

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

10:00 AM

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 10, 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:

Betsy 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:

*(adapted from Psalm 27: 1-2)*

The Lord is our light and our salvation, whom shall we fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?**

Jesus said, "I am light of the world."

**Whoever follows him will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.**

Step out of the shadows and into the radiance of God's gracious light.

**With gratitude and with gladness, let us worship God.**

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

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

**God of Morning Star and Midday Sun, we confess that we often prefer the shadows by hiding from you and from one another. Too often, we have squinted at your truth. We follow too closely the lights of the world's influences. We live in the world and become worldly by it.**

**Forgive our sins and help us live as children of Christ's light. Remove the cataracts of our souls and the glaucoma that clouds us from seeing you clearly and loving you dearly. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

Hear and accept the good news! Jesus calls us to live as a light to the world. In Christ, we are a new creation; the old life is gone; a new light is being lit within us. Believe that you are forgiven and live in peace.

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

\* CELEBRATING CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS: *No. 466*  
*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

v. 1

\* EXCHANGE OF CHRIST'S PEACE:

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Welcome one another with the peace of Christ.*

~ *Children may go downstairs for Sunday School* ~

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS & OFFERTORY

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

## DECLARING GOD'S WORD

HEBREW LESSON: Psalm 4 *Our goodness reflects God's light.*

GOSPEL LESSON: John 8: 12–16, 53–58

*Jesus claims himself as "I am the light of the world."*

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

SERMON SERIES: **"I AM" SAYINGS OF JESUS:** Pastor David Harvey  
III. "*The Light of the World*"

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

*1 Corinthians 13: 4–13*

**Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.**

**Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. Amen.**

\* HYMN: *Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining*

(*No. 192, GTG*)

*See bulletin insert for lyrics*

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

## DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

- \* HYMN: *No. 339*                      *Be Thou My Vision*
- \* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION
- \* CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*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:** 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:** Angela Balogach, Judy Dales, Gordon Dugan, Samantha Elwell, Brad Gross, Michelle Haiduc-Dale, Julie Harvey, Olivia Hollis, Adam Hubble, Ed Jones, Tracy Lance, Trisha Lenarze-Garmoe, Troy Lutz, Caitlyn McMorro & her family, Henry Parsons, Andrew Shan, Robert Talmadge, Molly Young, Audrey, Eva, Liza, Joan

**Illness & Injuries:** George Burke, Derek Cameron, Elaine Canonico, Kyle Canonico, Lucy Cuipa, Christine Hengel, Michael Kelly, Joseph Mello, Karolina Plut, Jan Smith, Jan Swift, Jim Walsh, Ben Weber, Betty Ann Weir, Ann, Annie, Carter, Dave, David, Evelyn, Mia, Tracy, Valerie

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### ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY

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**Greeter:** Gary Albrecht

**Ushers:** Teri Harvey, Chester Topolski

**Worship Leader:** Betsy Peterson

**Pastor:** Rev. David Harvey

**Ministers:** The Congregation

**Choir Director:** Maggie Morokutti

**Organist:** Tim Topolski

**Sound System:** Theo Padavano

**MIDI:** Frank Wilson

**DLP:** --

**Children & Worship:** Joan Cameron, *Mother's Day activity*

**Faith Works:** Deb Albrecht; *The Four Friends*; Mark 2: 1-12

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## THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

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### Sun., May 10

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 AM Worship  
10:15 AM Sunday School

### Mon., May 11 *Office Closed*

7:00 PM WGS/Sanctuary  
6:30 PM BEC/OC

### Tue., May 12

10:00 AM Bible Study/OC

### Sun., May 17

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 AM Worship  
10:15 AM Sunday School  
4:00 PM WGS Concert

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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*Today's Altar Flowers  
have been placed by Erika Wulster  
in celebration of her children.*

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**“Morning of Learning”** at Well Sweep Herb Farm in Port Murray on Sat., May 23. Fee is \$13.50. Bring a sandwich for a picnic lunch (lemonade provided). A sign-up sheet is available in Fellowship Hall with an option for carpooling. This outing is being organized by PW.

**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 or sign up in Fellowship Hall or speak with Joan Cameron.

**Joint Elder/Deacon Meeting:** Sunday, May 31 following worship.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

**The Water Gap Singers**, under the direction of Joseph Mello, will present a Brahms concert on Sunday, May 17 at 4 PM in our Sanctuary. The concert will feature *Liebeslieder Walzer (Lovesong Waltzes)*. 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, visit [watergapsingers.org](http://watergapsingers.org).

**Arts at St. Luke's:** Sam Edelston brings the all-American mountain dulcimer into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with his vibrant blend of bluegrass, Bossa Nova and many shades of Rock! Saturday, May 30th at 7:00 PM at St. Luke's in Hope. Suggested donation of \$10 at the door.

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## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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<https://linktr.ee/fpcbblairstown>

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

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\* HYMN: *Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining* (No. 192, GTG)

*Lord, the light of your love is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us;  
set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me; shine on me*

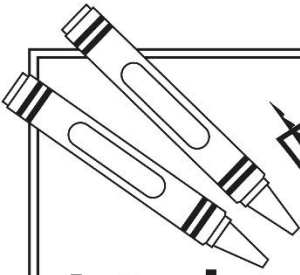
REFRAIN: *Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory.  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.  
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.*

*Lord, I come to your awesome presence,  
from the shadows into your radiance;  
by the blood I may enter your brightness.  
Search me; try me; consume all my darkness;  
Shine on me; shine on me.*

REFRAIN

*As we gaze on your kingly brightness,  
so our faces display your likeness;  
ever changing from glory to glory,  
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.  
Shine on me; shine on me.*

REFRAIN



# PUZZLE

## Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?  
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.  
Then read the completed Bible verse.*

KEY:



A



E



I



O

" \_ \_ M TH \_ L \_ GHT \_ F

TH \_ W \_ RLD. WH \_ \_ V \_ R

F \_ LL \_ WS M \_ W \_ LL N \_ V \_ R

W \_ LK \_ N D \_ RKN \_ SS."

J \_ H N 8:12, NIV

Answer: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." John 8:12, NIV