



First Presbyterian Church

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 19, 2023, 10:00 AM

GATHERING

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

Prelude Trio de Flûtes from *Suite du 2^{me} ton* - Jean-Adam Guilain Lucas Brown, organ

Opening Sentences (Psalm 111)

One: Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

All: Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.

One: God's work is full of honor and majesty, and God's righteousness endures forever.

All: The Lord has gained renown by doing wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. God provides food for those who are in awe of God, and is ever mindful of God's covenant.

*Hymn #551 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

***Invitation to Experience God's Grace (1 Timothy 1:14-15)**

One: The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus who came into the world to save sinners. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

***Laying Down Our Burdens**

All: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.

By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

***Silent Prayer**

***Declaration of Forgiveness (Rom. 8:34; 2 Cor. 5:17)**

One: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Amen.

*** We Celebrate God's Forgiveness Hymn #579 "Gloria Patri"**

***Sharing the Peace of Christ (Colossians 3:12-14)**

One: As God's own people, be merciful in action, kindly in heart, humble in mind. Be always ready to forgive as freely as God has forgiven you. And, above everything else, be loving, and never forget to be thankful for what Christ has done for you.

The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Cherub and Carol Choirs: "God is Always There" -Toni Sullivan

Reception of New Members and the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Celebrating the Life of the Church

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination:

All: God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out upon us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that, being taught by you in Holy Scripture, our hearts and minds may be opened to know the things that pertain to life and holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading

James 1:16-18

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved. ¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Every Good and Perfect Gift"

Rev. Rose Niles

GIVE THANKS

Prayers of the People

The 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.

Practicing Abundant Generosity <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/give/now>



Offertory: "O How Amiable" -Ralph Vaughan Williams, Chancel Choir
* Doxology #592 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"
* Prayer of Dedication

LEAVE TO SERVE

*Hymn #428 "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

Charge and Benediction

Choral Amen, Chancel Choir

Sending Music Toccata in D minor - Matthias Weckmann 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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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.

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given in celebration of John Richardson's 95th birthday by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren and an arrangement in honor of the church members who have served our country in the Armed Services.

✿ An enormous "thank you" to Betsy Anderson, who has been coordinating sanctuary flowers for many years. Betsy is moving out of the area soon and will no longer be providing this invaluable service. We wish her well in her new location!

Diane Thorne will be the new flower coordinator going forward. Diane's email address is dthorne31@comcast.net and cell phone is 609 707-8122.

NURSERY care is available during worship (9:30 - 11:15) for those with young children. The nursery is located in the Preschool (level 1R) in the Red Balloon Room near the Preschool office.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Parents, please register your preK-5th graders for Children's Church using the QR Code. PreK-Kindergarten must be signed out from the Sunday School room. First-fifth graders will reunite with their families in the Bean Parlor after worship.



Reminder: No Children's Church for prek-5 on Dec. 24 and 31.

WORSHIP NOTES

"O How Amiable" -Ralph Vaughan Williams.

O how amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:
My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house:
They will be always praising thee.

The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us:
Prosper thou the work of our hands upon us.
O prosper thou our handy work.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

NEWS AND EVENTS

TODAY IS THE DAY!: We will be collecting turkeys and cash until noon. There is still time to go to Acme and get your bird. Turkeys and cash donations go to aid Your Food Shelf (a Presbyterian based and funded food pantry). Please remember to drive carefully when entering the parking lot.



THE ADVENT FESTIVAL: This year the festival will be after worship on December 3rd. Use the QR code to RSVP if you plan to attend and also if you can bring a soup or dessert to share, sign up here too! Looking for Youth volunteers to help with the crafts.

Questions? Contact Cheryl Tarditi: cheryltarditi@gmail.com



ADVENT BIBLE STUDY: Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent.

This four-week one hour gathering on Zoom will explore the themes in the stories of Jesus's birth. Our study will be resourced by author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine. Dr. Levine will trace the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi. These stories will open conversations around connections of the Gospel stories to the Old Testament, the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, the importance of Mary's visitation, and the revolutionary implications of Mary's Magnificat, the census and the stable, and the star of Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt. Begins November 29.

