First Presbyterian Church

513 Birch St., Boonton, NJ 07005

(973) 334-3535 <u>www.fpcboonton.org</u>

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November 19, 2023

Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

* = Please stand in body or in spirit

WELCOME! We are glad you can join us for worship here and online. Visitors, please sign the guest book located in the narthex. Prayer request cards are available in the racks within each pew. Ushers will collect them during the second hymn. Please *remember to turn off all devices as we turn towards God*.

GREETINGS TO THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

PRELUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Sigfried Karg-Elert

* INVITATION TO WORSHIP: (Responsively)

Presbyterian Church in Canada

One: All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,

All: So we lift our hearts up to you, God, in praise and thanksgiving.

One: As we count our blessings, and acknowledge your goodness,

All: Our hearts go out to those who do not have, and who are in need.

One: We thank you for plentiful harvests and full refrigerators,

All: And ask that you supply the needs of those who are hungry.

One: The abundance of the harvest is a symbol of the abundance of your love in our lives.

All: May we live in a spirit of gratitude to you and generosity to our neighbor.

One: Loving God, in this season and all year long, give to us the gift of a thankful heart,

All: So that we may acknowledge you as the giver of all that is good in our lives. Amen.

CHORAL INTROIT

"Glorify They Name"

Tom Fettke

* PRAYER OF CONNECTION: (In unison)

Psalm 92

It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High, to declare your steadfast love in the morning and your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre. For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands, I sing for joy. Amen.

* HYMN # Bue 559

"We Gather Together"

Netherlands Folk Hymn

INVITATION TO SEEK GOD'S GRACE

PRAYER SEEKING GOD'S GRACE: (In unison)

by Ann Weems

O Lord, forgive our fears that so stifle our stewardship. Forgive our giving in and our giving up instead of giving ourselves to Christ's mission of love. Remind us that our hope is in standing up and risking, in taking our stewardship seriously. Help us to remember, O Lord, that the stewardship question is not really: How much will we give? The stewardship question is: How will we spend what we have been given? We pray it will be faithfully and cheerfully. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (In unison)

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that hearing, we may also obey your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOD'S WORD TO US

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Deuteronomy 26:1-2, 10-11

p. 180

ANTHEM

"It is Good to Give Thanks"

Stan Pethel

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 25:14-28

p. 28

SERMON

"Growing Our Gifts"

Pastor Carie Morgan

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

(A quiet time for contemplation on the preached scripture.)

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN # Blue 428

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

Willliam Walsham How

vs. 1-4

(At this time, ushers will receive any written prayer requests. Blank prayer request cards are available in the racks within each pew. Please feel free to fill one out and give it to an usher or email office@fpcboonton.org)

TIME FOR MISSION

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (In unison) "forgive us our sins, as...sin against us"

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Thanks Be to Thee"

arr. Hal Hopson

(Please remain silent during this time of worship, dedication and prayer)

* PRESENTATION / DOXOLOGY: (In unison)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOD'S PEOPLE GO INTO THE WORLD

* HYMN # Blue 422

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

Robert L. Edwards

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

"Give Thanks to the Lord"

Anonymous

POSTLUDE

"Voluntary on Kremser"

Gordon Young

Pastor: The Rev. Carie Morgan

Organist/Choir Director: Sarah Jane Zollner

Lay Reader: Susan Arena

Ministers: All the People of the Church

Announcements

HEARING AIDS/RECEIVERS – We have hearing aid receivers available during the worship service. Please ask an usher if you would like to use one. **PEW PILLOWS** – are available during worship for those of you who would like additional back support. Feel free to pick one up or have an usher bring one to you!

LAY READER – **Susan Arena** has been a member of First Church Boonton since 2007. Susan and her husband, Christopher, live in Montville and have two children, CJ and Daniel. She works part-time in the office at an elementary school in Pequannock. She has served as an elder on the Christian Education Committee, the Personnel Committee, was part of the Sanctuary Renovation Committee and has also served as Sunday School teacher.

CHANCEL FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by the Croziers in memory of Robin Gershaw.

