

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

*Confirmation Sunday & Fourth Sunday of Easter*

10:00 AM

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

May 11, 2025

\* Please stand if you are able

**GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

PRELUDE: *Concerto for Trumpet in D Major, Opus 6 no. 7* (7-02)  
*by Tomaso Albinoni*

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.**

CHORAL INTROIT:

Chancel Choir

\* CALL TO WORSHIP:

*Psalm 23, KJV*

L: The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want.

**P: The Lord maketh me to lie down in green pastures;  
the Lord leadeth me beside the still waters.**

L: The Lord restoreth my soul; the Lord leadeth me in the paths  
of righteousness for his name's sake.

**P: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow  
of death,**

L: I will fear no evil, for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff  
they comfort me.

**P: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my  
enemies; thou anointest my head with oil. My cup runneth over.**

L: Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

**P: And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

L: With joyful hearts, grateful lives, praise and hope that fills the air,  
let us worship God.

\* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 464 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *In silence then unison*

**O God, our Shepherd, we confess that we can be like sheep. We  
get lost and sometimes even do things that are wrong. We forget  
that your love is for all people, especially when our love is  
selective, misinformed, and often misguided.**

**Forgive our sins. Fill our hearts with Christ's love and remind  
us once again that Jesus died for all. In Jesus' precious name, we  
pray. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:**

L: Here are words we may trust, words that merit full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. To all who confess their sins and resolve to lead a new life, he says, "Your sins are forgiven." Christ also says, "Follow me." Now to the one who rules all worlds, immortal, invisible, the only God be honor and glory forever and ever. Friends — believe the good news of the gospel and live into Christ's joy.

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

\* CELEBRATION OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS: *No. 304 Jesus Loves Me* 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. 577 Glory Be to the Father*

**DECLARING GOD'S WORD**

PSALTER READING: Psalm 78: 1–7  
The psalmist says tell and teach God's story.

GOSPEL READING: John 10: 1–18, 25–30  
Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

ANTHEM: *"The Flowers of My World" by Loonis McGlohon* Chancel Choir

MEDITATION: *Telling & Teaching Jesus' Story* Pastor David Harvey  
& the Confirmands

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION COMMISSIONING**

*Levi Charles Arena*

*Owen Joseph Besser*

*Ryan Burke*

INVITATION OF DISCIPLESHIP: Elder Bill Olivier

**PRESENTATION OF THE CONFIRMANDS**

QUESTION OF INTENT TO THE CONFIRMANDS: Pastor David Harvey

**QUESTION OF INTENT TO THE PARENTS & SHEPHERDS**

QUESTION OF INTENT TO THE CONGREGATION: Elder Bill Olivier

Q To the members of this church, do you promise to guide and nurture our young people by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know Christ, to follow Christ, and to grow in faith in Christ through the fellowship of this church family? **We do.**

AFFIRMATION OF CHRIST'S LOVE &  
PROFESSION OF FAITH:

Pastor David Harvey

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

L: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we affirm our faith reciting the Apostles' Creed.

**P: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. On the third day, he rose again; he ascended into Heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF THE CONFIRMANDS BY THE SHEPHERDS:

CONFIRMAND	SHEPHERD
Levi Charles Arena	Frank Wilson
Owen Joseph Besser	Gail Weber
Ryan Burke	Don Nicholls (for Gary Albrecht)

READING OF THEIR STATEMENT OF FAITH: The Confirmands

THE CONFIRMATION: Pastor David Harvey

PRAYER FOR THE CONFIRMANDS:

CHARGE TO THE CONFIRMATION CLASS: *Ephesians 4: 1-3*

THE WELCOME: Elder Bill Olivier

L: *Levi, Owen, and Ryan* in your baptism . . . please stand and affirm your commitment to these children of God.

