



First Presbyterian Church

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

Fourth Sunday of Eastertide
April 21, 10:00 AM

GATHERING

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

Prelude- "Processional Jubilee" -Anna Laura Page ~ Whitechapel Bells

Opening Sentences (based on Psalm 23)

One: Our Good Shepherd has led us to this place.

All: He leads us beside still waters; he restores our soul.

One: Even though we walk through dark valleys, even though we are fearful and in need of comfort,

All: our cup overflows with God's goodness and mercy, and we shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

***Hymn** #172 "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

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

One: The joy of this Easter season continues as we are called to Word and worship. Let us pause to confess our sins to our Good Shepherd.

***Laying Down Our Burdens**

All: Savior God, you guide us, but we are slow to follow and stubborn. You welcome us to your fold, but we make others feel as if they don't belong. Forgive our life-alienating ways, our exclusion and judgment; the way we evaluate and compare, demean and degrade. Redeem us. Restore us. Help us be faithful as your flock. Amen.

***Silent Prayer**

Declaration of Forgiveness

One: Christ forgives. Christ transforms. Christ renews. Christ leads us down the path of new beginnings. We are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

***We Celebrate God's Forgiveness**

Glory to God

Lucas Brown



Glo - ry to God in the High - est , and peace to God's peo - ple on Earth.



Glo - ry to God in the High - est , and peace to God's 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

All: God our helper, guide us into and through your Word, that we might be shaped by your Spirit's message to us today and transformed for service in your world. Amen.

Scripture Reading: John 10:11-18

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "He's the Good Good Shepherd"

Rev. Marvin Lindsay

Affirmation of Faith (from a "Brief Statement of Faith")

All: We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

GIVE THANKS

Service for Wholeness

Offering of our Lives to God

Silent Reflection

Prayers for Healing

One: God, our creator, your will for us and for all your people is health and salvation:

All: have mercy on us.

One: Jesus Christ, Son of God, you came that we might have life and have it in abundance:

All: have mercy on us.

One: Holy Spirit, dwelling within us, you make us temples of your presence:

All: have mercy on us.

One: To the triune God, the source of all love and all life, let us offer our prayers. For all who are in need of healing,

Silence

One: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: For all who are disabled by injury or illness,

Silence

One: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: For all who are troubled by confusion or pain,

Silence

One: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: For all whose increasing years bring weariness,

Silence

One: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: For all about to undergo surgery,

Silence

One: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: For all who cannot sleep,

Silence

One: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: For all who practice the healing arts,

Silence

One: Lord, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray, saying,

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Thanksgiving and Invocation

***Anointing with Oil**



Practicing Abundant Generosity

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

† Offertory: Chancel Choir: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" arr. Mack Wilberg ~ Tanya McKenzie and Stacy Woyciechowski, flutes

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

* Prayer of Dedication

LEAVE TO SERVE

*Hymn #387 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Charge and Benediction

Sending Music ~ Music For a Festival - Calvin Hampton ~ 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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WORSHIP NOTES

THANK YOU to our intergenerational **Whitechapel Bells** choir members, who have faithfully practiced and encouraged one another throughout the year, and brought energy and joy to worship: Alexis Chamberlin, Beatrice Dunn, Joan Fiorella, Deborah Hagy, Karen Jones, Alexa Liggera, Olivia Moore, Anne Marie Naseef, Elizabeth Olson, Marsha Reed, and Larry Rugen.

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.

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

Pastor Nikki's Bible study on the Letter to the Romans meets every Thursday at 6:30 on Zoom. All are welcome to attend. See website for more information.

Prayer Group meets the second Sunday of every month in the Hospitality Center. Contact Maggie Sell or Pastor Nikki for more information.

There will be no Christian Heritage Class this Sunday, April 21, 2024. We will meet again on April 28, 2024.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone in our church family! After just three and a half months of collecting funds, we have successfully reached our goal of purchasing 400 *Glory to God* hymnals! Thank you to everyone who supported this effort by purchasing and personalizing your hymnals, and an extra special thank you to those members and families who took it upon themselves to contribute even more toward our goal to speed us on our way---you know who you are! I am personally grateful to each one of you for supporting our effort to make our worship more diverse and more inclusive. Thank you for your caring and your generosity, and may we sing to the Lord a new song!

