FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

25th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM **ORDER OF WORSHIP** Nov. 15, 2026

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

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE: *"Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus" by Ralph Vaughn Williams* (13:00)

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, &
AFFIRMATION OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT: Bill Olivier

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 90: 1–2, 16–17*

Lord, you have been our refuge throughout all generations.
Before the mountains were brought forth
And the earth and the world were born, from age to age,
Thou art God.
May your saving acts appear to your servants,
and your glory to their children.
May the favor of the Lord our God be on us.
With joy in our hearts and praise on our lips, let us worship God.

* HYMN OF PRAISE: *No. 455 All Creatures of Our God and King w. 1, 3, 5, 6*

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

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call but we have not listened. We are less concerned about our neighbor in need and wrapped up in our own concerns, condoning, evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.

God of grace, help us to admit to our sin. So that as you come to us in mercy, we may joyfully repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

God is merciful and gracious, full of forgiveness, abounding in love and overflowing with blessing. Receive the gift of God's forgiveness; claim it and live claimed by it. By Christ's saving work, we are forgiven.

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

* CELEBRATION OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS: *No. 370* *v. 1*
Just as I Am, Without One Plea

* 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 ~

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP: *1 Samuel 2: 2* Betsy Peterson

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS & OFFERTORY

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: *(In unison)*
Everlasting God, source of light and love, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out upon us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that, being taught by you in Holy Scripture, our hearts and minds may be open to know the things that pertain to life and holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DECLARING GOD'S WORD

EPISTLE LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1–11. We wait with hopefulness.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 25: 14–30. Joy comes to those who trade.

ANTHEM: *"Come Unto Me" Attrib. J. S. Bach* Chancel Choir

SERMON: *Sharing the Master's Joy* Pastor David Harvey

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Colossians 1: 15–20*

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him.

He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

* HYMN: *No. 391* *Take My Life* *vv. 1, 3, 5*

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

DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN: *No. 335* *Though I May Speak*

* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

* CHORAL BENEDICTION: Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE: *"The Lark Ascending" by Ralph Vaughn Williams*

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 McMorrow & 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

ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY

Greeters: Lisa Besser, Chester Topolski
Ushers: Jennifer & Kelly McElroy
Worship Leader: Bill Olivier
Pastor: Rev. David Harvey
Ministers: The Congregation

Choir Director: Maggie Morokutti
Sound System: Theo Padavano
MIDI: Frank Wilson
DLP: Jen Plut
Coffee Hour: Mandy Burke

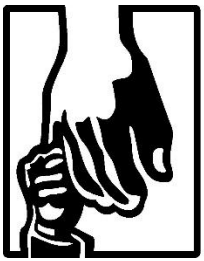
Children & Worship: Joan Cameron
Faith Works: Lisa Besser | *Ten Commandments* | *Exodus 19:1–20:21*

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

Sun., Nov. 15
8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Worship
10:15 AM Sunday School
11:15 AM M&F Meeting/FH classroom
Mon., Nov. 16 *Office Closed*
7:00 PM WGS Rehearsal
Tue., Nov. 17
10:00 AM Bible Study/OC
Wed., Nov. 18
10:30 AM S&F/OC
Thu., Nov. 19
7:00 PM Session/OC
Sat., Nov. 21
9:00 AM Thanksgiving boxes/FH
9:30 AM Food Pantry/OC
Christ the King Sun., Nov. 22
Consecration of Pledges
8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM Worship
10:15 AM Sunday School



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.



Encourage one another and build up each other....

I Thessalonians 5:11, NRSV

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

CCLI Copyright License #: 2309277, Streaming License #: 20761595

ANNOUNCEMENTS

M&F Meeting: Today following worship.

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.

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 corn, 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.



Blairstown Jingle, Nov. 28! See sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall both for volunteers and items needed. Questions? Please speak with Amanda Macchia or contact the church office.

Hanging of the Greens: Family Sunday & First Sunday of Advent, Nov. 29. Readers needed! Email the church office if you would like to participate: fpcb@ptd.net.

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

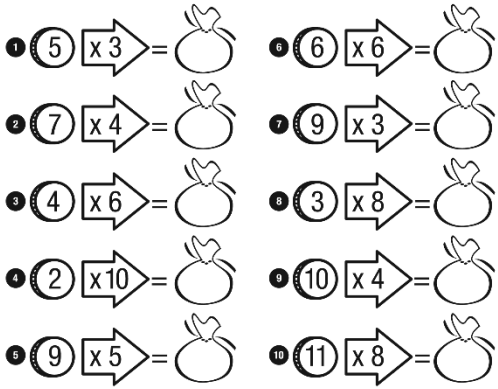
The next **FPCB Book Club** discussion will be at 6 PM on Wed., Jan. 6 hosted by Teri Harvey. We will discuss The Guest List by Lucy Foley. The Book Club meets every 6–8 weeks and reads a variety of titles: fiction and nonfiction; mysteries and suspense. New members are always welcome. If you have any questions or would like a copy of our reading list, please speak with Teri Harvey.



MASTER MULTIPLICATION

Jesus tells a parable about faithful servants who multiply their master's money. How does the master respond?

Directions: *Solve the math problems. Find the letters that match the answers and write them in order to complete Matthew 25:21, NIV.*



KEY		
A = 28	J = 50	S = 88
B = 35	K = 21	T = 45
C = 14	L = 63	U = 64
D = 25	M = 15	V = 32
E = 33	N = 24	W = 80
F = 72	O = 77	X = 56
G = 40	P = 54	Y = 20
H = 36	Q = 9	Z = 48
I = 27	R = 16	

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant!

You have been faithful with a few things;

I will put you in charge of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

Come and share your master's happiness!'"

MATTHEW 25:21, NIV

Answer: 15, 28, 24, 20, 45, 36, 27, 24, 40, 88; many things

Snowflake Dedications

Honor someone special. Remember a loved one.

Consider purchasing a "snowflake" in honor or memory of someone dear to you. Names of those honored or memorialized will be included in the **November 29 Hanging of the Greens** bulletin.

$10 PER SNOWFLAKE
(CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN")

Snowflakes may also be ordered through our website. Simply click the ***Give Now*** button, select ***Presbyterian Women***, and include your dedication in the Notes section.

Please submit all dedications by Tuesday, November 24.

Please print clearly. Thank You!!

A. In Honor of **B.** In Memory of **C.** Other (specify)

A., B., or C. "Other"	Dedication Name

Name of Contributor: _____

For Office Use Only

Amount Paid: _____ ☐ By Cash ☐ By Check #: _____

Date: _____

Proceeds from the Snowflake Dedications will be sent to ***Project Horses for Forces***—a free, volunteer-run equine-assisted program in Pittstown, NJ, serving military veterans, active service members, and their families through horsemanship and farm activities.