

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 385, 1 Main Street  
Blairstown, NJ 07825



## Church Office and Food Pantry

P.O. Box 385 (35 Main Street), Blairstown, NJ

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

**Church/Office:** (908) 362-5254    **Fax:** (908) 362-8060

**Food Pantry:** (908) 362-5254

**Email:** [fpcb@ptd.net](mailto:fpcb@ptd.net)

**Website:** [fpcb-nj.org](http://fpcb-nj.org)

**Pastor David G. Harvey**

**BOUND TOGETHER BY FAITH**

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

## *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany* *Ordination & Installation of Church Officers*

10:00 AM

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

February 9, 2025

#### GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE: *Symphony No. 1 "Afro-American" II: Sorrow (Adagio)* (5-14 - BT)  
*by William Grant Still*

WELCOME, AFFIRMATION OF MISSION STATEMENT & ANNOUNCEMENTS: Elizabeth Topolski  
**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:

L: Almighty and eternal God, we praise your name and pray your blessing upon us.

**P: Here may the faithful find salvation and the careless be renewed.**

L: Here may the doubting find faith and the desperate receive joy.

**P: Here may the weary find rest, and the worried know your peace.**

L: Here may the aged find consolation and the young be inspired.

**P: With great joy and abundant praise, let us worship God.**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 138 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *In unison*

**Almighty and merciful God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we do not always face and embrace your calling and claim. Too often we live timid or as turned off disciples, forgetful of your powerful presence and the strength of your Spirit among us.**

*~ Silent confession ~*

**O God, forgive foolish and faithless ways. In Christ's name, give us your Holy Spirit, that each one of us may be provided with all the gifts needed to fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

L: Friends of Jesus, the redemptive grace of God comes to us anew each day. Through Jesus' death on the cross, we are called to die daily to ourselves, to trust God, and to grow intimately in the depth of Jesus' love. Therefore, let us seek God's face, grow in God's grace, and know that by Jesus' love, we are forgiven and freed.

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

\* CELEBRATION OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS: (No. 582, GTG)  
*Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

\* EXCHANGE OF CHRIST'S PEACE: *The peace of Christ be with you. 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 Isaiah 6: 1–8 Isaiah accepts God's call.

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 5: 1–11 Jesus calls Peter into a life of discipleship.

ANTHEM: *"Give it to Jesus" by Michael Barrett* Chancel Choir

MEDITATION: *Trustful Living* Pastor David Harvey

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Vision Statement of First Presbyterian Church, Blairstown, NJ*

**As members of the First Presbyterian Church of Blairstown, NJ, we believe that our church is a caring community. The foundation of this church is Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Our church seeks to be a *center* for Christian values, spiritual growth, social awareness, human service, and fellowship; ministering to and with all people in our congregation and community to strengthen one another. Amen.**

## SERVICE OF ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

*Being ordained & installed as a deacon is Angelina Plut*  
*Being installed as deacons are Mandy Burke & Robin Kasprenski*  
*Being installed as ruling elders are Deb Albrecht, Amanda Macchia, & Bill Olivier*

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE: *1 Corinthians 12: 4–7, 27* President of the Corporation &  
Elder, Chester Topolski

L: There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**P: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.**

L: God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**P: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.**

L: Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

**P: By the power and might of your Spirit, O Christ, may we too, seek not to be served but to serve, in your name. Amen.**

STATEMENT ON THE GIFT OF ORDINATION & INSTALLATION: Pastor David Harvey

PRESENTATION OF CHURCH OFFICER TO BE ORDAINED & INSTALLED: Elder Chester Topolski  
L: Representing the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, the session of this Church now ordains *Angelina Plut* to the office of Deacon and installs her to active service.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE CHURCH OFFICER TO BE ORDAINED

LAYING ON OF HANDS & PRAYER OF ORDINATION: Pastor David Harvey

PRESENTATION OF DEACONS & ELDERS TO BE INSTALLED: Chester Topolski  
L: Mr. Moderator, Deacons Mandy Burke and Robin Kasprenski and Elders Deb Albrecht, Amanda Macchia, and Bill Olivier having been elected again to active service by the vote of this congregation, may now be installed to office.

QUESTIONS OF AFFIRMATION FOR OFFICERS ALREADY ORDAINED: Pastor David Harvey

QUESTIONS OF AFFIRMATION TO THE CONGREGATION: Elder Chester Topolski  
L: Do we, the members of the Church, accept this man and these women as elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of the congregation to lead us in the ways of Jesus Christ?

