration of Pledges Sunday

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Nov. 24, 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:

Teri Harvey

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: *Adapted from Psalm 93: 1-2, 4-5, The Message*

L: God is King, robed and ruling, God is robed and surging with strength.

P: The world is firm, immovable. Your throne, God, is ever firm—You're Eternal!

L: Stronger than wild sea storms, mightier than sea-storm breakers,

P: Mighty God rules from High Heaven.

L: What you say goes—it always has. "Beauty" and "Holy" marked your palace rule,

P: God, Eternal King, we worship you to the end of time.

L: To the Ancient of Day, the Eternal, let us worship God!

* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 150 Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *(in silence, then in unison)*

Righteous God, King Eternal, you have crowned Jesus of Nazareth as Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him and are slow to acknowledge his rule. We give allegiance to and align ourselves with worldly powers and become worldly when we do so. Forgive our failed efforts in being governed by Jesus' justice and love.

In your mercy, forgive us all. Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all, that we may be his loyal ambassadors, a royal priesthood, and beacons of his holy blessing on this earth. Through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

* *Please stand if you are able.*

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

Leader: Jesus, King of all, bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, freed from sin, we might live into Christ's righteousness. By Christ's stripes we are healed; by his love and grace, our old life is gone, and the new life has begun.

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

* CELEBRATION OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS: *Give Thanks (No. 647, GTG)*

* 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, OFFERING OUR 2025 PLEDGES, & OFFERTORY:
Gail Weber & Erika Wulster

* HYMN OF THANKSGIVING: *No. 554 Let All Things Now Living*

* DEDICATION OF OUR 2025 PLEDGES & PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

L: Let us pray together:

P: God of compassion, Source of all life, Giver of all good gifts: As we commit our lives to the work of Christ, bless the gifts and the pledges we offer to you this day. May your salvation invigorate us with joy, the hope we have in Jesus rejuvenate us with delight; the opportunity to serve Jesus actually thrill us. Receive our pledges and bless our gifts that the work of our hands may carry on and complete the work of Jesus, even as we rededicate our lives to Jesus and his kingdom today and for all time. Amen.

DECLARING GOD'S WORD

HEBREW LESSON: Daniel 7: 9–10, 13–14 God is the eternal king.

GOSPEL LESSON: John 18: 33–37 Jesus is put on trial for claiming his royal identity and kingdom.

ANTHEM: *"We Will Give Thanks" by Mark Patterson* Chancel Choir
Pianist, Andrea Morokutti

NEW TESTAMENT: Revelation 1: 4–8 Jesus announces his coming.

SERMON: *The Other Kingdom* Pastor David Harvey

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Philippians 2: 3–10*

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in 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 him 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: *Take on the Mind of Christ the Lord* vv. 1, 4
(Tune 335 "Though I May Speak") © 2015 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

***Take on the mind of Christ the Lord
who gave up life in heaven above;
he chose to suffer with the poor
to make us rich in God's great love.
One day the world will sing and pray
and Christ will always be adored.
Until that great and glorious day,
take on the mind of Christ the Lord.***

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

DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN: *For the Fruit of All Creation* No. 36 GTG

* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

* CHORAL BENEDICTION: Chancel Choir

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

Our Worship has ended — our Christian Witness begins!

ASSISTING DURING TODAY'S WORSHIP

Greeter: Lisa Besser
Choir Director: Maggie Morokutti
Sound System: Theo Padavano
Worship Leader: Teri Harvey

Ushers: Erika Wulster &
Chester Topolski
MIDI: Frank Wilson
DLP: Jennifer Plut
Ministers: The Congregation

Children & Worship: Joan Cameron | "*How the Church Tells Time*"

Faith Works: Judy Trigg | "*Mary and Joseph*"
Luke 1: 26-33 & Matthew 1: 18-21

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, Peter Porzio, Andrew Shan, Robert Talmadge, Addie Wasserman, Molly Grace Young, Audrey, Chet, Eva, Gail, Liza, Joan, Michelle

Illness & Injuries: Robert Benz, George Burke, Derek Cameron, Elaine Canonico, Kyle Canonico, Thomas Cheevers, Lucy Cuipa, Anna Nagyhetenyi, Jan Smith, Margaret Stephens, Gail Weber, Betty Ann Weir, Ed Williams, Ann, Carter, Demares, Evelyn, Michelle, Tracy, Valerie

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanksgiving Altar Arrangement: The produce for the Thanksgiving arrangement is generously donated by Arena Farms. The produce will be given to a local food pantry after Thanksgiving.

The Joy of Giving! What a fulfilling feeling it is to help others less fortunate. Truly it is better to give than to receive. How important it is to foster a spirit of altruism in our children! Gift giving will be part of the Children's Christmas Pageant this year. The gifts will be delivered to the Clover Rest Home in Columbia. The residents are in need of shampoo, body/hand lotion, chapsticks and would enjoy sugar-free soft candy treats like chocolate. There will be a collection box in Fellowship Hall or items may be dropped off at the Outreach Center. Questions? Please contact Deb Albrecht 908 447-2112 Thank you!!!

Thanksgiving Community Worship Service: 7:00 PM Tue., Nov. 26, in the Sanctuary at First United Methodist Church.

ShopRite (\$25/\$100), **Acme** (\$25/\$100), **Dunkin** (\$10), **IHOP** (\$10), **Starbucks** (\$10), **Barnes & Noble** (\$10), and **Panera** (\$10) **gift cards** are available. See Gail Weber (or Jen Plut in the church office) to order additional cards or if you have any questions about how to support this ministry!

