



First Presbyterian Church
of Metuchen

Where God's Love Welcomes All



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN

VISION

To be an inclusive, connected, and loving community mobilized to serve Jesus Christ.

MISSION

We are a welcoming and diverse congregation that serves God by improving the spiritual, mental and physical well-being of people in our community and beyond through worship, education, fellowship, music, and mission outreach.

November 21, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

This worship service is being media cast on Facebook Live.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN

270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840

November 21, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

Senior Pastor and Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry
Interim Associate Pastor: Rev. Ashley Bair
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Robert A. Beringer
Minister of Music: Brenda Day
Director for Christian Education: Nancy Leardi
Seminarian Intern: Kristy Woodrow

ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD

**Please stand if you are able.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE “Outbursts of Joy” Concord Ringers Cynthia Dobrinski
Directed by Elaine Hansen

WELCOME/ TIDINGS Rev. Ashley Bair

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?

My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, “Where is your God?”

These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:

how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

People: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts;

All your waves and your billows have gone over me.

**By day the Lord commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.**

*HYMN #336 “We Gather Together”

Kremser

*OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION – *Unison*

Rev. Ashley Bair

We give you thanks for all the blessings and the showers of mercy; we give you thanks for the days we share together and gather as one. Remove the strife and worry that rends us apart; heal the sores we conceal within our heart. Let compassion guide our way, and forgiveness be at hand; so we may walk together, and help each other stand. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*HYMN #581 – “Glory Be to the Father”

Gloria Patri

ANTHEM “Look at the World”

Junior Choir, Westminster Choir, Senior Choir

John Rutter

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Piano: Elaine Hansen, Director: Brenda Day

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

Jennifer Thompson

Nursery care is provided for infants and toddlers (under the age of 2) in Room 107 of the Education Building. Sunday School classes for children from 2 years through Grade 4 begin following the Children's Message. Grades 5 through 12 remain in worship.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 78: 1-8 Seminarian Intern Kristy Woodrow
This is the Word of the Lord . . . Thanks be to God.

Hymn #36 "For the Fruit of All Creation" Ar Hydy Nos
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SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 13: 31-35
This is the Word of the Lord . . . Thanks be to God.

SERMON "A Positive Appeal" Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

SETTLING OF THE WORD

*HYMN #654 "In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful" In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful
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*PASSING OF THE PEACE Seminarian Intern Kristy Woodrow
The Peace of Christ be with you . . . And also with you.

*DOXOLOGY Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 let us not fall into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*HYMN #37 "Let All Things Now Living" Ash Grove

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Rev. Ashley Bair

*POSTLUDE "Now Thank We All Our God" Organ: Brenda Day Paul Manz

***Please stand if you are able.**

*Flowers in the Sanctuary are given by Grace Hammesfahr
in loving memory of Mom and Dad Hammesfahr.*

*Flowers in the Narthex are donated by the Coffill, Burr and Cackowski families
in loving memory of Helen's Mom, Lynne.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

(New Revised Standard Version)

Psalm 78: 1-8

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,

³ things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

⁴ We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

⁵ He established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children;⁶ that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,⁷ so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;

⁸ and that they should not be like their ancestors, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.

SCRIPTURE READER: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

PEOPLE: *Thanks be to God.*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

(New Revised Standard Version)

Matthew 13: 31-35

³¹ He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

³³ He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

³⁴ Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing.

³⁵This was to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet:

'I will open my mouth to speak in parables;

I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world.'

SCRIPTURE READER: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

PEOPLE: *Thanks be to God.*

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HYMNS FOR NOVEMBER 21, 2021 WORSHIP

#336 WE GATHER TOGETHER

1 We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

2 Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!

3 We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

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#36 FOR THE FRUIT OF ALL CREATION

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God;
For the gifts of every nation, thanks be to God;
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
Thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will be done;
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will be done;
In our world-wide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God;
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God;
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.

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#654 IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;
lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

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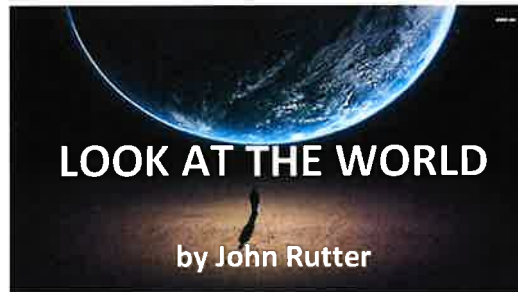
#37 LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise;
Who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
By guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us,
pure light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
Till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness
banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses,
The sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
The depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a song let us raise,
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, Hosanna and praise!"

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November 21, 2021 | Anthem



Look at the world, everything all around us:
Look at the world, and marvel every day.
Look at the world: so many joys and wonders,
So many miracles along our way.