**P: We do.**

L: Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

**P: We do.**

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION BLESSING: Pastor David Harvey

\* HYMN FOR CHURCH OFFICERS: *No. 525 Here I Am, Lord*

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

\* CHORAL BENEDICTION: Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE: *Symphony No. 1 "Afro-American" III: Humor (Animato)* (3-16 BT)  
*by William Grant Still*

*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; by severe weather; and those affected by the DC airline disaster

**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, Noah Haiduc-Dale, Olivia Hollis, Adam Hubble, Tracy Lance, Troy Lutz, Caitlyn McMorrow and her family, Henry Parsons, Peter Porzio, Andrew Shan, Robert Talmadge, Addie Wasserman, Molly Grace Young, Audrey, Chet, Eva, Gail, Liza, Joan

**Illness & Injuries:** Emily Arena, Robert Benz, George Burke, Derek Cameron, Elaine Canonico, Kyle Canonico, Lucy Cuipa, Christine Hengel, Jan Smith, Margaret Stephens, Betty Ann Weir, Ed Williams, Ann, Carter, David, Demares, Evelyn, Tracy, Valerie

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## ASSISTING DURING TODAY'S WORSHIP & SUNDAY SCHOOL

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**Greeter:** Bill Olivier

**Ushers:** The McElroy Family

**Choir Director:** Maggie Morokutti

**Worship Leader:** Elizabeth Topolski

**Pastor:** Rev. David Harvey

**Ministers:** The Congregation

**Sound System:** Theo Padavano

**DLP:** Jennifer Plut

**MIDI:** Frank Wilson

**Coffee Hour/Souper Bowl Reception:** hosted by the Deacon Ministry – *thank you to all who contributed refreshments and/or donated to the Souper/Souper Bowl!*

**Children & Worship:** Teri Harvey; *The Mustard Seed*

**Faith Works:** Deb Albrecht; *A Boy's Lunch (John 6: 1-15)*

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## THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

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### Sunday, Feb. 9

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 AM Worship  
10:15 AM Sunday School  
11:15 AM Souper Bowl Celebration/FH

### Mon., Feb. 10 *Office Closed*

7:00 PM Water Gap Singers

### Tues., Feb. 11

10:00 AM Bible Study/OC  
6:30 PM NW Garden Club/OC

### Fri., Feb. 14

6:30 PM 4-H Club/OC

### Sat., Feb. 15

9:30 AM Food Pantry/OC

### Sun., Feb. 16

10:00 AM Family Worship  
11:15 AM Deacon Ministry Meeting/FH  
4:30 PM Confirmation Class Orientation/OC

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### *Note of Gratitude*

*Heartfelt gratitude to everyone who took part in surprising me this past Sunday for my years of working at the church office and the beautiful flowers, the card and monetary gift, and of course, the delicious cake! I appreciate all the kind notes inside of the card and yes, I had no idea this was happening!*

*Gratefully, Jennifer / Church Administrator*



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Mobile Phone Bluetooth:** – If you are able, please turn off the Bluetooth on your electronic device(s). Thank you.

**Gift Cards!** Dunkin Donuts, ShopRite, ACME, Panera, and Starbucks cards are available. See Gail Weber to order or to learn more about Loaves & Fishes!

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

**Deacon Meeting:** Sunday, Feb. 16 following the service of worship.

**Stewardship & Finance Meeting:** Tuesday, Feb. 18 following bible study (approx. noon).

**Book Club:** The next meeting of the FPCB Book Club will be held at 7 PM on Thu., March 6, hosted by Carol Troxclair. We will discuss the book, [The Secret Keepers by Kate Morton](#). The Book Club meets every 6–8 weeks, and we read 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.

**Recital:** A recital by church member, Andrea Morokutti, pianist will be performed in our Sanctuary on Sat., March 15 at 1 PM.

**Blairstown Rotary 50/50 Raffle Tickets** are available from church member & Rotarian, Jen Plut (ph: 973-296-2156), or at [blairstownrotary.org](http://blairstownrotary.org). It's YOUR chance to help support our North Warren Regional High School Scholarship Program, Spring & Fall Blood Drives, Fireworks, Food Bank Projects and other community services and donations. The drawing and dinner event will be Friday, Apr. 25 at 6 PM at the Blairstown Hose Company firehouse on Stillwater Road. Thank you for your support!

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## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OFFICERS

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<b>SESSION</b>	<b>CLASS OF 2026</b> Mark Nelke Gail Weber Elizabeth Topolski <sup>2</sup>	<b>CLASS OF 2027</b> Lisa Besser Donald Nicholls Open	<b>CLASS OF 2028</b> Deb Albrecht Amanda Macchia Bill Olivier
<b>BOARD OF DEACONS</b>	<b>CLASS OF 2026</b> Kelly McElroy Angelina Plut <sup>1</sup> Judy Trigg Maggie Wilson	<b>CLASS OF 2027</b> Betsy Gervasi Teri Harvey Erika Wulster Open	<b>CLASS OF 2028</b> Mandy Burke Robin Kasprenski Open Open

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<sup>1</sup> One-year, unexpired term; <sup>2</sup> Two-year, unexpired term