

*FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*



BUILDING GOD'S HOUSE

First Sunday in Lent
Sunday, February 18, 2024
10:00 A.M.

119 WEST COMMERCE STREET
BRIDGETON, NJ 08302
PHONE (856)455-0809 WWW.FPCBRIDGETON.ORG

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE Quadlibet on “Wondrous Love” and “Passion Chorale”
Dennis Janzer

WELCOME Liturgist

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

The praise we come to share is praise of thanksgiving.

In our worship, we hold God’s love close to our hearts.

We desire to surround ourselves with community.

As our songs echo, our prayers rise, claiming God as our strength.

***HYMN (Lenten Hymnal)** “I Want Jesus to Walk With Me”

CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Kaul

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory and righteousness,

we confess that we do not live as citizens

of your kin-dom. We give allegiance to earthly thrones. We

ignore the neediest in our midst.

We discount our own worth. We forsake the justice due your kin-dom. Take from us the spirit of isolation, greed, lust for power, and false pride.

Give us instead the spirit of interdependency, generosity, humility, and love. Amen. (*Silent Reflection*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beloved in Christ, you are blessed by God

to inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the

foundation of the world. By the power of the Holy Spirit,

you are refashioned every day to live according to God’s reign, in the freedom of Christ Jesus. Friends, know that you are forgiven

and be at peace. **Amen!**

***GLORIA PATRI**

THE LENTEN WREATH

During the forty days of Lent the Christian Church prepares to observe the Lord's passion and resurrection. We examine ourselves as we remember the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus on our behalf. In this season of repentance and fasting, we come to terms with our mortality and need for God's mercy. The candles on this cross represent Jesus' life and ministry. Each week we extinguish another candle, remembering how we, the human race, rejected Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 4:1-11

REFLECTION

PRAYER

Holy God, you know how we face temptations every day to ignore you and abandon the mission you have given us. During this season of Lent, we ask that you would purify our hearts and minds. Help us to grow in love for you. Make our commitment to your mission even deeper. Protect us when we are tempted. Root us in your Scripture so we might fight the devil with your truth. Give us the grace to repent so we might seek first, your good, true, and peaceful kingdom.

SONG RESPONSE-*Lenten Hymnal* "Jesus Remember Me"

ANTHEM "We Were Not There"
Rev. Chris Shelton, add. Text Rev. Norlita Kaul

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION **Liturgist**

A TIME TO BE YOUNG

OLD TESTAMENT **Liturgist**

Psalm 25:1-10

- To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**
2 O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.
3 **Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;**
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

- 4 Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.
5 **Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.**
6 Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
7 **Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!**
8 Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
9 **He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.**
10 All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees

GOSPEL READING

Rev. Kaul

Mark 1:9-15

SERMON

“Being Tested and Hope Signs”

HYMN

#80

“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Liturgist

**We believe and trust in God The Father Almighty.
We believe and trust in Jesus Christ, His Son.
We believe and trust in the Holy Spirit.
We believe and trust in the Three in One.**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Hearken, Merciful Savior”

Marcel Dupre

***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.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray now with confidence as children of God the prayer Jesus taught his disciples to pray saying:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, and 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.

HYMN #210 "Our God Our Help In Ages Past"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

"May the Lord watch between me and thee, while we are absent, one from the other." (Mizpah Benediction)

POSTLUDE "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

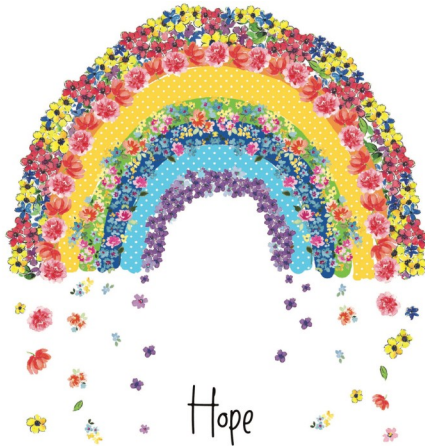
Wayne Wold

Notes from the Deacons

- Thank you to everyone that donated to the **Souper Bowl of Caring Collection**. We received **\$158** which will be sent to Bethany Grace for their Food Program.
- The **Deacons are not** going to be **doing** a physical **Soup and Bake sale this year. Instead**, we will be doing a **Bake less Bake Sale fundraiser**. Funds raised will benefit our Help Fund and allow us to support **St. Theresa's Good Shepherd Dining, The Salvation Army and Bethany Grace**. Watch for your letter in the mail.
Thank you for your continued support.
- Remember collecting **Pull Tabs for Ronald McDonald House** and **hotel toiletries for Bethany Grace's Shower Program**. It is time to kick start them and get them going again! There are baskets on the tables in the back of the church for your donations. **All pull tabs from metal cans are acceptable** -soda, beer, fruit, etc. Let's see how fast we can work together and fill up those baskets. Both of these programs are such an easy way to help others! *Thank you!*

Serving Today

LITURGIST– John A.
USHERS– Marie D., Joyce I.
COUNTERS - Yvonne C., Debbie H.
FELLOWSHIP—Howard T.
FLOWERS - Joyce I.
“In Memory of Loved Ones”



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John Ambrose, Clerk of Session
Bob Woodruff, Treasurer