WORSHIP FLOWERS NEEDED You can sign up on the chart by the Sanctuary doors or through our website. One or both of these arrangements are delivered to the sick and homebound each week and bring connection and cheer. The church office will contact you regarding the \$40 flower donation and your dedication for the bulletin.

COFFEE HOUR – is hosted today by Congregational Life. Please join us in the Library to enjoy this time of fellowship. *Please consider **sponsoring or hosting** coffee hour. You can sign up on the board next to the office (or consider donating to the jar in the library). Congregational Life will provide coffee.

SAVE THE DATES:

Sun. Nov 26 - Congregational Life will be hosting a leftover Thanksgiving pie/dessert contest during coffee hour. Top 3 vote getters will receive a prize. Please bring your entries to the library before church service.

Fri. Dec 1st 7pm "Start the Holiday" – Women of FPCB and Friends are invited to Marilyn Ward's Home - hors d'oeuvres, desserts and seasonal libations. RSVP to Marilyn 973-800-9810 cell / marilynaward@msn.com

Sun. Dec. 10th Handbells in Worship Fri. Dec. 15th Hanging of the Greens Sun. Dec. 17th Cantata in Worship.

Sun. Dec. 17th after Cantata – "Around the World" Christmas dinner.

ANGEL TREE – FPCB partners with Boonton Social Svcs. annually to provide holiday gifts to people in need in our community. Gift tags will be hanging from a Christmas Tree in our church. All gifts due back by 5pm, **Dec. 8th**. Questions? contact Martel Roberts at martelroberts@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS – use envelopes provided in the pews or Breeze (put memorial name in comments section please) to order in memory/honor of a loved one. Last day to order is **Dec. 17**th

CHRISTMAS DINNER "Around the World" - FPCB Members, family and friends, Please Join us for Our Annual Dinner, Sunday, Dec. 17th, in Reighart Hall after worship. You won't want to miss

this very special event - Menu will be a traditional turkey/ham dinner, Activities: trivia game, karaoke & photo booth with props and green screen. Tickets are \$18, Children 6-12 - \$5, under 5 – free. See Kim Robbins or Trish Herrera for tickets or sign up through Breeze.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION There will be a special meeting of the congregation immediately following worship on **Dec. 3**rd. The purpose of the meeting will be to receive the report of the Church Officers Nominating Committee and vote to elect officers for 2024.

MEAL TRAIN is an opportunity to provide a meal for a person or a family in their time of need. Please email Martel Roberts at martelroberts@gmail.com or call or text 973-216-0787 if you would like to volunteer to provide a meal or if you are in need of a meal.

MISSIONS - We are always accepting Mission Donations through Breeze or they can be mailed to or dropped off at the office

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 19 – November 25 ~ Twenty Fifth Sunday After Pentecost		
Sunday	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
-	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour (Library)
	11:30 am	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room/Sanctuary)
	12:00 pm	Facility Rental (Reighart)
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
Monday	7:00 pm	Congregational Life Meeting (Library)
	7:30 pm	NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart Hall)
Tuesday	4:00 pm	NJ Conservatory (Choir Room)
	7:00 pm	Worship Committee Meeting (Library)
Wednesday	3:00/4 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves and Fishes
Thursday		Thanksgiving – Office Closed
Friday		Office Closed
Saturday	8/9:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves and Fishes
		Christ the King/Reign of Christ
Sunday	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour – Pie contest! (Library)
	12:00 pm	Facility Rental (Reighart)
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
Monday		Dover Faith Kitchen
		Gershaw Memorial Service
	7:30 pm	NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart Hall)
Tuesday	4:00 pm	NJ Conservatory (Choir Room)
	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts (Reighart Hall)
Wednesday	3:00/4 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves and Fishes
Thursday	6:30 pm	Hand bell Choir (Sanctuary)
Friday	7:00 pm	Women's 'Start the Holiday' Party (Marilyn's Home)
Saturday	8/9:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves and Fishes
-	9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal at various times
	12:45 pm	Hand bell rehearsal (Sanctuary)
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^{*}The calendar can also be found on our website https://www.fpcboonton.org/calendar/ Office Hours M-F 8:30-1:30