



First Presbyterian Church

CHRIST'S JOY, JUSTICE AND COMPASSION
IN ALL, THROUGH ALL, AND FOR ALL

Communion Sunday
April 7, 10:00 AM

GATHERING

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

Prelude ~ Berceuse - Jehan Alain ~ Lucas Brown, Organ

Opening Sentences

One: Peace be with you.

ALL: How good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity.

One: Receive the Holy Spirit.

ALL: It is like precious oil on the head, the blessing of the Lord

***Hymn** #155 Rejoice, the Lord is King

***Invitation to Experience God's Grace:**

One: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sins.

***Laying Down Our Burdens**

God of love and light, you have called us to live by your light, in unity of heart and mission; yet we have continued in ways of darkness. We hide from you and from one another, rather than joining hands, hearts, and resources to live and work for your peace and justice. Though called and chosen to live in confident hope that Christ's resurrection assures us of abundant life, we anxiously strive instead to preserve and increase our personal well-being and profit. Forgive us for denying the light of Easter's hope, and empower us by your Holy Spirit to walk in the light, freely laying down our lives for Christ's sake, even as he did for us.

***Silent Prayer**

Declaration of Forgiveness

One: Once we were alone,

ALL: But we were never abandoned.

One: Once we were no people,

ALL: But now we are God's people.

One: Thanks be to God that in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

ALL: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

***We Celebrate God's Forgiveness**

Glory to God

Lucas Brown

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Glory to God'. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a time signature of 6/8. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: 'Glo - ry to God in the High - est , and peace to his peo - ple on Earth.' The second staff starts with a '5' above the first measure, indicating a fifth measure continuation. It continues the melody with similar note values and concludes with a double bar line. The lyrics below are: 'Glo - ry to God in the High - est , and peace to his peo - ple on Earth!'.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

Children's Message

Celebrating the Life of the Church

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

God of all who doubt and believe, by the gift of your Spirit, enable us to hear with our ears, to see with our eyes, and to touch with our hands your Word of life – Jesus Christ – our Lord and our God. Amen

Scripture Reading: John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon ~ "Believe None of What You Hear and Only Half of What You See"
Rev. Nikki Passante

Affirmation of Faith: from the "Service of Prayer for Justice and Peace," *Iona Abbey Worship Book*

We believe in God whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all.

And whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.

Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, in God we trust; And, in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness, to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the spirit of love, and in the company of the faithful so to be the church, for the Glory of God. Amen.

GIVE THANKS



Practicing Abundant Generosity

<https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/give/now>

† Offertory: "Méditation" from Thaïs by Jules Massenet (Barry Wilhjelm, clarinet)

* Doxology Hymn #592 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

* Prayer of Dedication

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, creator, redeemer, sustainer of all. You made your covenant with us, calling us to love and serve you. When we are wandering in sin you forgive us and lead us home.

Holy, Holy, Holy

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Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D)
 F C F B^b C F

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 2 Bless - ed, is he who comes in the
 pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

(A) (D/F#) (F#m) (G) (A) (Bm)
 C F/A Am B^b C Dm

(G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
 B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
 MUSIC: American folk melody; adapt. Marcia Pruner, 1980; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984
 Music Adapt. © 1980 Church Pension Fund
 Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc. LAND OF REST

We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lived and dies and rose for us, and is coming in glory to reign

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Amen

Capo 3: (G) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
 B^b C Dm B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

A - men, a - men, a - men.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
 MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1995
 Music Arr. © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc. LAND OF REST

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.

Breaking of Bread and Communion of the People
 Prayer After Communion

LEAVE TO SERVE

*Hymn #122 Thine is the Glory

Charge and Benediction

One: The cross...
ALL: WE SHALL TAKE IT.
 One: The bread...
ALL: WE SHALL BREAK IT.

One: The pain...
ALL: WE SHALL BEAR IT.
One: The joy...
ALL: WE SHALL SHARE IT.
One: The gospel...
ALL: WE SHALL LIVE IT.
One: The love...
ALL: WE SHALL GIVE IT
One: The light...
ALL: WE SHALL CHERISH IT
One: the darkness...
ALL: GOD SHALL PERISH IT. AMEN.

