



First Presbyterian Church
513 Birch St., Boonton, NJ 07005
(973) 334-3535 www.fpcboonton.org
Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @FPCBoonton

February 18, 2024

10:00 AM

**First Sunday in Lent
An Alter in the World:
The Practice of Getting Lost**

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

"I Love You Lord"

Fred Bock

* CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsively)

by Thom Shuman

One: Lent calls us to journey, this and every day, following Jesus wherever he leads us.

All: Lent calls us to journey: to the place where God covenants with us, to receive the new names we are given.

One: Lent calls us to worship together, to tell future generations the good news.

All: Lent calls us to practice justice, to bring God's hope to all people.

One: Lent calls us to faithful living, to trust the One who gives us life.

All: Lent calls each of us to take up our cross, to trust the One who bears it with us.

One: Lent calls us to journey with God.

All: Let us worship God, who walks with us, this and every day.

* HYMN # Blue 403

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Joseph Scriven

INVITATION TO SEEK GOD'S GRACE

PRAYER SEEKING GOD'S GRACE: (In unison)

Ann Weems

O God, you gave us a garden of Eden and we chose to wander in deserts of our own making. You gave us the Light of the world and we chose to do our night-crawling. Forgive us our squandering, our wandering, our lack of commitment. Forget not your covenant with us, O God, and choose us still to tell your Good News to give all that we have, that all might be one in your Shalom. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (In unison)

Since we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth, make us hunger for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven.

GOD'S WORD TO US

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 16:2-4 p. 62

ANTHEM *"Be Still and Know"* Victor L. Johnson

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Mark 1:12-13 p. 35

One: This is the Word of God, for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *"The Beauty and Grace of the Wilderness"* Pastor Carie Morgan

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

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

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN # Blue 87 *"The Glory of These Forty Days"* vv. 1,2,4 Gregory the Great

(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 *"Ave Verum"* W. A. Mozart

(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 294 *"Wherever I May Wander"* New England Folk Melody

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE *"Pacem Blessing"* Patrick Liebergen

POSTLUDE *"Great is the Lord"* arr. Peggy Bettcher

Pastor: The Rev. Carie Morgan
Organist/Choir Director: Sarah Jane Zollner
Lay Reader: Pat Maraziti
Ministers: All the People of the Church

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 18 – February 24 ~ *First Sunday in Lent*

Sunday	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour (Library)
	11:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room/Sanctuary)
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
Monday		Presidents Day (Office Closed)
	7:30 pm	NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart Hall)
Tuesday	4:00 pm	NJ Conservatory (Choir Room)
Wednesday	3:00/4 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves/Fishes
Saturday	8/9:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves/Fishes

February 25 – March 2 ~ *Second Sunday in Lent*

Sunday	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour (Library)
	11:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room/Sanctuary)
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
Monday	11:00 am	Dover Faith Kitchen
	7:30 pm	NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart Hall)
Tuesday	4:00 pm	NJ Conservatory (Choir Room)
	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts (Reighart)
Wednesday	3:00/4 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves/Fishes
Thursday	6:30 pm	Handbell Choir (Choir Room)
Saturday	8/9:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves/Fishes
	10:00 am	Scouts (Library)
	12:00 pm	St. John's Luncheon

*The calendar can also be found on our website under news and events:

<http://fpcboonton.org/calendar-pro/>

Announcements

We are glad you are worshipping with us today!

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 – **Pat Maraziti** grew up in Mountain Lakes and has lived in Boonton Township with her husband, Charles for over 50 years. They have two married daughters and five grandchildren who reside in Pennsylvania. Pat currently serves as a Deacon and is a member of the Chancel Choir. She enjoys volunteering in the Loaves & Fishes food pantry.

CHANCEL FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Nancy van Dyke in memory of loved ones.

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

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

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.

COFFEE HOUR – is hosted/sponsored 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.

2024 BILL & VIVIAN LOWTHER SCHOLARSHIP: The Memorials Committee is pleased to announce that the Scholarship Subcommittee is accepting applications from FPC Members who have applied to or are attending an accredited college or professional school in pursuit of professional certification, undergraduate education, or a graduate degree. Please contact the church office at 973-334-3535 or office@fpcboonton.org for application forms. Completed applications are due to the church office by **March 1, 2024**.

SAVE THE DATE! PW MOVIE NIGHT March 8th at 7:15pm in the FPCB library. Movie TBD...



2024 PER CAPITA

Congregations pay an annual amount of money per church member — per capita apportionment — to their respective presbyteries. It is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together, by sharing the benefits of the system of government and operational expenses.

The per capita amount is a combined total of requests from the presbytery, the synod in which the presbytery is located, and the General Assembly — based on their respective annual budgets.

We ask all those who are able to consider covering your per capita charges for 2024. The Presbytery Per Capita fee is \$42.50 per member. This includes youth who have been confirmed. Ex: For a couple, the per capita amount is \$85 and for family (where 1 youth is also a member) the per capita would be \$127.50.

As a connectional church, we are obligated to pay this to the Presbytery of the Highlands early each year, to cover operational expenses. A small portion (a total of 10%) also gets allocated for General Assembly and Synod expenses.

We ask that you prayerfully consider making your per capita contribution. Every per capita cost that is not paid comes out of the overall endowment (or savings) of the church. By paying your per capita will allow us to allocate all of our donations to the missions of this church. You may use the special envelopes in your offering boxes or you can simply mark your contribution with the words “Per Capita.”

-Mission Interpretation & Stewardship Committee

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING - Our theme for 2024 is **Lift High the Cross** and **the goal is \$2024**. OGHS funds/supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People and the Presbyterian Hunger Program which unite us in caring for the hungry, the weak and the vulnerable. Donations can be left in the offering plate, given through Breeze or mailed to the church (please put OGHS in the memo or note when giving through Breeze).

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY – Join us Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the library beginning: Feb. 21
John: The Gospel of Light and Life by Adam Hamilton

During the Season of Lent, we will be exploring various spiritual practices shared through the book: An Altar in the World written by Barbara Brown Taylor

Join us on Sundays during Lent at 10:00 am

Feb. 25

Second Sunday of Lent
The Practice of Wearing Skin: The Incarnation

March 3

Worship will be in Reighart Hall at 10:00 a.m.

We will have a simple communion service and will begin our discernment process with a timeline activity connecting to our spiritual highs and lows.

March 10

Daylight Savings: Spring Ahead - Fourth Sunday of Lent
The Practice of Walking on the Earth: Groundedness

March 17

Fifth Sunday of Lent
The Practice of Living with Purpose: Vocation

March 24

Palm Sunday
Palm Sunday breakfast with St. John's and the Palm Parade

March 31

Easter Sunday