To register and get Zoom link, use the QR code.



PAPER QUILLING WORKSHOP: Sunday, December 9 at 1pm: Discover the beautiful art of rolling and shaping strips of paper into intricate designs. Learn the history of quilling and quilling techniques to create your own unique art. Expert instructor Trish will help you master the craft. You will gain new skills, meet fellow crafters, and take home a beautiful quilled holiday card.

Hosted By Presbyterian Women. Seating is limited. • \$20.00 per participant. Please RSVP via email to judygrantham@comcast.net

HOSPITALITY: Calling all who anticipate and appreciate after-service social time! The Hospitality

Committee is soliciting volunteers to provide snacks and to host the hospitality table on Sunday mornings. As we continue to offer this ministry of camaraderie and connection in our beautiful parlor, we will have a signup sheet on which folks can volunteer for any Sunday of their choice. Please consider this easy and fun way to connect with old and new friends. If you would like to help us develop additional ways to serve, we would also be happy to welcome you as a member of the Hospitality Committee. Please contact Joan Fiorella at jmfiorella@gmail.com or 856 889-9185 for more information.

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY: Need a ride to and from worship?

We have a **new procedure** to ask for a ride, beginning in November. To request transportation to worship, call the church at 856-429-1960. When you hear the auto attendant message, press 103 and **you will go directly to the deacon voice mailbox**. Leave a message and a deacon will call you back regarding your request.

Transportation requests must be received no later than the Tuesday prior to the Sunday when the ride is needed. Make sure to leave your phone number and a convenient time to call. Please take note: if you call later than Tuesday at 4 p.m., there may not be a deacon or church member available to drive you. This procedure will efficiently simplify the needs of our members. We look forward to seeing you in worship! Questions? Call the church office, or Joan Fiorella at 856 889-9185.

THE PORCH BIBLE STUDY In December, the Porchers online study will be Tuesday, December 12 (Zoom) at 7 p.m. We will do a special Advent study that evening. For information, call the church office, contact Jill Mascena or Deb Nussbaum at church or email Deb at debranussbaum1987@gmail.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: 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 www.haddonfieldpres.org/presbyterian-women.

Esther Circle will meet in the Bean Parlor, Tuesday, November 21 at 10:00 am. Our Bible study will focus on the Pw Horizon's study, Sacred Encounters, Lesson 3, A Bleeding Woman Encounters Christ", Luke 8 43-48. All women are invited to join!

WALKING GROUP: Meet Linda Hess for a Slow and Steady Walk at the Crows Woods pavilion parking lot on Tuesday, November 28th at 10 am. We'll be walking on a paved, flat path.

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.

GO GREEN FOR CHRISTMAS! As you shop for gifts this year, don't forget to care for God's Creation. Shop local. Reuse old wrapping paper and bows. Swap the wrap with reusable bags. Avoid plastics and single use tableware. Limit packaging and deliveries. Be festive but reduce lights and heat settings to conserve energy. For over two decades, families in our congregation have given alternative gifts by donating to organizations serving those impacted by climate change or groups protecting the environment in a loved one's name. The Presbyterian Gift Catalogue and Heifer Project have many choices including token gifts to go with your card or note announcing the donation. Create new traditions to celebrate the birth of Christ in ways that help preserve all God's gifts to us for generations to come.

CPR classes are available for anyone in the church who would like to become certified. Marsha Reed will be teaching a class that takes about 3 hours and is being offered at no charge. If you would like a Certification Card, the cost is \$20. Once we know how many of us are interested, we can decide on a date. Class will take place on Sundays, most likely in the afternoon. Please contact Joan Fiorella at jmfiorella@gmail.com or Marsha Reed at marsbarr83@gmail.com if you are interested.

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!

