



First Presbyterian Church

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 1, 2023, 10:00 AM

GATHERING

Handbell Chimes – *The ringing of the chimes invites you to a time of Rest...Renewal...Hope*

Prelude Improvisation on "Cuando El Pobre" Lucas Brown, organ

Opening Sentences

One: We gather from the west to the east, from the south to the north,

All: to celebrate the God of peace who accompanies us in our acts of peace.

One: This God of peace accompanies us in each and every circumstance around us.

All: We praise God's name! Amen!

-Rev. Gloria Ulloa, Presbyterian Church of Colombia

Hymn #472 *Cantad al Señor*

Invitation to Experience God's Grace

One: Seeking the Healer's mercy and restoration, let us confess our sins against God, earth, and neighbor.

Laying Down Our Burdens

All: Almighty God, we have been wandering in the wilderness of sin. We have complained in the face of your mercy. We have been selfish and conceited in the face of your sacrifice. We have not done your will. Teach us humility. Teach us gratitude. Infuse your spirit into our beings so that we might be reconciled to you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Exodus 17:1,2; Matt. 21:30; Phil. 2:2-8

Silent Prayer

Declaration of Forgiveness

One: People of God, our sins our forgiven.

The Lord is loving, and we are reconciled to God.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to begin life anew. Amen!

Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

Cherub and Carol Choirs: *God's Hands* by Mark Burrows

Time with the Children

Celebrating the Life of the Church

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination:

One: Holy Spirit, grant us openness and give us understanding of what each one of us needs to receive through Holy Scripture. When we are facing a difficult choice between the easy and the right decision, help us to choose the narrow path. We also pray for all who are about to set on an adventurous journey of faith anywhere in the world. Amen.

-Magdaléna Trgalová, Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren

Scripture Reading

Exodus 17: 1-7

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Communion Meditation

Blood From a Turnip

Rev. Nikki Passante

We Affirm our Faith

THE IMMIGRANTS CREED

by Jose Luis Casal

I believe in Almighty God,
who guided the people in exile and in exodus,
the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,
the God of foreigners and immigrants.

I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean,
who was born away from his people and his home, who fled
his country with his parents when his life was in danger.

When he returned to his own country he suffered under the oppression of Pontius Pilate,
the servant of a foreign power. Jesus was persecuted, beaten, tortured, and unjustly
condemned to death.

But on the third day Jesus rose from the dead,

not as a scorned foreigner but to offer us citizenship in God's kingdom.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us,
who speaks all languages, lives in all countries,
and reunites all races.

I believe that the Church is the secure home
for foreigners and for all believers.

I believe that the communion of saints begins
when we embrace all God's people in all their diversity.
I believe in forgiveness, which makes us all equal before God,
and in reconciliation, which heals our brokenness.

I believe that in the Resurrection
God will unite us as one people
in which all are distinct and all are alike at the same time.
I believe in life eternal, in which no one will be foreigners
but all will be citizens of the kingdom
where God reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Rev. Casal is the retired World Mission Executive Director for the PC(USA).

Celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: Everlasting God, we thank you for commanding light out of darkness, for dividing the waters into the sea and dry land, for creating the whole world and calling it good. We thank you for making us in your image to live with each other in love. You set us in this world to love and to serve you. And when we rebel against you, refusing to trust and obey you, you do not reject us. Instead, you claim us as your own and look upon us with Love.

One: Great and wonderful are your works Almighty God; your ways are true and just. With people from all times and places we lift our hearts in joyful praise, for you alone are holy.

Sanctus (spoken)

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

One: Living God, give us your Holy Spirit in the breaking of this bread and the sharing of this cup, that we may be drawn together as one, joined to Christ the Lord, receive new life, and remain his glad and faithful people until that day when we feast with him in glory.

We are the Body of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

Grace-filled God, we humbly offer ourselves to you, praying now with the words you gave your disciples saying,

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

The Lord Jesus on the night of his arrest and betrayal by those closest to him, took bread, and after giving thank he broke it and said, "Take. Eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this, remembering me." Then he took a cup and blessed it; giving it to them he said "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Drink of it all of you, and remember me." Great is this mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

This is the body of Christ broken for you, the blood of Christ shed for you.