\* **P: With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome and confirm Levi, Owen, and Ryan as ambassadors of the gospel at First Presbyterian Church, Blairstown, New Jersey. We promise to love, encourage, care and share the good news of the gospel with them that they may learn to live the truth of Christ's love. Amen.**

\* HYMN OF CONFIRMATION: *For Everyone Born* (No. 769, vv. 1, 3-5)

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

## DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

\* HYMN: *No. 375 Lord, of All Good*

\* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

\* CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Preghiera" by Cesar Frack (01-57)

*Our Worship has ended — our Christian Witness begins!*

*The hymns for this morning were chosen by the Confirmation Class.*



*Happy Mother's Day to the  
Ladies of the church!  
The Sunday School children have  
flowers to give to the ladies.  
Please take one as you leave the  
Sanctuary today.*

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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 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, Trisha Lenarze-Garmoe, Troy Lutz, Caitlyn McMorro & her family, Henry Parsons, Peter Porzio, Andrew Shan, Robert Talmadge, Addie Wasserman, Molly Grace Young, Audrey, Eva, Gail, Liza, Joan

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

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## ASSISTING DURING TODAY'S WORSHIP

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**Greeter:** Stephanie Burke

**Choir Director:** Maggie Morokutti

**Worship Leader:** Erika Wulster

**Pastor:** Rev. David Harvey

**Ministers:** The Congregation

**Ushers:** Joan Cameron & Lillian Smith

**Elder Assisting**

**w/Confirmation:** Bill Olivier

**Sound System:** Theo Padavano

**Coffee Hour:** Joan Cameron

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## THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

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### **Confirmation Sunday, May 11**

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 AM Family Worship

### **Monday, May 12** *Office Closed*

7:00 PM Water Gap Singers

### **Tuesday, May 13**

10:00 AM Bible Study/OC  
1:00 PM Piano Tuning  
6:30 PM NW Garden Club/OC

### **Wednesday, May 14**

1:15 PM BWC Exec. Board/OC

### **Thursday, May 15**

7:00 PM Session/OC

### **Friday, May 16**

Time Tbd Blair Day of Service/OC

### **Saturday, May 17**

9:30 AM Food Pantry/OC

### **Sunday, May 18**

10:00 AM Worship  
10:15 AM Sunday School  
4:00 PM Water Gap Singers Concert

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

***The Chosen, Season 3*** will resume at 7:00 PM on Sundays, June 1, 22, and 29 at the OC.

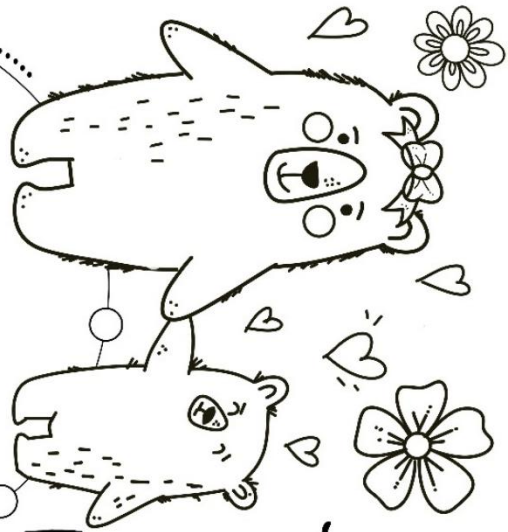
**Save the Date!—Recognition Sunday—June 22, 2025:** We will celebrate our graduates from elementary school, high school and those receiving higher education degrees with a special worship service followed by a brunch in Fellowship Hall. We will also recognize and thank our Sunday School staff and Choir for their contributions to the life of our church this year. Please let us know if there is a graduate in your family so that we can recognize them and celebrate their accomplishments. Please include the school they are graduating from and for high school graduates and advanced degree recipients where they plan to go/do next. Questions? Contact Amanda Macchia at [amanda.gildersleeve.macchia@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.gildersleeve.macchia@gmail.com) or Deb Albrecht at [debalbrecht20@gmail.com](mailto:debalbrecht20@gmail.com).

**Worship Helpers Needed:** You are invited to sign up online through Sign-Up Genius — pick a date that works for you! Visit [fpcb-nj.org](http://fpcb-nj.org) for the sign-up link on the home page.

The **FPCB Book Club's** next meeting will be 7:00 PM on Thu., June 26 at Jan Swift's house. We will be discussing the factually based, Revolutionary War novel, *Carrying Independence* by Karen A. Chase. New members are always welcome, please consider joining us whether you have read the book or not. Questions? Please speak with Teri Harvey or Kaye Evans.

