

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

## *Transfiguration of the Lord*

10:00 AM

### **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Feb. 15, 2026

\* Please stand if you are able; **bold text spoken** and *bold/italic sung* by all.

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

### PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, &

AFFIRMATION OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Pete Peterson

**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: *from Psalm 118:24 and selected verses of 1 John 4*

This is the day the Lord has made!

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

God is love. Those who abide in love abide in God,

**And God abides in them.**

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.

**Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.**

We love, because God first loved us.

**With joyful hearts and praise on our lips, let us worship God!**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 482 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

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

**God of compassion and grace, you call us to center our lives on  
the person of Jesus, to be ambassadors of Christ's love to the  
world, yet too often turn away, distracted by our own plans. We  
often speak when we should listen. We do not always live the life  
of Jesus in our daily lives, and our commitments are frequently  
directed towards our own preferences rather than seeking your  
kingdom.**

**Forgive our sins, O God. Grant us wisdom to live in your light  
and inspire us to live as responsible stewards of the Gospel of our  
Lord, that we may serve you with energy, intelligence,  
imagination, passion, and love; in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

Friends, in Jesus Christ, we are redeemed, reconciled and restored to a  
right relationship with God and our neighbor, I declare in the name of  
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,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit,  
whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

- \* EXCHANGE OF CHRIST'S PEACE:  
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**  
*Welcome one another with the peace of Christ.*

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS & OFFERTORY

- \* PRAISE & PRAYER OF DEDICATION: No. 428 v. 1  
***We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.***

## DECLARING GOD'S WORD

HEBREW LESSON: Exodus 24: 12–18  
*Moses receives God's covenant on Mt. Sinai.*

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 17: 1–9  
*Jesus is transfigured into his most exalted image.*

ANTHEM: "A Time for All Things"  
by Douglas E. Wagner Chancel Choir

SERMON: *An Unexpected Transfiguration* Pastor David Harvey

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

- \* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Philippians 2:3-10  
**We affirm our desire to "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves." We strive to "look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others, letting the same mind be in us 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 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.**

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING | ELECTION OF AN ELDER:**

*Being nominated to the office of elder is Chester Topolski.*

**SERVICE OF INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS**

*Being installed as deacon is Joan Cameron*

*Being installed as elders are*

*Chester Topolski, Elizabeth Topolski, & Frank Wilson*

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE: *1 Corinthians 12: 4-7, 27* Elder Deb Albrecht  
There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

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

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

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

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

**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 INSTALLATION: Pastor David Harvey

**PRESENTATION OF DEACON & ELDERS**

TO BE INSTALLED: Elder Deb Albrecht

Mr. Moderator, Deacon Joan Cameron and Elders Chester Topolski, Elizabeth Topolski, and Frank Wilson 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

Joan, Chester, Elizabeth, and Frank you have been called again to the position of servant leadership in and for this church. Do you welcome the work for which you have been chosen, and will you serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love, relying on God’s mercy and rejoicing in God’s promises through and in the name of Jesus, our Lord?

**Officers: I do and I will.**

**QUESTIONS OF AFFIRMATION TO**

THE CONGREGATION: Elder Deb Albrecht

Do we, the members of the Church, accept these men and women as elders and deacon, chosen by God through the voice of the congregation to lead us in the ways of Jesus Christ?

**We do.**

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?

**We do.**

INSTALLATION BLESSING:

Pastor David Harvey

\* HYMN: *No. 438 Bless Be the Tie That Binds*

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

## DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

\* HYMN: *No. 417 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

\* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

\* CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:

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

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## ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY

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**Greeter:** --

**Worship Leader:** Pete Peterson

**Pastor:** Rev. David Harvey

**Elder Assisting:** Deb Albrecht

**Ministers:** The Congregation

**Ushers:** Deb Albrecht & Joan Cameron

**Choir Director:** Maggie Morokutti

**Sound System:** Theo Padavano

**DLP:** Ryan Burke

**MIDI:** Frank Wilson

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## 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

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<https://linktr.ee/fpcbblairstown>

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

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## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

