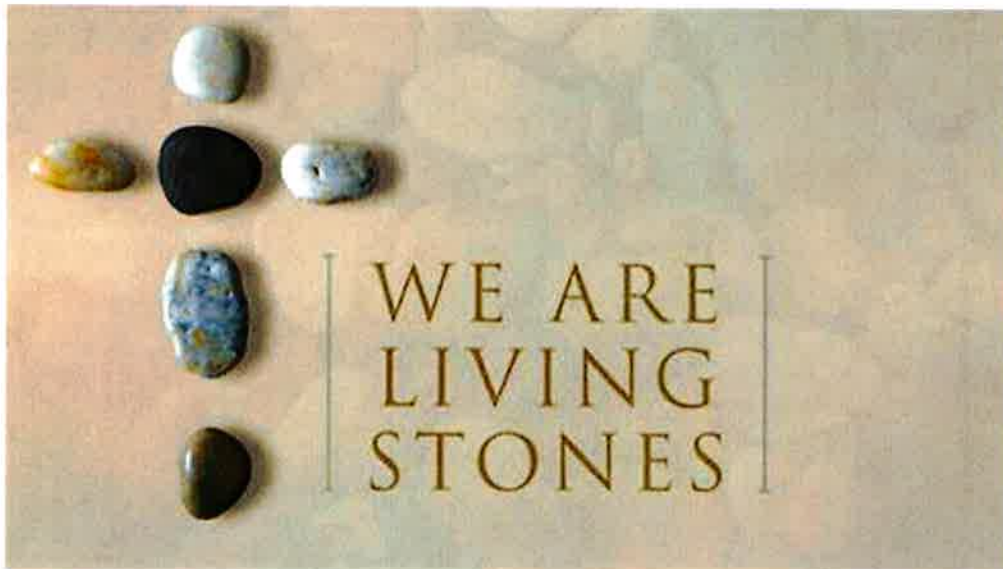


FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



5th Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 7, 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 *"The Strife Is O'er"* W. Held

WELCOME Liturgist

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

We come together as the church;
**not a building of wood or stone,
but a spiritual house.**

We will be the living stones
that shout praise even when others are silent.

God redeems us, joins us together, and builds us up.

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

CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Kaul

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Liturgist

**Christ, our way, our truth, our life, you have shown
us the way, so clearly and fully. You have not simply
told us how to live, you have shown us. But we still
don't get it. We do not believe all you have said to
us; we do not trust the way you have shown us.**

**Help us, O God. Forgive us. Open our ears to your
truth, open our eyes to your way, and lead us into
new life.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Rev. Kaul

Beloved, believe the good news. In Jesus Christ, we are
forgiven. Jesus prepares a place for us, Jesus brings us
close to him, Jesus answers us even in our unbelief.

We are God's own people. Thanks be to God.

Alleluia!

*GLORIA PATRI

HEARING THE WORD

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

THE ANTHEM "O God, You Are My God"

T. Fettke

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

GOSPEL READING

Liturgist

John 14:1-14

N. T. pg 108

14 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe^[a] in God; believe also in me.

²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?^[b]

³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going."

⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"

⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

⁷If you know me, you will know^[d] my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe^[e] because of the works themselves.

¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.

¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

¹⁴ If in my name you ask me[†] for anything, I will do it.

EPISTLE READING

1 Peter 2:2-10

Rev. Norlita Kaul

N.T. pg. 233 ☺

SERMON

"We Are Living Stones"

Rev. Norlita Kaul

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #417 *"Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation"*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.26

Life in Christ is life eternal. The resurrection of Jesus is the sign that God will consummate the work of creation and reconciliation beyond death and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Offertory *"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"* R.A. Hobby

*Doxology

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #442 *"The Church's One Foundation"*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BENEDICTION

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

(Mizpah Benediction)

POSTLUDE *"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"* J. Pachelbel

Announcements

Today, May 7, 2023-Mission Meeting after Worship



Monday, May 8

Deacons' Meeting @ 7:00 P.M.

Board of Deacons



Tuesday, May 9

Counters' Team Meeting @ 1:00 P.M.



Sunday, May 14

Honoring Women Sunday in Worship



Rev. Kaul -Continuing Education Week 5/15-5/18/23
(Out of the office)



Monday, May 15

Trustee Meeting @ 7:00 P.M.



Tuesday, May 16

Lunch Bunch at Dilisi's (Carll's Corner) @ Noon

Something New

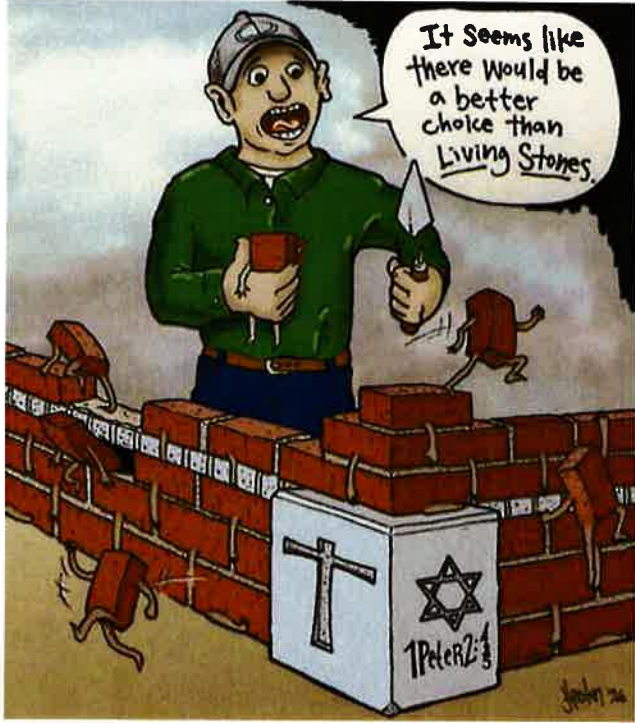
There's an artificial (no need to water) ficus tree in the hallway that will now be our **PRAYER TREE**.

Write your prayer concern on a paper leaf and hang it on the tree.

Paper leaves, pens/markers and hangers will be available.

Please feel free to read what others have written and add those items to your daily prayers.





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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GAE FINCH, ORGANIST AND CHOIR DIRECTOR
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JOHN AMBROSE, CLERK TO SESSION
BOB WOODRUFF, TREASURER