Sending Music ~ Postludium on Duke Street - Dennis R. Johnson ~ 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. Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with Permission Under OneLicense #740987-A. All Rights Reserved.

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 in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of Stanley Carter given by Ginny Ritchie. If you would like to place a live flower arrangement in the sanctuary, please contact Diane Thorne at dthorne31@comcast.net or 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.



NEWS AND EVENTS

The Men's Breakfast Group is back!! This group will meet at 8:00 am the second Tuesday of each month, starting on April 9, 2024 at The Bistro. Please contact Clair Blank, crblank327@verizon.net, if you have any questions.

Blood Pressure checks. Come to the Parlor after church service for juice, decaf coffee, snack, good fellowship and a "pressure check"!

All Presbyterian Women & visitors - join us

Ruth Circle- meets 3rd Tuesday monthly, 9:30 am, Service Projects, Hospitality Rm.

Quilting - Mondays, weekly, 9:30 am

"Slow & Steady Walks" - last Tuesday, monthly, 10 am. meet @ Crows Woods*

"Speedy Haddonfield Trots" - 2nd Tuesday, monthly, 10 am meet @ church portico*

* Tour Guide, Linda Hess

Esther Circle- meets 3rd Tuesday, monthly, 10 am, Bible Study & Service, Parlor
Elizabeth Circle- meets 2nd Monday, monthly, 7:30 pm, Zoom Bible Study, Fellowship

CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CLASS, April 7. COMMUNION SUNDAY: Christian Vexilology: Symbols of the Church. The flags and heraldry of the various Protestant denominations are filled with symbolism and declarations of their theology. We will compare the Presbyterian, Episcopalian, and Lutheran flags and symbols and theologies with those of the Roman Catholics. St. Andrew, St. George, St. David, St. Peter and Martin Luther are all in this mix.

The April meeting of the **Porch Bible Study** will be on Zoom at 7 p.m., on Tuesday, April 23. We will be learning about the Book of Philemon and discussing forgiveness. We also have prayer time. All are welcome and no advance preparation is required. For information, see Deb Nussbaum or Jill Mascena at church, or email Deb at debranussbaum1987@gmail.com.

Social Connection, our fun ministry evening for special needs adults, will meet Monday, April 22, at 6:30 p.m. in the Hospitality Room. It's a great time with music, balloon volleyball, Bingo, crafts and socializing. If you would like more information see Joyce Stout, Deb Nussbaum or Peg Manochi, or email Joyce at billandjoyce1@aol.com.



Did You Personalize Your Hymnals Yet? *Glory to God*, the newest Presbyterian hymnal, is a remarkably thoughtful collection of spirituals and hymns created with an eye towards both diversity and tradition. In it, you will find all of the old standards like "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" and you will also find new standards like "Lift Every Voice and Sing". The Session is asking that each family purchase two hymnals at \$25 a piece. You may also include a short memorial or dedication that will be affixed to the inside cover of your hymnals. Please use the QR code to purchase and personalize your hymnals today!

Pinwheels For Prevention: April is the national observation of Child Abuse Prevention Month. During this time, Presbyterian Women "plant" a Pinwheel Garden to call attention to the efforts of Prevent Child Abuse-NJ to create safe environments for all children. This year PW is grateful for the efforts of members of the Confirmation Class to create the Pinwheel Garden after worship on April 7. The pinwheel was chosen as a national symbol of prevention because it is whimsical and evokes childlike notions - so it is a good emblem of the "Great Childhoods" they desire for all children.

Founded in 1979 Prevent Child Abuse-New Jersey (PCA-NJ) promotes Great Childhoods, positive parenting, and healthy child development. Annually, PCA-NJ's programs and services reach more than 50,000 children and families statewide and is the New Jersey Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America, a network of chapters in all 50 states.

On the last Sunday of April children may take a pinwheel home. If desired a \$1.00 donation may be made for each pinwheel.

