

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

Sixth Sunday of Easter/Memorial Day Weekend

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 25, 2025

* Please stand if you are able

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE: *'Cortège et Litanie by Marcel Dupre* (04-49)

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, &

AFFIRMATION OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Joan Cameron

**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: *Psalms 67: 1:1-6*

L: May God be merciful and bless us.

P: May God's face smile with favor on us.

L: May the nations praise you, O God.

P: Yes, may all the nations praise you.

L: Let the whole world sing for joy, because you govern the nations
with justice

P: And guide the people of the whole world.

L: May the nations praise you, O God.

P: Yes, may all the nations praise you.

L: Then the earth will yield its harvests, and God, our God, will richly
bless us.

P: With great joy and praise on our lips, let us worship God.

* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 262 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *(In silence then unison)*

**Almighty and merciful God, author of covenants and Creator of
all creation, in baptism you promise us forgiveness and lead us to
your Promised Land. We confess, we are a detour kind of people.
We get sidetracked and venture off on our own adventures,
sometimes unconcerned about whether you are leading us.**

**Forgive us when we cling to destructive habits and hold
grudges and act less than welcoming and hospitable. Remind us
again of your hospitable love and mercy. Make us new people
that we may rise to a new life and live into your grace and truth;
in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

L: Friends—hear, believe, accept and live the good news of the gospel of Christ's love.

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

* CELEBRATING 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.

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS & OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY & PRAYER OF DEDICATION: *No. 592 Praise God*

DECLARING GOD'S WORD

HEBREW SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 34: 1–6

Moses views the Promised Land and dies.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Revelation 21: 1–3, 10, 22:1–6

God creates the new heaven and new earth.

GOSPEL LESSON: John 5:1–9

Much to the chagrin of the Pharisees, Jesus heals on the sabbath.

ANTHEM: "*Sing a Song of Thanks and Joy*" by Hal Hopson Chancel Choir

SERMON: *From Pisgah to the Promised Land* Pastor David Harvey

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Litany from The Book of Worship for United States Forces (1974)

Used with permission by the Armed Forces Chaplains' Board, Washington, D.C.

* A LITANY FOR MEMORIAL DAY:

L: Let us give thanks to God for the beauty, the bounty, and the blessing of this land with all its chartered liberties and opportunities given to us; for the awesome wonder of America.

P: We offer our thanks and praise, O God.

L: For elected leaders who serve us at the federal, the state and the local levels, for their aspirations and inspiration of upholding the ideals that perpetuate our nation's story,

P: We offer our hearts in thankful praise, O God.

L: For men and women, young and old, who bravely and boldly enlist in our nation's armed services, placing their lives on the line in our

country's finest hour, and especially those who gave even their lives in service, defending freedom and faith.

P: We declare our thankful praise, O God.

L: Almighty God and merciful Father, as we remember these your servants, remembering with gratitude their courage and compassion, their heroic strength and valor, we also hold before you those who mourn them.

All: Look upon your bereaved servants with divine and tender mercy. As we enjoy the freedoms that we do, may we remember with appreciation and gratitude the men and women who have fought and who have died, and who in their dying allow us to live freely and enjoy life abundantly. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

* HYMN: *This Is My Song* (vv. 1 & 3; No. 340, GTG)

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

DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN: No. 564 *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

* CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *"Berceuse" by Louis Vierne* (02-44)

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; 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 McMorrow & 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

ASSISTING DURING TODAY'S WORSHIP

Greeter: Deb Albrecht
Choir Director: Maggie Morokutti
Worship Leader: Joan Cameron
Pastor: Rev. David Harvey
Ministers: The Congregation

Ushers: Teri Harvey & Judy Trigg
Sound System: Theo Padavano
DLP: Jennifer Plut
MIDI: Frank Wilson
Coffee Hour: Angelina Plut

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

Sunday, May 25

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:00 AM Family Worship

Monday, May 26 *Office Closed*

Tuesday, May 27

10:00 AM Bible Study/OC

Sunday, June 1

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10:00 AM Worship w/Communion

10:15 AM Sunday School



HAPPY
MEMORIAL DAY

• Remember and Honor •

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chosen, Season 3 will resume at 7 PM on Sundays, June 1, 22, and 29.

Save the Date!—Recognition Sunday, June 22: 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 or Deb Albrecht at debalbrecht20@gmail.com.

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 still needed for Vacation Bible School August 11-15! *Come and join us for some summer fun!* We are hoping to hold a VBS at our church this summer. We are still in need of adults and teen helpers mornings from 8:30–11:30 Monday to Friday - August 11–15. If you are only available for 1 or a couple of days, we can still use your help! There is a sign-up in Fellowship Hall or contact Deb Albrecht at debalbrecht20@gmail.com or (908) 447-2112.

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 for the sign-up link on the home page.

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!

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 electronically through SignUpGenius which can be accessed through our website at <https://fpcb-nj.org/altar-flowers/>. Thank you, in advance, by providing altar flowers! The PW flower lady of the month of June is Erika Wulster.

Additional News

Veteran's Haven North Laundry Supply Drive: Along with the Blair Woman's Club, Presbyterian Women will be collecting laundry detergent pods, fabric softener sheets, and laundry baskets/hampers with wheels! Monetary donations will also be accepted (donation jar is available in Fellowship Hall; cash/checks payable to *Blair Woman's Club* or via PayPal to

07825bwcob@gmail.com) 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 now through Sunday, June 1. Thanks in advance for your support!

Pentecost Offering (April 21 – June 8, 2025): The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. A foundation of faith established during childhood through young adulthood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. When you give to the Pentecost Offering, you are helping to provide opportunities for young people to grow and share in their faith in Christ. Please mark "Pentecost" in the memo area of a check or the envelope. Pentecost envelopes are also located in the narthex by the bulletins.

OFFERING DISTRIBUTION:

40% Congregational ministries with children at risk;

60% Presbyterian Mission Agency (50% ministries with youth and young adults; 10% child advocacy/children at risk)



With our gifts to
the Pentecost Offering,
we work together to create a world where
children have all the tools they need to grow, learn and lead.

Join us!



PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

APRIL 21-JUNE 8, 2025

TAMARIL ELLEN