Refrain:

Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation,
Give us thankful hearts, that we may see:
All the gifts we share, and every blessing,
All things come of thee.

Look at the earth bringing forth fruit and flower;
Look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain;
Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains,
Valley and flowing river, field and plain. **(Refrain)**

Think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer
Bringing the harvest before the winter's cold.
Everything grows, everything has a season,
Till it is gathered to the Father's fold: **(Refrain)**

Every good gift, all that we need and cherish
Comes from the Lord in token of his love;
We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty;
His is the earth, and His the heavens above: **(Refrain)**

OUR WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

The First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen, NJ has adopted a policy that is in compliance with the enactment of the Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) agreeing that a member has the right to have his/her health and personal information kept private and secure. This means that an individual must give permission to have his/her name publicly shared with the congregation. PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE – 732-491-2300 to add a person to the prayer list. Persons requested to be on the prayer list will remain for one month and then be removed. If you wish to have a loved one on the prayer list for a longer time, please contact Vicky Lacson (vlacson@fpcweb.org) in the Church Office.

Jackson Alcantara (grandson of Lori Nielsen)

*Kathy Barboe

Alex Bertelsen (grandson of Agnes Bertelsen)

Meghann (granddaughter of Agnes Bertelsen)

Meghann (great granddaughter of Agnes Bertelsen)

*Nancy Blomn-Kipnis

Emily Gorsky Bonanno (*Wendy Kukowski's friend*)

Casper & Helen Boehm (*Patty Blake's parents*)

Judy Coffey (mother of Tracy Donahue)

*Arnold Csipo

Lucy Aileen Corbalis (mother of Niall Corbalis)

*Beverly Cummings

Diane (friend of Brennans)

*Mary Kay Dangremond

Myron DeFranco (friend of the Garry's)

Lisa De La Fuente (friend of the Kozo/Mollison family)

*Tracy Donahue

Cliff Dunham (Susan's husband)

*Laura Fischer

Hank Frank, Jr. (Deb Teall's partner)

Ed Garlock (husband of Laura Smith Garlock)

Jaci Giammattei (friend of Mike Draper)

Lane Gibson (friend of Bill Nann)

Joseph Hale (son of Matt and Laura)

Grace Howe (*daughter of Grace Hammesfahr*)

Leslie Jolissant (friend of Margo Gunsser)

*Ruth Knoll

*Gil Kutcher

*Bill Marquard

Michael

John Milone (son of Jane Milone)

Judy Orr (sister of Rob Orr)

Patton Family

*Joanne Raison

Jack Redshaw (father of Matt Redshaw)

Matthew Reed (friend of the Gunsser family)

Rhonesia (*friend of Ingrid Hammond*)

Erika Roell (*friend of Ruth Endicott*)

Deanna Rogers (cousin of Dawn Adam)

Yehuda Rosenstock (friend of Ed and Jane Meyer)

Karen Smith (*Marnie Smith's daughter in law*)

*Betty Sussick

*Chris Van Pelt

Jerry Varga (*Sue Harmon's uncle*)

Virginia West (friend of June Keehbler)

*Lynn Hendricks Wong

*Doris Younken

Names highlighted in boldface recently added

*Members of the church

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

MSgt. David Hansen, USAF (*son of Elaine Hansen*)

EM3 Cody Harmon, U.S. Navy, Hawaii (*Sue Harmon's nephew*)

CPL Edward Leitner, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve (*Sue Harmon's cousin*)

MC3 Kevin Leitner, U.S. Navy, San Diego, CA (*Sue Harmon's cousin*)

Lt. Krista Marquard, U.S. Public Health Service, Lawrence, KS (*Bill & Susan Marquard's daughter-in-law*)

Major Matthew McQueeney, Pilot, USAF – Lakenheath AFB, UK (*son/stepson of Amy & Pete Bellisano*)

*Andre Pangkerego, U.S. Navy – U.S.S. Philippine Sea (*son of Meity Peleh*)

LT John Alexander Petr, U. S. Navy, San Diego, CA (*Pennix Family friend*)

CPT Julia Harris Switzer, MD USAF (*granddaughter of Grace Hammesfahr*)

*CPT Bradley Shaver, U. S. Army – Ft. Riley, KS (*brother/son of Greg and Julie Walton Shaver*)

First Class Mason Weingarten, Coast Guard (*Bill & Susan Marquard's grandnephew*)



Presbytery of The Coastlands

617 Hope Chapel Rd.
Lakewood, NJ 08701

November 11, 2021

Greetings to the Members of the First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen,

As Acting Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of the Coastlands, part of my role is to interpret the polity of the denomination for congregations. Often such interpretations arise in difficult moments.