Volunteers Needed for Prison Ministry: Those who participate in our ministry with the women of the Camden County Jail will tell you that the ministry is very rewarding and sorely needed. The time investment is minimal once you go through the approval process. If you are interested in volunteering or finding out more information, email Judy Blank jmblank451@verizon.net.

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY: Need a ride to and from worship? 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 4:00 PM, there may not be a deacon or church member available to drive you. We look forward to seeing you in worship! Questions? Call the church office, or Joan Fiorella at 856-889-9185.

NEW Communications update: If you have announcements for the bulletin or the Weekly News, please email them to this **new address:** comm@haddonfieldpres.org. Deadline for submissions is **Monday at Noon.**

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 03/31/24: 342 in person and 40 online.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Pledge Giving:	171,068	Budget: 460,000
Non-pledge giving:	25,569	Budget: 160,000
Per Capita:	5,361	Budget: 11,000
Loose:	3,915	Budget: 11,000

Note: The Session adopted a 2024 budget with a projected shortfall of approximately \$140,000. The shortfall will be covered by remaining Covid relief funds, small grants, and withdrawals from investment reserves.

Prayer List (4/7/24)

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 **Gaza** and the **people of Israel and Palestine** as war continues.
- Pray for the **City of Philadelphia and the gun violence** that is destroying the lives of young men and women and entire families.
- Please pray for the **Knowles family**. Their **son and brother Frankie** has died at age 11 due to complications from cancer treatment. Please pray for Mom, Dad, and his younger sister Brooklyn. May God be a felt presence to this family **(4/3-T. Adkins)**
- Pray for **Christina** that she would maintain a sound mind **(G. Ladies-3/26)**
- Pray for **Annette** that she will get her family back and to stop smoking, and that she will get better after the lesson of being in jail **(G. Ladies- 3/26)**
- Please pray for **Marlena** that her trial will go her way; pray also for her family and her enemies **(3/26- G. Ladies)**
- Please pray that **Laura** will experience the forgiveness of her sins, and that she will receive custody of her daughters **(3/26-G. Ladies)**
- Pray that **Jamie** would be released from both her fear and her addiction **(3/26-G. Ladies)**

- Pray that **Malea** receives strength for this journey (3/26-G. Ladies)
- Please pray for **Morgan's daughters**- their protection and safety. Pray also for **Morgan's strength and perseverance**, for forgiveness for others and herself, for her sister's relief from addiction and her mother's mental illness (3/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray that **Jo** would receive patience and hope, and protection and love for her children (3/26-G. Ladies)
- Please pray for **Annette**. God knows all the needs (3/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for **John Hinkle, Sr.**, a friend of **Laura** and **Marvin Lindsay**, who is being treated for bladder cancer (3/26-M. Lindsay)
- Prayers for the extended family of **Terry Carpenter** who in the past 4 months have lost 4 cousins - **Dave, Ronnie, Harold & Janis** (3/25-pastors)
- Pray for God's full provision, mercy, grace, and hope - for **Philip** (3/23-pastors)
- **The Geiman and Scott families** are asking God to help them accept the tragic death of 3-year-old Maverick. Please pray for them (3/18-D. O'Hara)
- Continue in prayer for **Jessica Devietro** who is living with cancer (3/15-L. Sommers)
- Please **pray for a friend** who's awaiting biopsy results (3/14-L. Gormley-Devine)
- Pray for **Scott** on the challenging journey to sobriety (3/10-P. Urian)
- **Praise the Lord** for the birth of Sebastian Bryan, born on 3/3/24 to parents Sean Bryan and Coral Pistilli! Sebastian is the grandson of Becky & Michael Bryan (3/7-B. Bryan)
- Continue to keep **Branson** in your prayers as he studies abroad this semester (3/1-M. Wilson)

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
 Nancy Ruth Wainwright, Director of Children's Choirs - nancyruthw@comcast.net
 Marisa McGovern, Preschool Director - preschool@haddonfieldpres.org
 Kris Bean, Business Manager - kbean@haddonfieldpres.org
 Travis Bogetti, Building Manager - tbogetti@haddonfieldpres.org



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