This is the body of Christ the Bread of Heaven; the blood of Christ the Cup of Salvation.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

GIVE THANKS

Practicing Abundant Generosity <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteria11244/give/now>



Offertory: *We Are Not Alone* by Pepper Choplin, Chancel Choir
Delaney McGlade, soprano
* Doxology #592 *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*
* Prayer of Dedication

LEAVE TO SERVE

Hymn: p. 334

When Israel was in Egypt's Land

Charge and Benediction

Choral Amen, Chancel Choir

Sending Music Fanfare by William Mathias
Lucas Brown, organ

Please use the Postlude time and music to reflect on today's worship experience and how it will support you in the week to come.

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THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given in celebration of the 45th wedding anniversary on October 7th of Terry and Linda Carpenter.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH! It is good to have you here in person or online. Please be in touch if you have news to share or would like more information or to talk to a pastor. Staff contact information is below. Read full announcements in our weekly [email newsletter](#), available on the church website. Subscribe on the [Contact Us](#) tab.

NURSERY care is available in the Hospitality Center – across from Fellowship Hall.

WORSHIP NOTES

“When Israel Was In Egypt’s Land” (“Go Down Moses”) is an African-American spiritual that describes the Hebrew exodus from Egypt (Book of *Exodus*). The song discusses freedom, referring both to the freedom of the Israelites and that of runaway enslaved people. A former slave and “conductor” on the Underground Railroad, Harriet Tubman used spirituals such as

“Go Down Moses” to signal slaves that she was in the area and would help any who wanted to escape. --Bud Miller

† First Presbyterian’s Session recognizes that throughout U.S. history African American composers have not been compensated equitably for the music they have created. To remedy this in “our little way,” the congregation is invited to make a donation, using this QR code, whenever we sing an African American Spiritual, whether it’s the choir anthem or a hymn. Donations can also be made using this link: <https://www.essenceofharmonycs.org/sponsorship-opportunities> or this mailing address: Essence of Harmony Choral Society, PO Box 811, Moorestown, NJ 08057. Donations go directly to The Essence of Harmony Choral Society to assist them in purchasing music, supporting professional musicians, and paying venue fees. The Essence of Harmony Choral Society was formed in 2018 by Cherisse Bonefont. The Choir was born from a need she saw to create the presence of, space for, and a medium through which singers of all skill levels can share their musical gifts with the Burlington County community at large. This diverse group of singers has a cohesive and creative performance style. EHCS focuses explicitly on celebrating the works of both classical and under-recognized African American composers. In addition, the group presents classics and anthems, spirituals, and contemporary gospel music.



CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM "We Are Not Alone" by Pepper Choplin

We are never alone, for God is with us.
Now, through all our days, always.
Forever and ever, we are never alone.
And God will make us strong, for God is with us.
We, we will press on, for God is with us.
Now, through all our days, always.
Forever and ever, we are never alone.
Our God is with us now.

NEWS AND EVENTS

PORCH BIBLE STUDY: will meet on Zoom on Tuesday, October 3, and Tuesday, November 7, at 7 p.m. Paul Urian will send the Zoom link. We will be doing a Pastor Max Lucado study on Colossians & Philemon. These studies are about applying the Bible to daily life and all levels of Bible readers/explorers are welcome. We will also have prayer time.

On Tuesday, October 10, at noon, Porchers and any friends who would like to join us, will meet at the Legacy Diner on the White Horse Pike at noon. In November, our Porcher lunch will be Tuesday, November 14, at noon. Location to be determined. If you are not on the Porcher email list, and would like to attend, please contact Jill Mascena or Deb Nussbaum at church or email Deb at debranussbaum1987@gmail.com. Our Porchers are always happy to take your prayer requests.