Help Us Say "Goodbye" to Paper and Plastic! If you are planning to serve food at our after worship fellowship or other church activities, please remember we are no longer using single-use paper or plastic. We have plenty of plates, cups, bowls and utensils in the kitchen, Bean Parlor and Hospitality Suite. Efforts will be made to use environmentally-friendly napkins. If you have questions or want to help support this effort, please contact Rita Brown at rbrown6115@verizon.net. This is another step we are taking to help preserve God's Creation.

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're approved. If you are interested in volunteering or finding out more information, please 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 SAFETY PROTOCOL: At the recommendation of the Haddonfield Police Department, beginning Sunday, May 6, the playground entrance door and the office entrance door will be locked between 10:20 AM and 10:50 AM. If you need to leave the building during worship, please re-enter the building using the ADA-accessible ramp door that faces the Masonic Temple, or the front door of the church. This schedule may be adjusted later in May as we relocate to the Fellowship Hall for summer worship. Thank you for your cooperation.



Are you ready to take the next step and become a member of First Presbyterian Church? Would you like to learn more about who we are and what we're about? Then join our upcoming **New Member Class**. For four Wednesdays at 7:00 PM between May 15 and June 5, we'll meet online to talk about God's call, what is unique about Presbyterian beliefs and practices, and where you fit in here. To register, use the QR code or go to: <https://bit.ly/3PXwESO>



Register your children today for VBS! Volunteer today for VBS! At "Camp Firelight" our campers will explore timeless Bible stories that show how Old and New Testament "campers" trusted God in the face of their own fears and went on to do great things in God's name. Use the QR code to the left or go to: <https://bit.ly/3VOSIYP>.

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.

True SUSTAINABILITY is the goal for EARTH DAY and Everyday! Come to the Bean Parlor after worship for *freebies* to help you *be part of the solution in your everyday life*. There will also be updated info on the NJ Green Amendment and your state legislators' contact info so you can write letters, send emails or make phone calls in support of moving the bill forward. If you are not on-line or have difficulty writing, volunteers will assist you. Every person has a right to a clean and healthy environment including pure water and clean air. For more information go to the Social Justice page on the church website.

Save the date: The Ice Cream Social is Friday May 10th 6:30-8:30. Come to Fellowship Hall for Ice Cream Sundaes and all the trimmings! Save your applause for the best Music in the Land by Peter Leibensperger with the 1st Presbyterian Choir and Guests. Tickets will be available for purchase starting this Sunday after worship in the parlor.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 04/14/24: 178 in person and 29 online.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Pledge Giving:	215,359	Budget: 460,000
Non-pledge giving:	31,212	Budget: 160,000
Per Capita:	5,895	Budget: 11,000
Loose:	5,513	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 (4/21/24)

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 **Eleanor** who was recently diagnosed with cancer (4/15-D. Stedman)
- Continue in prayer for **Jessica Devietro** who is living with cancer (4/15-L. Sommers)
- Pray for the family and friends of **Chris Welch** who died April 17 after a serious automobile accident (4/17-D. Haynor).
- Pray for **Kathy Clifford**, a Presby Preschool teacher, who underwent surgery last week (4/9 - pastors).
- Continue in prayer for our **Stephen Ministers and their Care Receivers** (4/9-pastors)
- Continue in prayer for **Branson** as he studies abroad (4/6-pastors)
- Please keep **Patrick and his family** in your prayers (4/5- pastors)
- Please be in prayer for **Connie** who has been in the hospital since January. Pray for her recovery and healing (4/4-D. Stedman)
- 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**)
 - Prayers of thanksgiving for **John Hinkle, Sr.**, a friend of **Laura** and **Marvin Lindsay**, whose bladder cancer appears to be contained and treatable (**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**)

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor - 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
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