

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

23rd Sunday after Pentecost • All Saints' Day

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Nov. 1, 2026

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

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE:

Tim Topolski

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, &

AFFIRMATION OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Teri Harvey

**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 34: 1-4

Bless the Lord at all times;

God's praise will be ever on my lips.

In the Lord I shall glory, the humble will hear and be glad.

Glorify the Lord with me;

Let us exalt God's name together.

I sought the Lord's help and the Lord answered me.

The Lord set me free from all my fears.

With joy in our hearts and deep praise on our lips, let us worship God.

* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 364 I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*

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

Eternal and merciful God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live in faith and to grow in faithfulness. We confess we can be indifferent to your will, assuming the easy and comfortable way and failing to embrace the gospel calling. You call us to proclaim your name, yet we remain silent. You call us to do what is just, yet we remain idle. You call us to a life of faithful living, yet we are fearful.

In your mercy, forgive our sins. Give us courage to follow in your way, that joined with those from ages past who have served you with faith, hope, and love, we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

In Christ, forgiveness is extended, barriers are mended, friendships become tended; and grace and hospitality are demonstrated.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Let us forgive 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 the peace of Christ.*

~ Children may go downstairs for Sunday School ~

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS & OFFERTORY

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: *(In unison)*

God, our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth and taught your will; in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

DECLARING GOD'S WORD

NEW TESTAMENT: Revelation 7: 9–17 The saints of God show humility.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 23: 1–12 God's servants display humility.

ANTHEM: *"In Your House, O Lord" by Jay Turner* Chancel Choir

SERMON: *For All the Saints* Pastor David Harvey

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *The Prayer of Saint Francis (1181–1226)*

Lord, make us instruments of your peace: where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that we might not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love, for it is in giving that we receive, in pardoning that we are pardoned, and in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

* COMMUNION HYMN: *No. 508 For the Bread Which You Have Broken*

PASTORAL INTIMATIONS: Pastor David Harvey

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE: Deacon Teri Harvey
Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at the table in the kingdom of God.

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell in unity.

God sent the whole world God's only Son. Since God loved us so much, we too, should love one another.

This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites all who are truly sorry for their sins and would humbly put their trust in him to come to the feast which he has prepared. Listen to the gracious words of our Savior Jesus Christ:

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Matthew 11: 28–30

This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.

John 6: 40

Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if those who hear my voice open the door, I will come into them and eat with them, and they with me.

Revelation 3: 20

Pastor David Harvey

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

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

Holy Lord . . . as we pray together:

God of all power, where two or more are gathered, you are with us. Send your Holy Spirit upon us that we may live bound together by faith in Jesus' name, grateful for the life we share together. In our love for Jesus and one another, we pray as Jesus taught, saying "Our Father, who art . . . and the glory, forever. Amen."

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

OFFERING OF THE ELEMENTS: *Approach the Table, receive the bread, take the cup, and return to your pew.*

SHARING THE BREAD & DRINKING THE CUP

COMMUNION BLESSING:

Deacon Teri Harvey

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

As a people who receive new life through Christ, in Christ, with Christ, all glory and honor, thanksgiving and dominion belong to Christ, today and forever more. Amen.

DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN: *No. 526 For All the Saints*

* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

* CHORAL BENEDICTION: Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE: Tim Topolski

Our Worship has ended — our Christian Witness begins!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

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, Michelle Haiduc-Dale, Julie Harvey, Olivia Hollis, Adam Hubble, Tracy Lance, Trisha Lenarze-Garmoe, Ed Jones, Troy Lutz, Caitlyn McMorroff & her family, Henry Parsons, Andrew Shan, Robert Talmadge, Molly Young, Audrey, Eva, Liza, Joan

Illness & Injuries: George Burke, Bill Cadwalader, Derek Cameron, Elaine Canonico, Kyle Canonico, Lucy Cuipa, Christine Hengel, Jay Ohland, Gary Sless, Jan Swift, Jim Walsh, Ben Weber, Betty Ann Weir, Ann, Annie, Carter, Dave, David, Evelyn, Mia, Tracy, Valerie

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

<https://linktr.ee/fpcblairstown>

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

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ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY

Greeter: Gary Albrecht
Ushers: Deb Albrecht, Lisa Besser
Worship Leader & Communion
Assistant: Teri Harvey
Pastor: Rev. David Harvey
Ministers: The Congregation

