

First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ



March 3, 2024

Vision Statement of First Presbyterian Church

Strengthening families;
Sowing friendships;
Serving community;
In the name of Jesus Christ

Third Sunday of Lent

March 3, 2024

PRELUDE *Louez le Seigneur! (Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord)*

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Inspired by Psalm 19

If you ask the sky who God is,

the sky will tell you of God's reach.

If you ask the day who God is,

the sun will tell you of God's warmth.

If you ask the night who God is,

the moon will tell you of God's comfort.

"The heavens are telling the glory of God" (Psalm 19:1).

Are you listening? We are listening!

We will sing of God's glory. Let us worship Holy God.

***HYMN** *Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord! (2x)* **390**

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!

Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!

Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! Praise God's holy name. Alleluia!

OPENING PRAYER

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *"Mungu ni mwema"* **659**

Little Lights Sunday School Choir

(Phonetic pronunciation) Mun-gu nim weh mah...

Halle, hallelujah.....

Know that God is good.....

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, Some days, we are quick to declare your goodness. Like Peter, we see you in our midst and we are confident in our faith. Other days, we are distracted and uncertain, desperate for answers.

Forgive us for losing sight of you.

Some days we are quick to trust your blessings—

trusting that we are called, that we can make a difference.

Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in.

Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.

We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith. But for the days when we are far from you and far from ourselves, we ask for your tender grace.

Pull us closer toward you. Remind us of the mountaintop moments of our faith. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

You are loved. You are claimed. You are forgiven. Speak that good news with confidence. Amen.

***RESPONSE** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* vs. 1 **475**

Come, thou Fount of every blessing tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

ANTHEM: *Look to the Cross* **Ruth Elaine Schram**
Senior Choir

Look to the cross, see His agony and pain. Look to the cross, see His suffering and shame. It was I who should have died; it was I who should have been crucified! But, here I am looking to the cross, I gaze upon the Lamb.

Look to the cross, see His bleeding hands and feet. Look to the cross, where His love has met my need. It was I who should have died; it was I who should have been crucified! But, here I am; looking to the cross, I gaze upon the Lamb.

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away; O, let me from this day be wholly Thine! Look to the cross.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 19
Matthew 16:13-20

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

***HYMN** *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* **353**

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus's name. (REFRAIN)

REFRAIN

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all
other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his
unchanging grace; in every high and stormy gale, my
anchor holds within the veil. (REFRAIN)

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the
whelming flood; when all around my soul gives way, he
then is all my hope and stay. (REFRAIN)

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O my I then in
him be found, dressed in his righteousness alone
faultless to stand before the throne. (REFRAIN)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Jesus asked the disciples, "But what about you? Who do you say that I am?" Church, what do you say?

Jesus is a hand reaching out in the storm, the voice of truth spoken over us, and love without walls. Jesus is justice for the weary, healing for the hurt, and welcome for the stranger. Jesus is teacher, Messiah, and friend—with me on the mountain and beside me in the valley. Jesus is a star in the night, and the love that knows my name.

Jesus asked, "Who do you say that I am?"

Like Peter, we say, "Jesus, you are the Messiah, son of the Living God."

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Come to the Table

Hyun Chun Lee

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host,

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.

***COMMUNION HYMN**

Feed Us, Lord

501

Feed us, Lord. Feed us, Lord. In the broken bread
be revealed again. Come and feed our hearts, O Lord.

Quench us, Lord. Quench us, Lord. On this thirsty ground,
may your love flow dn. Come and quench our hearts, O Lord.

Fill us, Lord. Fill us, Lord, with the bread and wine
of the risen Christ. Come and fill our hearts, O Lord.

Lead us, Lord. Lead us, Lord, nourished here by Christ,
Given strength for life. Come and lead our hearts, O Lord.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

As a sign of hospitality we offer gluten free bread for communion.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...(Pastor continues)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.

WORDS OF THE INSTITUTION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***CLOSING HYMN** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* **611**

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortal, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***RESPONSE** *Go with Us, Lord* **748**

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.

