

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Honoring Men
3rd Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, June 18, 2023
10:00 A.M.

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE *"Simple Gifts"* arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME Liturgist

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

We come together in the sure knowledge:

God does not pass us by.

We gather to worship knowing this truth:

God fulfills promises.

Even when we cannot muster belief:

God is faithful to us.

*HYMN insert *"The Family of God"* Sing 2 times

CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Norlita Kaul

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Rev. Norlita Kaul

God of our salvation, incline your ear to us.

You have given us power: power to heal,

to bring hope, to comfort, to restore. But we

ignore that power, choosing to live our own lives.

At worst, we abuse that power, storing up riches

for ourselves without an eye for the needs of others.

Forgive us. Remind us of our call to proclaim

your good news, and to welcome each other

as we would welcome you.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Rev. Norlita Kaul

The ancient words still bring truth today:

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Praise be to God for this abounding love!

*GLORIA PATRI

HEARING THE WORD

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART (Children's Time)

A TIME FOR MUSIC *“Why Do I Sing about Jesus”*

A. A. Ketchum/arr. D. Hustad

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Liturgist

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

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¹ I love the Lord because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.

² **Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

¹² What shall I return to the Lord
for all his bounty to me?

¹³ **I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord;**

¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.

¹⁵ **Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his faithful ones.**

¹⁶ O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.
You have loosed my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice
and call on the name of the Lord.**

¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,

¹⁹ **in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!**

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Rev. Kaul and Liturgist

Gen. 18:1-15,21:1-7

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SERMON

Rev. Norlita Kaul

“In the Beginning: Promises, Promises, Imperfect Family”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN insert *“Happy The Home When God Is There”*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.17*)

Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage. People are free to seek life within the purpose of God: to develop and protect the resources of nature for the common welfare, to work for justice and peace in society, and in other ways to use their creative powers for the fulfillment of human life.

HONORING MEN

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Offertory

“Of Strange Lands and Peoples” Robert Schumann

*Doxology

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD’S PRAYER

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN insert *“God My Children with My Blessing”*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BENEDICTION

May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent, one from another. Amen.

(Mizpah Benediction)

POSTLUDE

“Prelude VI”

J. S. Bach BWV 851

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- - Those who are able, please stand.

LITURGIST-

USHERS- Team 4 -

COUNTERS - Team B -

Movement 1: God and humanity (Genesis 1–11)

Genesis opens with God creating the heavens and the earth, the stars, the plants, the animals, and humans: Adam and Eve. God places Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, but they rebel against God, introducing a curse of sin and death to the world.

Adam and Eve have children (including Cain and Abel), and those children have children. Eventually the world becomes so violent that God sends a great flood to destroy the world, but He spares the only righteous man, Noah. Noah builds his famous ark to escape the floodwaters with his family (and many animals). After the waters recede, God promises to never again destroy the earth with a flood.

This movement culminates with the strange story of the Tower of Babel. The people of earth come together to make a great city and a name for themselves. At this time, God and the divine beings with him scatter the people of earth by confusing their languages and setting up different nations (**Genesis 11, Deuteronomy 32:8**).

Movement 2: God and Israel

Act 1: Abraham, Sarah & Isaac, Hagar & Ishmael: (Genesis 12–18)

Hundreds of years later, God calls Noah's descendant, Abram, to leave his family and journey to the land of Canaan. God promises to bless Abram with many descendants, and to bless all the nations of the world through him. Abram believes God's promise, even though he is old and childless. God considers him to be righteous, and changes his name from Abram to Abraham. Sarah is beautiful, while in Egypt, Abraham gives her to Pharaoh as "his sister" not as his wife. In essence Abraham lies about this situation. Sarah is unable to conceive/bear a son to Abraham. To maintain her own status as the head of the household under her husband's covering, she has her own servant Hagar lie with her husband. She conceives and bears a son named Ishmael. A spat ensues between the 2 women over place and privilege in the house and with Abraham. Sarah confronts Abraham to settle it, he acquiesces, wants nothing to do with the situation between them. Sarah banishes both Hagar & Ishmael into the wilderness in exile. An angel appears to Hagar, telling her to return with her son, as Ishmael will also lead a great nation, and she does. After this, the 3 visitors come to Abraham in Ch.18, Sarah laughs at their statement about having her own child in the year to come. Yet it is, later, Abraham has a son, Isaac.

Announcements

TODAY

**Sunday, June 18- Honoring Men
during worship**



**Church Picnic in Bonham Hall
After worship**

**Our Choir's finished for the summer!
Thank you Choir for your music!**



Monday, June 19

Sexton Meeting @1 P.M. in Church Office



Trustees Meeting in Bonham Hall 7 P.M.



**SAVE THE DATE
TIME OUT TUESDAY**

"Bee's in the Garden"

Date: June 20, 2023

Time: 12 Noon

Place: Jane .

Lunch hosted by Marge

Jane



Please RSVP to the office (856)455-0809 by June 16.



Thank You to the Men in our lives and in our church!
Blessings for this, your day today and everyday!



Cartoon by Inherit the Mirth

Session Members

Debbi
Boykin-Greenberg

Albert Fooks

Curtis Homan

Debbie Homan

Franz Pampuch

Sandy Zimmerman

Rev. Norlita Kaul,
Moderator

Deacons

Linda Ambrose

Amy Brewer

Robert Dragotta

Marie Dunham

Debbie Fooks

Darlene Freitag

Robin Freitag

Jane Hankins

Jody Husted

Heather Newkirk

Marge Pampuch

Trustees

Yvonne Custis

Bill Freitag

Ken Freitag

Bruce Hankins

Sandra Huster

Sherry Macpherson

Caroline Owens

Beth Schultz

Howard Thorn

Church Staff

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