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**The Human Family:** 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, Julie Harvey, Olivia Hollis, Adam Hubble, Tracy Lance, Trisha Lenarze-Garmoe, Brad Gross, Troy Lutz, Caitlyn McMorrow & her family, Henry Parsons, Andrew Shan, Robert Talmadge, Ellen Walsh, Molly Young, Audrey, Eva, Liza, Joan

**Illness & Injuries:** Robert Benz, George Burke, Derek Cameron, Elaine Canonico, Kyle Canonico, Lucy Cuipa, Christine Hengel, Michael Kelly, Jan Smith, Jan Swift, Ben Weber, Betty Ann Weir, Ann, Carter, Dave, David, Evelyn, Finegan, Mia, Tracy, Valerie

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## THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

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**Sun., Feb. 15**

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 AM Family Worship  
w/Installation of Church Officers  
11:15 AM M&F Ministry Meeting/FH

**Mon., Feb. 16** *Office Closed*

7:00 PM WGS/Sanctuary

**Tues., Feb. 17**

10:00 AM Bible Study/OC

**Wed., Feb. 18**

7:00 PM Ash Wed. Service

**Thu., Feb. 19**

7:00 PM Session/OC

**Sun., Feb. 22**

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 AM Worship  
11:15 AM Deacon Ministry  
Meeting/FH

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Congregational Meeting to Elect an Elder:** The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Blairstown has called for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation to be held on Sunday, February 15, 2026 during worship for the purpose of electing an Elder for 2026.

**M&F Ministry Meeting:** Sunday, Feb. 15 following worship.

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

**Ash Wednesday:** The Lenten season begins with Ash Wednesday on Feb. 18. For those wishing to receive ashes, join us at 7 PM in the Sanctuary. We hope you will join us — all are welcome!

**Deacon Ministry Meeting:** Sunday, Feb. 22 following worship.

**The Chosen:** Selected episodes from Seasons 1, 2, and 3 of The Chosen will be shown on the following dates: Tue., Feb 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at the Outreach Center and all Sundays after church in the Fellowship Hall classroom in March, April 26, and May 24 and/or 31. We will view *The Chosen* as a Lenten Study.

**Gift Cards:** ShopRite (\$25/\$100), Acme (\$25/\$100), Subway (\$10), Dunkin (\$10), IHOP (\$10), Starbucks (\$10), Panera (\$10), and Home Depot (\$10) Gift Cards are available at the church office or from Gail Weber.

**Book Club:** The next meeting of the FPCB Book Club will be held at 7 PM on Thu., Mar. 5 at the Outreach Center, hosted by Betsy Gervasi. We will discuss the book, The Door to Door Book Store by Carsten Henn. 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.

### Community News

**Hymn Sing at the Lutheran Church:** If you enjoy singing and have some favorite hymns, please come to the Hymn Sing at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd on **Saturday, Feb. 28 at 3 PM**. There is a sign-up sheet in FH. Please write down the hymn(s) you'd like to sing, so that the music can be prepared in advance. Questions? Contact Deb Albrecht at (908) 447-2112.

**St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef/Cabbage Dinner Fundraiser & Live Irish Music with Maggie Morokutti!** Sat., Mar. 14 (time: 5:00–7:30 PM) at the Hope Community Center at 5 Walnut Street. \$30 per person, 50/50 cash raffle. Sponsored by H.O.P.E. (Help Our Preservation Efforts). Tickets available at Hope Junction Antiques or speak with church member, Pete Peterson, ph. (908) 798-7164.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OFFICERS

<b>SESSION</b>	<b>CLASS OF 2027</b>	<b>CLASS OF 2028</b>	<b>CLASS OF 2029</b>
	Lisa Besser	Deb Albrecht	Chester Topolski
	Donald Nicholls	Amanda Macchia	Elizabeth Topolski
	Open	Bill Olivier	Frank Wilson
<b>BOARD OF DEACONS</b>	<b>CLASS OF 2027</b>	<b>CLASS OF 2028</b>	<b>CLASS OF 2029</b>
	Betsy Gervasi	Mandy Burke	Judy Trigg
	Teri Harvey	Robin Kasprenski	Open
	Carissa Plut <sup>1</sup>	Angelina Plut <sup>2</sup>	Open
	Erika Wulster	Open	

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