

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



BUILDING GOD'S HOUSE

Fourth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 10, 2024
10:00 A.M.

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

THE LENTEN WREATH

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 4:16-30

Lenten Readers

REFLECTION

PRAYER

Holy God, We don't want to listen to Jesus. We want better food on our table, but we are not concerned with those who don't have enough food on theirs. We want a promotion at work, but are not concerned that others cannot find employment to provide for their families. We don't like you disrupting our priorities. Change us, Jesus. Help us to care for the people you care about. Break our hearts for the things that break yours. Help us to listen, obey, and follow you. Give us the grace to repent so we might seek first your good, true, and peaceful kingdom. Amen.

SONG RESPONSE-Lenten Hymnal "Jesus Remember Me"

ANTHEM "Just As I Am" Evelyn Larter
Beverly P. - Flute

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

Guided by your revelation, we are compelled to seek your wisdom Holy Spirit as we continue the Lenten journey. We are filled with awesome wonder that you would love us so, trust us so, and move within us. Now fill our spirits with hope, humility, and resolve, that we might be your will in the world. Open our hearts to accept this call upon our lives. May our sacred service be pleasing in your sight. **Amen.**

A TIME TO BE YOUNG

OLD TESTAMENT READING Numbers 21:4-9

Liturgist

GOSPEL READING John 3:14-21

Rev. Kaul

SERMON "Fear On A Stick / Eyes Up!"

***HYMN** #394 "There Is A Balm in Gilead"

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

“Largo”

Elizabeth Stirling

***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

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-Lenten Hymnal “What A Fellowship, What A Joy Divine”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

After forty days and forty nights, Jesus came down from the mountain to invite disciples to follow him. We, too, hear the question, “Will you come and follow me?” Whether we have given up something dear to us or taken up something we yearn to do in this season, it is always the season for discipleship.

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

POSTLUDE “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

Marianne Kim

TODAY

3/10 - Session Mtg. after worship

Serving Today

LITURGIST– Debbi B.G.

USHERS- John A., Bruce C., Ken F.

COUNTERS - Marion C., Heather N.

FELLOWSHIP- Rev. Norlita Kaul

FLOWERS -

Today, **March 10, is National Women Composers Day.**

This morning you will hear from 3 women composers.

Evelyn Larter is a local pianist/organist/composer serving at the Deerfield Presbyterian Church.

Elizabeth Stirling was born in London in 1819, one of the earliest women to earn a living as an organist/composer.

Marianne Kim is the principal organist at Christ Church of Oak Brook as well as a frequent piano & organ performer with over 400 compositions to her credit.



Rod of
Asclepius/
Ophiuchus -
Pagan god
of Healing



2 Kings 17:41 The Message

40-41 But they didn't pay attention. They kept doing what they'd always done. As it turned out, all the time these people were putting on a front of worshipping God, they were at the same time involved with their local idols. And they're still doing it. Like father, like son. (Biblegateway.com)

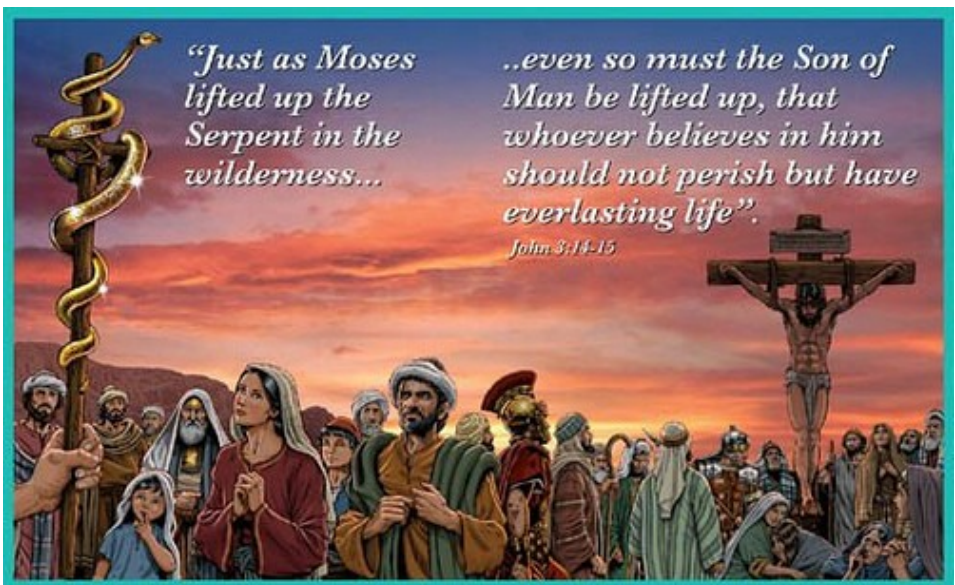
Caduceus,
or Staff
of Mercury,
Messenger
of the gods



King Hezekiah later destroyed the bronze serpent. The Israelites worshipped it as an idol, known as "Nehustan."

The noun שׁוֹנֵה (*nahash*) is the Bible's most common word for snake. Snakes in the Bible represent some kind of mental process, usually intuitive and usually impure or otherwise detrimental.

The identical verb שׁוֹנֵה (*nahash*) means to divine or soothsay. Its derived noun, again identical, שׁוֹנֵה (*nahash*) means divination or enchantment. (<https://www.abarim-publications.com/>)





Words of Faith, Hope & Love

THREE THINGS REMAIN: HOPE

tikvah, or *HaTikvah* (*the Hope*) In the Hebrew context, both biblically and in the modern Hebrew, hope is more than just a dream. It is an expectation, and a strong expression of faith. The Bible teaches that hope is like a rock you can rely on. You can hold fast to it and it strengthens you.



Rev. Norlita Kaul, Pastor

EMAIL: BridgetonFPCPastor@GMAIL.COM

CELL # (248) 342-6190

Gae Finch, Organist and Choir Director

Christie Sever, Administrative Assistant

EMAIL: firstpresbridgeton@gmail.com

www.fpcbridgeton.org

John Ambrose, Clerk of Session

Bob Woodruff, Treasurer