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 — Sat., Dec 7 at 6 PM: Attention kids! Join us at the Outreach Center where we'll be watching *Mickey's Once Upon a Christmas*. We'll have pizza, games, and crafts. If anyone has any questions, email Stephanie Burke at sburke11286@gmail.com.

A poster for a youth movie and craft night. It features a central monitor displaying a scene from "Mickey's Once Upon a Christmas" with Mickey Mouse and friends. To the left of the monitor is a red and white popcorn bucket. To the right are three vertical bars labeled "PIZZA", "GAMES", and "CRAFTS". The background is decorated with red curtains. The text on the poster reads: "Join us for YOUTH MOVIE & CRAFT NIGHT DEC. 7, 2024 • 6 PM OUTREACH CENTER 35 Main St., Blairstown, NJ email Stephanie at sburke11286@gmail.com with any questions or to register."

Poinsettias Dedications: If you wish to dedicate a poinsettia for the sanctuary in memory of a loved one or in celebration of the season, you may do so by returning the order form/bulletin insert in the offering plate or to the church office. The donation per plant is \$12. Please make checks payable to "Presbyterian Women." Poinsettias may also be ordered at our website. Simply visit fpcb-nj.org and go to our Give Now button, contribute through Presbyterian Women and leave your dedication in the Notes section! Last date to sign up is Dec. 15. Speak with Erika Wulster if you have any questions.

COMMUNITY NEWS:

Pocono Concert Chorale presents *A John Rutter Christmas* at 2:30 PM on Sun., Dec. 8 at the First Presbyterian Church at 575 Main St., Stroudsburg, PA. Featuring the great holiday music of this beloved composer, including his classic "Gloria" with brass & percussion. Admission is \$12 at the door.

Blair Vespers: Blair's Chamber Orchestra and Singers perform as part of this traditional holiday service on Dec. 13 at 4:30 & 7:00 PM in our Sanctuary.

Water Gap Singers Holiday Concert: Sunday, Dec. 15 at 4 PM in our Sanctuary with a reception to follow. The program will include a variety of seasonal music, both sacred and secular. The Water Gap Singers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Funding has been made possible, in part, by the Warren County Cultural and Heritage Division. New members are always welcomed. There are no auditions. Visit their website for more information: <https://watergapsingers.org/>.

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

{ Dates/times subject to change }

Sunday, Nov. 24

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

Monday, Nov. 25 *Office Closed*

Tuesday, Nov. 26
10:00 AM Bible Study/OC

Thursday, Nov. 28 *Office Closed*

Friday, Nov. 29 *Office Closed*

Saturday, Nov. 30

10:00 AM Jingle on Main (by OC)

Sunday, Dec. 1 *1st Sunday in Advent*

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



Did you know that Jingle on Main is right around the corner?

And did you know it's on Saturday, November 30, to be exact?

And did you know that it might be chilly on November 30th?

And did you know that chili is a great way to warm up if you are strolling Main Street and enjoying Jingle on Main?

And did you know that Membership and Fellowship Ministry will be offering Jingle on Main "street strollers" a nice hot bowl of chili, cup of coffee and/or hot chocolate at our table that will be in front of the Outreach Center? W

And did you know we will also be collecting items at our table for our area food pantries?

And did you know that we'd like to ask for your help in making this community fellowship outreach event possible?

And did you know even if your name isn't Hormel, we are looking for volunteers who would be willing to make a pot of chili?

And did you know we also need people to take an hour or so out of their day to serve the chili, hot chocolate and coffee to the passers by?

And did you know we could also use help with setup and/or cleanup?

Jingle on Main runs from 10:00 to 4:00 on Saturday, November 30. We will set up around 9:00 A.M. and break down our table and clean up at about 4:00 P.M.

If you are available to make a pot of chili and/or spend an hour serving at FPC B's table, please sign up in Fellowship Hall or give Jen Plut a call at 908.362.5254 (or email fpcb@ptd.net), and let her know you'd like to sign up and how you can help.

Now you know and we thank you! 🐦

Deb, Joan, and Pete *for*
Membership and Fellowship Ministry

Questions? Call or email Pete at 908.798.7164 - ppeterson459@gmail.com



***F*or your spiritual renewal and refreshment,
consider attending some or all the activities below:**

- ❖ *Thanksgiving Worship Service with Holy Communion*
Nov. 26 7:00 PM First United Methodist Church
- ❖ *First Sunday in Advent & Celebration of Holy Communion*
Dec. 1 10:00 AM First Presbyterian Church
- ❖ *Sweets with Santa*
Dec. 7 11:00 AM First Presbyterian Church
- ❖ *Youth Movie & Craft Night*
Dec. 7 6:00 PM FPC Outreach Center
- ❖ *Second Sunday in Advent & Hanging of the Greens*
Dec. 8 10:00 AM First Presbyterian Church
- ❖ *Blair Academy Christmas Vespers*
Dec. 13 4:30/7:00PM First Presbyterian Church
- ❖ *Third Sunday in Advent*
Dec. 15 10:00 AM First Presbyterian Church
- ❖ *Water Gap Singers Christmas Concert*
Dec. 15 4:00 PM First Presbyterian Church
- ❖ *Fourth Sunday in Advent & Children's Christmas Pageant*
Dec. 22 10:00 AM First Presbyterian Church
- ❖ *Christmas Eve Service*
Dec. 24 7:00 PM First Presbyterian Church



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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

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 **GIVE NOW**