NO CLASS NOVEMBER 19th

November 26. St. Andrew the First-Called: Andrew bar Jonah was with John the Baptist when Jesus was hailed as the Lamb of God. Jesus then called Andrew, who in turn brought his brother Peter to Jesus. Andrew (feast day Nov. 30) is the patron saint of many nations and peoples, with countless churches dedicated to him, notably the domed basilica St. Andrea dell a Valle in Rome.

The Purge: Part 1. Many thanks to Bonnie Bell, Margaret O'Neil, David Stedman, and Nancy Ruth Wainwright for completing the first step of "The Purge". On Wednesday of this week, these brave souls went through all of the cabinets in the choir room – some of which have not seen the light of day for decades – and kept only the items that the church can use. Some of the items we came across included old clothing, a brand-new lamp shade, bricks (individually wrapped in paper), and a forgotten projector. Items like these were either donated, discarded, or reclaimed for use. Please join me in thanking these generous folks for keeping our building clean and usable, and be on the lookout for future signs of "The Purge"! – Peter Leibensperger

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 11/12/23: 140 in person and 35 online.

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

	<u>Received to date</u>	<u>Twelve-month budget goal</u>
Envelope Giving:	\$ 500,227.00	\$ 570,270.00
Loose Offering:	\$ 9,035.00	\$ 12,000.00
Per Capita:	\$ 9,035.00	\$ 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 a just and peaceful resolution to the **Israeli-Palestinian** conflict.
- Please help Nancy feel your love as she recovers from extensive surgery (**11/15-C.Carty**)
- Please pray for **Jeff's family- his wife Wanda and his daughters Lisa and Karen**. Jeff lost his battle with cancer this week; they miss their husband and dad very much (**11/13-W & S Seddon**)
- Continue in prayer for **Jean Yount**, her medical team, and her family (**11/13-C. Yount**)

- Please pray for **Kevin** who is in HUP with an infection and may need heart valve replacement surgery (11/12-J. Wackes)
- Please pray for **Patrick and his family** (11/11-pastors)
- Continue in prayer for **Isabel Pross** as she continues cancer treatment (11/10-pastors)
- Pray for **Gary Roven** who is being treated for heart problems (11-09- Pastors)
- Prayers for **Lauren**, a young mother with metastatic thyroid cancer (11/07-J. Stout).
- Pray for courage and faith for **Savannah**, a mother of two undergoing chemotherapy. (11/06-L. Kirsch).
- Pray that God would raise **Ebony** out of anxiety and depression to complete a medical training course (11/06-L. Kirsch).
- Prayers for nine-year-old **Jake S.**, who is being treated for cancer (11/06-L. Kirsch).
- Pray for **Vivian**, who has been diagnosed with lymphoma (11/06-J. Grantham).
- Pray for **Amy** as she begins treatment following surgery (11/03-J. Russell).
- Prayers for **Tom Rowe** and wife **Suzanne**, as Tom receives experimental cancer treatments (11/02-J. Blank).
- Pray for family friends **Lynn, Yair, Daniela, Omri, Emily and Dean, Miriam, Aron and family** who are in Israel and are hoping to get their children to America for safety (11/2-The Nussbaums)
- Pray for the victims, family members, friends, and all first responders of and for the **mass shooting in Lewiston, Maine** (10/25-pastors)
- Please pray for **Emily** as she begins a long recovery (10/20-P. Woodland)
- Prayers for **Pete S.** on his recovery from a serious lung condition(10/20-J. Shoemaker).
- **Joe and Jackie** continue to benefit from your prayers as their conditions continue to deteriorate (10/20-P. Woodland)

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor and Head of Staff- mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org
 The Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante, Associate Pastor - npassante@haddonfieldpres.org
 Peter Leibensperger, Minister of Music - pleibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org
 Lucas Brown, Principal Organist - lbrown@haddonfieldpres.org
 Katie Beth McBurnie, Director of Children's Ministry - kmcburnie@haddonfieldpres.org
 Nancy Ruth Wainwright, Director of Children's Choirs - nancyruthw@comcast.net
 Marisa McGovern, Preschool Director - preschool@haddonfieldpres.org
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