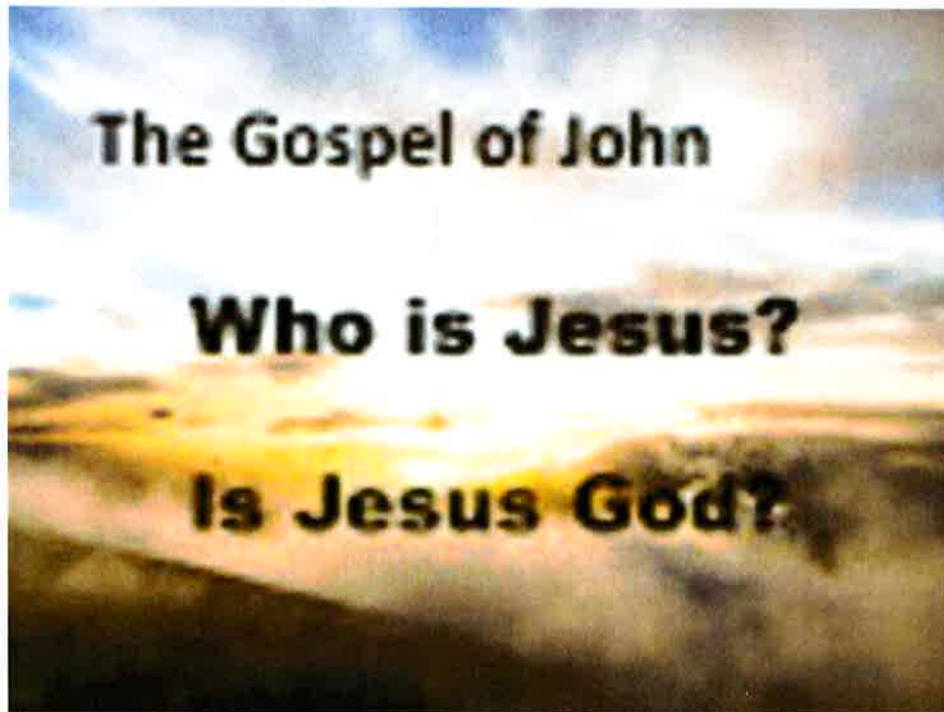


*THE
FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*



4th SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, March 19, 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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" arr. Shelton Ridge Love
Kyle S. & Gae F. - piano duet

WELCOME

Liturgist

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

We come to sanctify ourselves.

We come seeking to be worthy of our call.

The Lord looks not at our outward selves,

but seeks to know what is in our hearts.

Let us learn what is pleasing to the Lord,

that we might live as children of the Most High.

*HYMN

"I Love To Tell The Story"

insert

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Kaul

How do we know when our actions are right?

When the fruits of our labors are good and true.

Christ is the light that exposes all we keep hidden,
but offers us healing and renewal instead of judgment.

Therefore, let us hold up our sins to Christ's gaze.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liturgist

**God of compassion and mercy, we sometimes fail
to see what you are doing in the world. We want**

**you to act in ways we predict, but we forget: you
do what is good, not what is expected. Forgive us
when we do not recognize your miracles. Forgive
us when we doubt the wisdom of your actions.**

**Most of all, forgive us when we do not respond to
your call, ignoring what we need to do to show the
world your love and grace.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Kaul

Jesus restores our souls

and leads us in right paths for his name's sake.

Continued...

**Surely goodness
and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives,
and we will dwell in the house of the Lord
our whole lives long.**

*GLORIA PATRI

HEARING THE WORD

ANTHEM

"Shepherd of My Heart" Tina Davis; arr J. Purifoy

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

The Lenten Candle Wreath

The B-G. Family

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)

Fourth Sunday In Lent: (Adapted from Levi.1:1-4, Ps. 51:16-17, Jer. 7:21-28)

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

THE CANDLE READINGS

The Fourth Candle is extinguished.

Pastor: For he has told you what is good. What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, love kindness and to walk humbly with your God. For 40 years the people wandered, seeking the land of God's promise.

People: Lead us Lord, from death to life.

**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

John 9:1-41

Rev. Kaul & Liturgist

N. T. pg 102 ☺

SERMON

"So Many Questions"

Rev. Norlita Kaul

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN

"I Heard The Voices of Jesus Say"

insert

*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

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Offertory *"Nearer, My God, to Thee"* arr. Mark Hayes

*Doxology

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION/THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #280

"Amazing Grace"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE

"Prelude XV"

J. S. Bach BWV 860

I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else could do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
 'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

This text is drawn from the second part of a fifty-stanza poem on the life of Christ written in 1866, during the author's recovery from a serious illness. The tune named for her first appeared three years later, and the composer was responsible for the creation of the refrain.

THE WORD

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

182 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;

lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
 the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
 look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad; I
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream; my
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and

found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
 thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
 in that light of life I'll walk till trav - eling days are done.

Each stanza here pairs an invitation from Jesus with a response from the narrator. These three invitations recall how Jesus welcomed those who were heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), offered living water (John 4:10-14), and identified himself as the light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5).

TODAY

**After Fellowship Time: Adult Forum Study
The Lord's Prayer in Bonham Hall**



**THIS
WEEK**

Monday, March 20, 2023

Mr. Rogers Day



**Trustee Meeting @ 7:00 P.M.
in Bonham Hall**

Tuesday, March 21, 2023



Lunch Bunch @ 12:00 P.M. @ Green Olive

BSCA @ 7:00 P.M. in Bonham Hall



Presbytery Meeting @ 7:00 P.M. in Woodbury



**Sunday, March 26, 2023
(No Adult Forum TODAY)**



**All Church Bowling and Pizza
from 12:00 P.M.- 2:00 P.M.
Campania's Legacy Lanes
ALL are welcome!**




**GO BOWLING OR WATCH
HAVE SOME PIZZA & SNACKS
Please **RSVP** to **Alaina**
by **Sunday, March 19th****

EASTER FLOWERS

Our Presby Perennials request that flowers to be given in memory/honor of someone be delivered to the church by Sat. April 8th. Please avoid purchasing lilies and hyacinths due to allergy concerns. Send your memorial/honor dedication to the office by Mon. April 3rd for The Easter Sunday Bulletin. Thank you for your cooperation.



THE DEACONS ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT


 We will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt for the youth and young at heart on Easter Morning after worship. We are collecting items to be placed in the eggs such as, small candies, stickers, trinkets, or coins. These items may be placed in the large Easter basket in Bonham Hall. On Palm Sunday you are invited to help stuff the eggs during fellowship time.

Maundy Thursday Worship

When: Thursday, April 6, 2023
Where: First Presbyterian Church Bridgeton
Fellowship Covered Dish Dinner: 5:30-6:30 P.M.
in Bonham Hall (Please bring a covered dish to share)
(Table Service and Drinks provided)
Worship: 7:00 P.M. in the Sanctuary



WORSHIP SERVICE FLOWERS

 We love to have fresh flowers to grace our worship services. If you're unable to provide them and wish to donate them for a service, a monetary donation is most welcome! Please send the donation to the church office two weeks before the date and service you'd like to provide them. The Presby Perennials are happy to help arrange them and help! ~Thank you for your help in this!

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

REV. NORLITA KAUL, PASTOR

EMAIL: BRIDGETONFPCPASTOR@GMAIL.COM

CELL # (248) 342-6190

GAE FINCH, ORGANIST AND CHOIR DIRECTOR

KIMBERLY WHELAN, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

EMAIL: FIRSTPRESBRIDGETON@GMAIL.COM

JOHN AMBROSE, CLERK TO SESSION

BOB WOODRUFF, TREASURER