**Volunteers for VBS wanted!** We are considering holding a week-long vacation Bible school this summer if there is sufficient interest. We will need adults and teen helpers. Possible weeks are July 21–25, Aug 4–8 or Aug 11–15. If you are interested in helping out, please let me know which week or weeks you are available. You can email Deb Albrecht at [debalbrecht20@gmail.com](mailto:debalbrecht20@gmail.com). There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

Finish the garden for your mom!



My mom's name is \_\_\_\_\_  
 Her favorite color is \_\_\_\_\_  
 Her favorite food is \_\_\_\_\_

MY Mummy IS THE BEST



WORD SEARCH

A	Y	L	O	V	E	I	B	M	P
S	P	G	I	A	A	W	E	U	A
P	E	U	R	L	R	F	M	W	R
E	F	G	E	N	E	R	O	U	S
C	U	K	D	U	M	I	T	H	K
I	N	W	J	P	V	E	H	K	I
A	C	O	O	S	C	N	E	P	N
L	B	E	S	T	A	D	R	O	D

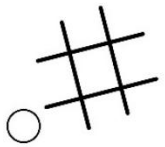
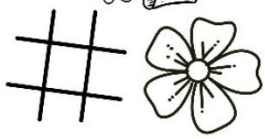
SPECIAL LOVE  
 FUN GENEROUS  
 MOTHER KIND  
 BEST FRIEND

My mom is the best because:

\_\_\_\_\_

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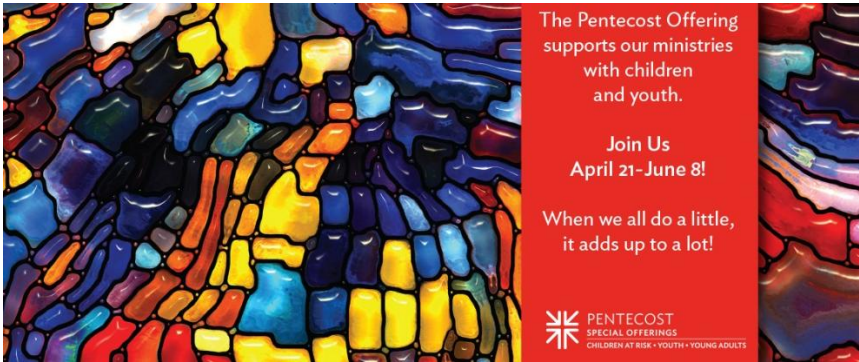


Color and cut out the bookmark!

## Additional News

**Veteran's Haven North Laundry Supply Drive:** Along with the Blair Woman's Club, Presbyterian Women will be collecting laundry detergent pods, dryer (fabric softener) sheets, and laundry baskets/hampers with wheels! Monetary donations will also be accepted (cash or checks payable to Blair Woman's Club) that will go towards the purchase of the items needed. If you have any questions, please speak with Jen Plut or Gail Weber. Items may be left in the designated box in Fellowship Hall or at the Outreach Center through Tue., May 20.


**The Water Gap Singers**, under the direction of Joseph Mello, will present an all-Mozart concert next Sunday, May 18 at 4 PM in our Sanctuary. The concert will feature *Ave Verum Corpus*, *Laudate Dominum*, *Regina Coeli K276* and *Requiem in D minor K626*. The singers will be accompanied by an orchestra with soloists from the chorus and guest soloists Alicia DePaolo, soprano, Katherine Hoyer, alto, Samuel Garcia, tenor and Chris Streeter, bass. There is no admission charge to the concert. Free-will donations will be gratefully accepted. A reception, prepared by members of the chorus, will follow the concert. New members are always welcomed. There are no auditions. For more information, contact the Water Gap Singers for more information at <https://watergapsingers.org/contact-us/>. The Water Gap Singers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Funding has been made possible, in part, by the Warren County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.



The Pentecost Offering supports our ministries with children and youth.

Join Us  
April 21-June 8!

When we all do a little,  
it adds up to a lot!

 PENTECOST  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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e-Mail: [fpcb@ptd.net](mailto:fpcb@ptd.net) Website: [fpcb-nj.org](http://fpcb-nj.org)

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

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