POSTLUDE *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty* Young

Liturgy by A Sanctified Art | Rev. Sarah Speed | www.sanctifiedart.org

Serving Our Congregation Today

Preacher: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

Worship Leader: MaryAnn Simmons

Music Director: Lorinda Ravo

Video: Jean Zetterberg

Greeting: Nellie Creager & Sharon Stymacks

The cards this week on the piano for you to sign are for our friends:

John O'Brien & Dottie Kappers

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

Interested in joining our church as a member? We would love to talk more with you about our ministry here. Feel free to fill out a visitors card and hand it to one of our ushers or Pastor Erin and we will make sure to reach out to you!

TODAY'S MUSIC

Today, our Senior Choir sings "Look to the Cross" by Ruth Eaine Schram. This expressive anthem incorporates the beloved hymn "My Faith Looks Up to Thee". Our Little Lights Sunday School Choir will be singing "Mungu Ni Mwema", a song in the Shona language from the Democratic Republic of Congo, and we urge everyone to join into this exuberant song of praise.

STEW'S CLUE and MORE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? He was hiding in the fish net. This week's clue to find Stewie is **CANDLE** Can you find him? And Pastor Erin has hidden this week's symbol for our Lenten study somewhere in the sanctuary. It looks like a dot with an eyebrow over it and its' on a red eardrop background-have you seen it?

DID YOU KNOW.....

.... that this winter, our Board of Deacons delivered 115 winter hats, 58 pairs of mittens/gloves, and 12 winter scarves to the children in our local elementary schools thanks to the generosity of FPCH members and friends.

CURRENT EVENTS

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Join us for Lenten Bible Study on Mondays at 10 am and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm We will use the study from Wandering Heart, no book to purchase.

EASTER FLOWERS

Easter flower order forms are available in the front and rear of the sanctuary. Please see one of today's greeters if you'd like one.

CHOIR CONCERT ON MARCH 11

Pastor Erin's alma mater, Albright College's Chamber choir will come to our sanctuary to share a concert on Monday, **March 11** at 6:30 pm. It is open and free to all!

COMMUNITY DINNER FOR ALL

On Saturday, **March 9** all are welcome to our church community dinner. The theme will be corned beef and cabbage for St. Patrick's day. As always, if you would like to help serve or cook please let Carl Erickson know.

MARCH SECOND SUNDAY

Next Sunday, **March 10**, we'll be enjoying a Movie Matinee as we watch the animated film "Lion of Judah". (Rated PG) We'll have our "bagel time" lunch, and then see the movie, so if you'd like, bring along a blanket, pillow, stuffie, and we'll provide the popcorn! Be sure to register on the sign up sheet in front of the church.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 28 - Maundy Thursday, 7:30 pm, service with communion.

March 31 - Resurrection Sunday, 10 am worship, decorate the Easter flower cross, No Sunday School, kids' Easter worship bags provided.

FYI-INFORMATION

2/25/24	In Person Attendance	90
	Virtual Attendance	125
	Offering	\$1,290.37

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

Sunday	10:00 am
Sunday	11:05 am
Sunday	11:20 am
Sunday	
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Monday	10:00 am
Wednesday	6:30 pm
Thursday	6:30-7:15 pm
Thursday	7:30-8:30 pm

March 3 - 9, 2024

Worship
Joyful Noise Bells rehearsal
Unity Chimes rehearsal
Phantoms Hockey Game
Church office open
Heaven Sent Nursery School
Lenten Bible Study
Lenten Bible Study
FPCH Ringers rehearsal
Sr. Choir rehearsal

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - March 3 - 9, 2024

Monday	10:30-11:30 am	AA Step by Step
	7:00-9:00 pm	Jazz Band
	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 158
	7:00 pm	Girls Troop 143 BSA
Tuesday	7:30-9:00 pm	NA Change or Die
Wednesday	7:30-9:00 pm	Stone Soup Symphony
Thursday	10:30-11:30 am	AA New Beginnings
Friday	Storage use only	Colonial Musketeers



FOR PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook Cell:908-963-8341

Email: revehayes@gmail.com

Call the church office at: 908-852-4011

Church email: fpchnj@gmail.com

Church Website: www.fpchackettstown.org