

*THE
FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, February 26, 2023

10:00 A.M.

119 WEST COMMERCE STREET
(AT THE CORNER OF GILES STREET)
BRIDGETON, NJ 08302
PHONE (856)455-0809 WWW.FPCBRIDGETON.ORG

The Lenten Candle Wreath Debbie H. & Debbi B-G

The Symbolism of the Seven Candles:

Theme as focus: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:5)

These candles symbolize Jesus, the Light of the World, that was God's glory illuminated as God for us. This Light gradually darkened, until it was finally snuffed out on Good Friday as Jesus died on the cross and the earth became covered with shadowy darkness. On Easter, the resurrection of our Lord symbolizes Jesus's Light as The Christ and the glory of God is on full display (just as it was on Transfiguration Sunday while Jesus was on the Mountain, at the end of Epiphany and before Lent began). One by one, week by week, a candle will be snuffed out to be our reminder of the struggle in our lives of darkness trying to overcome the light.

First Sunday of Lent: (All candles are lit)

All: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in love.

THE CANDLE READINGS Debbie H. & Debbi B-G

Pastor: Elijah traveled 40 days in the wilderness to hear God's voice in the silence.

People: Lead us Lord, from death to life.

The First Candle is extinguished.

Prayer: Merciful God, strengthen us in prayer and for us on our journey. Help us lift up our world's brokenness to your healing power and saving love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, amen.

Sung Response: # 599 *“Jesus Remember Me”* *sing twice*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4: 1-11

Rev. Kaul
N. T. pg 3 ☺

SERMON

“Not Today Satan!”

Rev. Norlita Kaul

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #77 *"Forty Days and Forty Nights"* vs. 1, 3 & 5

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen

THE EUCHARTIST

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Offertory *"I Need Thee Every Hour"* arr. Maranne Kim

*Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

—
INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy...

...and place who forever sign to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Remembering all your might and merciful acts,...
....that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen.
**Praise To You Lord Jesus! Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life, Lord Jesus come in glory.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING OF THE MEAL

(Please **hold the bread** until everyone has been served;
Rev. Norlita will lead us in partaking, everyone together.
Please follow **the same** process **with the cup**)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**God of the wilderness journey, thank you for giving us
what we need for all the roads we travel. For the bread
that nourishes our spirits and the cup that gladdens our
hearts. Thank you God! As we meet others on the way,
may our lives and words through your Spirit's power, be
our living testimony of your gracious yet faithful provisions
each day. Amen**

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #434 *"Today We All Are Called To Be Disciples"*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BENEDICTION

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

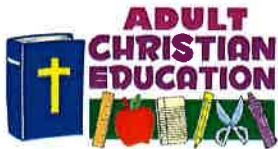
POSTLUDE

"Bread of the World in Mercy Broken" arr. P. Benjamin

SYMBOLS:

- * - Those who are able, please stand.
- ☺ - Older children leave for Sunday School
- GTG - Glory To God Hymnal (PCUSA)

TODAY



**After Fellowship Time: Adult Forum Study
The Lord's Prayer in Bonham Hall
After Adult Forum, Christian Education
Committee Meeting**



**Tues., Feb. 28- OBSCA meeting @ 7:00 P.M.
in Bonham Hall**



**Thurs. March 2nd- Session Meeting @ 6:30 P.M.
in Laura Fithian Room**



**Worship Committee Meeting
Mon. March 6th
@ 1:00 P.M. in Bonham Hall**



Worship Committee

NOTES FROM THE DEACONS



The Giving Tree is in the Fithian Room. We are collecting **SOCKS** for children, women, and men - all colors and sizes. This will continue through February. Monetary donations will also be accepted. We will pass them on to the **Bethany Grace Shower Program** along with the toiletries we collected.

Super Bowl Sunday Collection results are in! Chiefs \$38 and Eagles, \$179. This money will be sent to the Bethany Grace Food Kitchen. Thank you to all who contributed!

Private Devotional Prayer: Late Have I Loved You

(An excerpt from St. Augustine's *Confessions*, in which he laments his hesitant embrace of faith in God., from

<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/>)

Late have I loved you

Late have I loved you,
Beauty so ancient and so new,
late have I loved you!

Lo, you were within,
but I outside, seeking there for you,
and upon the shapely things you have made
I rushed headlong – I, misshapen.
You were with me, but I was not with you.
They held me back far from you,
those things which would have no being,
were they not in you.



You called, shouted, broke through my deafness;
you flared, blazed, banished my blindness;
you lavished your fragrance, I gasped;
and now I pant for you;
I tasted you,
and now I hunger and thirst;
you touched me,
and I burned for your peace.

When at last I cling to you with my whole being
there will be no more anguish or labor for me,
and my life will be alive indeed,
alive because filled with you.

~ Augustine of Hippo, *Confessions*.

Posted on **Crossroads Initiative**.

<https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com>

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Theirs is an endless road, a hopeless maze, who seek for goods before they seek for God. – Bernard of Clairvau



OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

For Cash offerings, please use the plain envelopes provided. Please also include your name/number on the outside of the envelope. Thanks!

DEACONS NOTES CONTINUED.....

The collection from the Mitten Tree resulted in 44 items to be given to the local West Avenue School. Thanks for your donations!



ASH WEDNESDAY THANK YOU!

Many THANKS to everyone who helped in any way with our Ash Wednesday Fellowship Meal and Worship, and our Soup & Bake Sale. Sometimes it takes a village! Happy Lent!



Outline of Matthew 4:1-11

- Jesus' birth, early life and ministry identify him as the coming king promised by the prophets who will rule, fulfill Israel's purpose and bring salvation 1. 1-4.25
- Jesus' baptism, temptations and beginning ministry show that he is the promised king of Israel who will accomplish what Israel failed to do and will inaugurate the kingdom of God. 3.1-4.25
- Satan tempted, seen as a recapitulation of Israel's trials in the wilderness and the temptations they faced throughout their history, Jesus three times to gain the kingdom his way instead of God's way. 4.1-11

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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BOB WOODRUFF, TREASURER