Choir Director: Maggie Morokutti
Organist: Tim Topolski
Sound System: Theo Padavano
MIDI: Frank Wilson
DLP: Ryan Burke
Coffee Hour: McElroy family
Communion Prep.: Joan Cameron

Children & Worship: Joan Cameron | *Exodus*

Faith Works: Zach Burke | *The Exodus* / *Exodus 13:17–14:31; 15:1–21*

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

Sun., Nov. 1

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Worship w/Communion
10:15 AM Sunday School
11:15 AM Deacon Ministry/FH
11:15 AM M&C-CE/FH classroom

Mon., Nov. 2 *Office Closed*

7:00 PM WGS Rehearsal

Tue., Nov. 3

10:00 AM Bible Study/OC
6:00 PM Book Club/OC

Sat., Nov. 7

5:00 PM Supper-Square Dance/FH

Sun., Nov. 8

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Worship
10:15 AM Sunday School
11:15 AM "The Chosen"/FH

The Nursery room in Fellowship Hall is available for you and your children to use during the service. We ask that you stay with your child—the room is not staffed. The service can be heard through a speaker in the room. We hope that this will be a comfortable space available to you and your child(ren) on Sundays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Habitat for Humanity: Thank you to all who donated to yesterday's lunch—it was greatly appreciated by the volunteers.

The next **FPCB Book Club** discussion will be at 6 PM on Tue., Nov. 3 hosted by Elizabeth Topolski at the Outreach Center. We will discuss Under the Banner of Heaven by Jon Krakauer. The Book Club meets every 6–8 weeks and reads 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.

Choir Members Needed! If you love to sing, we would love to have you join the choir! No age requirement and you do not have to know how to read music. All are welcome! If you are interested, please contact the church office or speak with choir director, Maggie Morokutti.

Nov. 7 Square Dance & Covered Dish Supper: Ed LaPlante will return and do the calling and teach us how to do-si-do and promenade. We will start the evening off with a delicious, covered dish supper at 5 PM. The best part is that all ages can participate. Enjoy the evening from the sidelines or dance the night away! Invite your friends! Sign up in Fellowship Hall or contact the church office, [(908) 362-5254 or fpcb@ptd.net] to let us know you'd like to attend. We look forward to welcoming you, partner!

Thanksgiving Boxes: We are planning for 25–30 boxes from each participating Church. The distribution will take place at our church on Saturday, Nov. 21. Current wish list: canned yams (30 oz), peaches (jars or cans), and applesauce (jars), and turkey stuffing mix. These items may be dropped off at the Outreach Center or brought to Fellowship Hall on Sundays. In addition to the wish list as mentioned above, if you have an extra turkey or turkey breast (especially), we will be happy to take it! Thank you! If you have any questions, please speak with Judy Trigg.

Thanksgiving Community Worship Service: Mark your calendars for Tue., Nov. 24 and join us for a special service of gratitude in our Sanctuary beginning at 7 PM. Through music, prayer and Scripture, we'll lift our voices in thanksgiving for God's faithfulness in every season.

Snowflake Ornaments: Snowflakes dedications — more information soon!

Hanging of the Greens: Family Sunday & First Sunday of Advent, Nov. 19
– Save the date!

~ Community News ~

Blair Woman's Club Silent Auction: Fri., Nov. 13 at Brook Hollow Winery beginning at 6PM. A \$10 pre-registration is required by Nov. 6 (\$15 at the door). More info at <https://sites.google.com/view/blairwomansclubnj>; send registration fee to Blair Woman's Club, PO Box 341, Blairstown, NJ 07825 (or give to Jen Plut in the church office). Wine tasting will be available. Proceeds benefit education, service projects, and charitable donations.

H.O.P.E. 1st Annual Memorial Tree Event: Sponsor a cardinal or string of lights in your loved one's name to be placed on the H.O.P.E. (Help Our Preservation Effort) memorial tree(s). Proceeds support the restoration of the historic Crusen and Cooper Moravian houses on Union Street (Rt. 519) in Hope, NJ. More information and sponsorship forms are available at www.hopepreservation.org or speak with church member, Pete Peterson. Forms should be submitted by Nov. 4.