



First Presbyterian Church  
 513 Birch St., Boonton, NJ 07005  
 (973) 334-3535 [www.fpcboonton.org](http://www.fpcboonton.org)  
 Like us on Facebook

January 5, 2025

*Second Sunday of Christmas & Epiphany  
 Worship & Communion*

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.  
 Please *remember to turn off all devices as we turn towards God.*

GREETINGS TO THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

PRELUDE

*"Go Tell It On the Mountain"*

arr. John Carter

\* CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsively)

by Dr. Susan M. (Elli) Elliott

One: We are the magi on a caravan of lumbering hope,

**All: Traveling through grinding wind and glaring sun, chill clear nights and skin-baking days.**

One: We come lumbering in hope, each of us on our own life's journey.

**All: Traveling through times of uncertainty and fear,**

One: We lumber together in hope, as the church, to lift up God's Light.

**All: We come as your magi to seek your Light.**

\* HYMN # Green 8

*"Gather Us In"*

Marty Haugen

(At this time, ushers will receive any written prayer requests or you can email the church office: [office@fpcboonton.org](mailto:office@fpcboonton.org))

INVITATION TO SEEK GOD'S GRACE

PRAYER SEEKING GOD'S GRACE: (In unison)

posted on The Contemplative Network (edited)

**Loving God, as You led the Magi to the Christ Child by the light of a star, please draw us ever closer to You by the light of faith. Help us to desire You as ardently as they did. Give us the grace to overcome all the obstacles that keep us far from You. Inspire us to serve you with our own unique gifts. Amen.**

SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

TIME FOR MISSION

GOD'S WORD TO US

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: (In unison)

**Loving God, open our eyes so that we can see the power of your Holy Light, like the wise men, so that as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 12:1-12

p. 12

One: This is the word of God for the people of God

**All: Thanks be to God**

SERMON

*“Words Matter”*

The Rev. Jeanne B. Radak

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*“From A Distant Home”*

Hal Hopson

\* 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

\* HYMN # Blue 56

*“The First Nowell”*  
(vvs. 3-5)

English Carol

## THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD’S PRAYER: (In unison) **“forgive us our sins, as...sin against us”**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD/DRINKING OF THE CUP

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE (Please take each element [bread/juice] and hold it until we take it together.  
Gluten/egg free crackers are in the middle of the plate.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: (In unison)

**Illumine our hearts, O God, with the radiance of Christ’s presence, that our lives may show forth his love in this weary world. Teach us to befriend the lost, to serve the poor, to reconcile our enemies, and to love our neighbors. Keep us faithful in your service until we feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm, Amen.**

## GOD’S PEOPLE GO INTO THE WORLD

\* HYMN # Blue 66

*“We Three Kings of Orient Are”*  
(vvs. 1-3)

John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

*“March of the Three Kings”*

arr. Gordon Young

**Pastor:** The Rev. Carie Morgan

**Guest Preacher:** The Rev. Jeanne B. Radak

**Organist/Choir Director:** Sarah Jane Zollner

**Lay Reader:** Ken Nickel

**Firemen’s Home:** Natalie Pisarcik and the Storas

**Ministers:** All the People of the Church

**LAY READER – Ken Nickel** resides in Rockaway with his wife Denise and has been a member of our church since 1972. He has 3 grown children and 5 grandchildren. Ken serves our church as an ordained elder and church treasurer and shares his musical talents in the church choir and the bell choir. Ken also serves on the Property & Insurance Committee at the Presbytery of the Highlands of NJ. He is enjoying retirement from a lengthy career in commercial banking and is active in the Rotary Club and other non-profit organizations.