CHERISHED women of First Presbyterian! If you're looking for a Bible study, a walking group, a quilting group, or any number of things, click her to check out the fall activities that Presbyterian Women are offering: at haddonfieldpres.org/presbyterianwomen.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2023 CROP WALK -- On Sunday, Oct. 8, from 1 to 3 p.m. we will join congregants of Trinity Presbyterian Church at Challenge Grove Park, located at the corner of Bortons Mill Road and Caldwell Road (near Jake's Place), for an easy 5K walk. The event also includes a kids' walk and a pet blessing. Sign up in the Bean Parlor after worship on Sundays. For more information, contact Caroline Yount at cnyount@gmail.com.

JUSTICE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Everyone's invited to the Justice and Advocacy Committee meeting before worship on Sunday, October 1, 2023. We will meet in the Parlor at 9am. These days we face many challenges and stresses. It's said that the best cure for anxiety is to do something! And there is so much that can be done. Bring your ideas, your curiosity and hope for a better world.

STARTING October 1, you can have your blood pressure taken in the Bean Parlor following morning worship. Screenings will occur monthly. If any medical professionals are interested in supporting this ministry, please email Linda O'Neill at ElonMail@yahoo.com or Bonnie Manskopf at BonnieManskopf@yahoo.com.

CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CLASS - *Our 34th Year Learning about Our Lord Jesus Christ and His Church through an in-depth study of Church history, theology, art, music – and (sometimes!) pilgrimage travel.* Topic for Fall 2023: ***Jesus and His Followers***. All are invited to join Church historian David Stedman after worship!

October 1: The 12 Apostles: "The Sent-Out Ones" - Disciples and Apostles are not necessarily the same. Who were the original Twelve Apostles whom Jesus called to be with Him (the Gospels apparently differ), and what do the Gospels, Church history, Apocrypha, and tradition tell us about their mission and their experiences before and after the Resurrection. *Power-point presentation and film excerpt.*

October 8: NO CLASS

October 15: Mary Magdalene: Apostle to the Apostles! Part 1

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 09/24/23: 188 in person and 31 online.

2023 CHURCH OFFERING UPDATE – Please note that target numbers on the right now represent a 12-month budget.

	<u>Received to date</u>	<u>Twelve-month budget goal</u>
Envelope Giving:	\$ 429,147.00	\$ 570,270.00
Loose Offering:	\$ 7,793.00	\$ 12,000.00
Per Capita:	\$ 8,999.00	\$ 16,000.00

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Please pray for these individuals and situations throughout the week. If you would like to add a personal prayer request, please contact one of the pastors. In making requests on behalf of others, please obtain the permission of the person needing prayer. The requestor will have their name printed as the originator of the request. Pastors will revisit these requests every 30 days.

Prayers for the Church

- Pray for the people, government, and country of **Ukraine** as war continues.
- Pray for **Morocco and Libya**.
- Please pray for **Jean Yount**, her medical team, and her family (9/27-C. Yount)
- Pray for **Carol DelGiarno** who underwent surgery this week (9/20-L. Willison)
- Please pray for **Amy** who is recovering from brain surgery after having a tumor removed (9/15-T. Adkins)
- Pray for **Amy** who is recovering from brain surgery this week (9/12-J. Russell)
- Pray for **Rob** and all those who surround him(9/11-pastors)
- Pray for the Fitzgerald family who are living through the midst of so much. Pray specifically for **Karen, her husband, and their three young adult children** who are in college- each with their own challenges (9/11-T. Adkins)
- Pray for **Viola** and all those surrounding her. God knows the needs (9/11-V. Bradshaw)
- Please pray for **Annette and David**, and their family and friends. God knows the needs (9/9-pastors)
- Pray for **Maria** who is dealing with health issues (9/7-L. O'neill)
- Please pray for **Jeff** who is living with cancer, and pray also for his wife **Wanda** (9/4-Seddon family)
- Continue in prayer for **Isabel Pross** as she continues cancer treatment (9/2-pastors)
- Pray that God continues to hold **Susan** tightly as she continues in an experimental cancer treatment. Pray also that Susan feels the love and prayers from her friends and family (8/29-C. Carty)
- Continue in prayers for **Nancy** as her cancer treatments continue (8/28-C. Carty)

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor and Head of Staff - mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org

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