**OUR GUEST PREACHER – The Rev. Jeanne B. Radak**, Presbytery Leader, The Presbytery of the Highlands of New Jersey. Jeanne was born and raised in Caribou, Maine. She left New England to go to college at Indiana University of Pennsylvania to study music and to embark on her career as a conductor of a great symphony. God had other plans. She graduated with a history degree and answered God’s call through studying at Pittsburgh Seminary for a Masters of Divinity. In 1985 she was ordained as an assistant pastor for FPC of Geneva, NY. The following years she served as the interim pastor for congregations in Big Flats, NY; Davison, MI; Plymouth, IN; and Michigan City, IN. In 1994 she answered the call to be the pastor of Elmwood Presbyterian Church in Syracuse, NY where she served until 2005 when she took the call to be the Associate Executive for Congregational Ministry for the Presbytery of Philadelphia. In 2013 she began her work as the Presbytery Leader of Newton Presbytery. March 2021, she became the Presbytery Leader of The Presbytery of The Highlands (a realignment of boundaries of the 4 presbyteries that covers 7 counties of NW NJ). In 1989 she made the best decision ever and married her best friend, Bronc Radak. She and Bronc are parents to two young adults Joe and Maggie and parents-in-law to Heather and John. They welcomed their first grandson, Rhys Kelly last fall. Ask her to show you pictures.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### January 5 – January 11 ~ *Second Sunday of Christmas*

Sunday	9:15 am	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	<b>Worship</b> (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	<b>Coffee Hour</b> (Library)
	11:15 am	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> (Choir Room/Sanctuary)
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
Monday	6:30 pm	NA PIC Meeting (Reighart)
	7:30 pm	NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart Hall)
Tuesday	10:30 am	<b>Prayer</b> (Library)
	4:30 pm	Conservatory Piano (Choir Room)
	6:30 pm	<b>Deacons</b> (Library)
Wednesday	Annual Reports Due from Committees	
	10:30 am	<b>Bible Study</b> (Library)
	3:00 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	4:00 pm	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
	6:00 pm	Cub Scouts (Reighart Hall)
	6:30 pm	<b>OPS Meeting</b> (Zoom)
Thursday	1:15 pm	<b>Second Thursday</b> (Library)
Friday	6:30 pm	Scouts (RH and outside for woodwork)
Saturday	8:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	9:00 am	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry

### January 12 – January 18 ~ *Baptism of the Lord*

Sunday	9:15 am	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	<b>Worship</b> (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	<b>Coffee Hour</b> (Library)
	11:15 am	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> (Choir Room/Sanctuary)
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
Monday	7:00 pm	<b>Session</b> (Library)
	7:30 pm	NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart Hall)
Tuesday	4:30 pm	Conservatory Piano (Choir Room)
	6:00 pm	Scouts Wolf Den Meeting (Reighart)
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart)
Wednesday	10:30 am	<b>Bible Study</b> (Library)
	3:00 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	4:00 pm	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry

Thursday	7:00 pm	Girl Scouts (Reighart Hall)
Saturday	8:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	9:00 am	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry

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

## Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of Boonton We are glad you are worshipping with us today!

### **Mission Outreach:**

**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.

**DEACON OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available for your use on Communion Sundays (small green ones in the pews). Please consider making a donation to the Deacon Fund.

### **Worship:**

**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.

**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!

### **Fellowship:**

**COFFEE HOUR** - hosted again by Congregational Life, join us in the library for 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).**

*Due to Coffee Hour burn-out, Congregational Life will not be hosting coffee hour on January 12th & 19th or February 9th, 16th, and 23rd. If no one volunteers to host, there will be no coffee hour. Hosting a coffee hour isn't difficult, all you need is time and something to eat & drink.*

*Any questions please contact Kim Robbins or Trish Herrera. Thank you.*

**PRAYER GROUP** will meet next on January 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am in the church library. All are welcome.

**BIBLE STUDY** will next meet on January 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 in the church library and on zoom. New Topic coming soon!

**SECOND THURSDAY** adult group will meet at 1:15 in the church library and on zoom on January 9<sup>th</sup>.

**2025 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](mailto:office@fpcboonton.org) for application forms. Completed applications are due to the church office by **March 1, 2025**.

### *Stewardship*

Please make sure you fill out your 2025 commitment and place it in the offering plate, mail it to the church, or email a confidential email to [donrothrock@gmail.com](mailto:donrothrock@gmail.com)



## 2025 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 2025. The Presbytery Per Capita fee is \$43.50 per member. This includes youth who have been confirmed. Ex: For a couple, the per capita amount is \$87 and for family (where 1 youth is also a member) the per capita would be \$130.50

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.”

*-Stewardship Committee*