On July 26th I received notification that a written allegation of misconduct against Rev. Justin Karmann was expected, which I received on July 28th. This allegation prompted actions required under the denomination's Rules of Discipline. Because Rev. Karmann is a minister member of the Reformed Church of America (RCA), I informed his Stated Clerk, as that denomination has the responsibility for the judicial process in this case.

I know this is a difficult situation in the life of your congregation. The members of your session requested that I come to Metuchen on November 21st at 5pm, to address the polity and process for allegations of misconduct. Because the RCA judicial process is ongoing, there will be no information to share about the case itself.

This is an informal gathering. While I may not be able answer all of your questions, I am ready to relate the steps that are being taken.

I look forward to seeing you on November 21st.

Peace and blessings,

Rev. Sue Smith
Acting Stated Clerk

First Presbyterian Church
270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen, NJ
November 21, 2021 Son-Day Paper

Church Office: 732-491-2300
Church Website: www.fpcweb.org
<http://www.facebook.com/FPCMetuchen>

THIS WEEK

Check out www.fpcweb.org and our Facebook page
<http://www.facebook.com/FPCMetuchen> for upcoming events.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Church office closed on Thursday and Friday this week.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Worship Service – Sanctuary and Virtual. 9:30 a.m.
After-worship Refreshments – Session Room. . . 10:30 a.m.
Indonesian Fellowship Worship Service – Sanctuary - Noon
Informal Gathering with the Presbytery Acting Stated Clerk Rev. Sue Smith – Auditorium 5:00 p.m.
We have an opportunity to hear from the Presbytery and understand the polity of the denomination’s Rules of Discipline for the alleged misconduct received. While the judicial process is still ongoing, we have Rev. Smith who will try to answer your questions and relate the next steps. We invite you to join us.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Mission Volunteer Night – Auditorium 7:00 p.m.
DBSA Support Group – Chapel 7:30 – 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Jubilee Choir – Sanctuary Front Porch - . . . 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.
AA Support Group – Chapel. 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Gospel Stories Bible Study – PW Lounge/Zoom 10:30 a.m.
College Youth Get-Together – Youth Lounge. . . 6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Church office closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Church office closed in observance of Thanksgiving.



PASTORAL CARE: If you or someone you know needs our support, or is in the hospital, please feel free to contact Rev. Fred Garry at (315)771-3590 or Rev. Ashley Bair at (989) 859-2083. You can usually reach someone at the church office Monday to Friday between 8:00 a.m. till 4:30 p.m. by calling (732) 491-2300.

COMING SOON

- Dec. 6 Horizon Study – PW Lounge/Zoom -7:00 pm
- Dec. 7 Deacons Meeting – Dining Rm/Zoom–7:30pm
- Dec. 8 Study on the Rise of the Gothic Cathedrals
PW Lounge and Zoom – 7:00 pm

Treasurer’s Two Cents

Offerings & Gifts Received November 14

2021 Pledge	\$ 5,708
Non-Pledge	\$ 285
Cash	\$ 125
Special Offerings	\$ 100
Special Funds	\$ 345

TOTAL: \$ 6,563

Other Receipts: \$370 (Parking, Flowers, Youth)

Here are ways to continue with your offerings.

Direct Cash or check on the plate are always welcome!

Online Please click here to donate now:

<https://tinyurl.com/y8ffksu4>

Text to Text only the amount (no dollar sign) of your

Donate giving to : **732-479-8245** and follow the prompts to complete.

Give+ App From your App store, download and use the app “Give+Church”

Thank you for your generous support!

REMINDERS ABOUT OUR CHURCH POLICY ON ATTENDING WORSHIP SERVICES IN-PERSON:

1. Register as you enter the Narthex.
2. Wear and keep your masks on.
3. Maintain social distance.
4. If you are immunocompromised and prefer a stricter socially distanced space, you may request to be seated in the balcony. There is limited seating so please call the church office to reserve.

Your Church Staff and Leadership are committed to providing a safe environment during Covid. Thank you for your cooperation.

First Presbyterian Church
270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen, NJ
November 21, 2021 Son-Day Paper

Church Office: 732-491-2300
Church Website: www.fpcweb.org
<http://www.facebook.com/FPCMetuchen>



Mr. Tom Yakowenko will bring the story this Lego Sunday and will guide the children in bringing the story and the lessons to life using their Legos.

November 22nd
Monday
7:00 – 8:30 pm
Social Center



We are packing Thanksgiving baskets for our Food Pantry clients. ALL ARE WELCOME, even kids!! (Kids under 10 years need to have an adult companion.) It will be a busy night of service and fellowship! See you!



November 24, Wednesday
@ 6 pm in the Youth Lounge

Wally Cook and the Youth Leaders are hosting a get-together for our college aged youth here on their Thanksgiving break. Food and beverage will be provided. Hope you can make it!



A Weekly Pastoral Bible Study
On the Teachings of Jesus
Wednesdays @10:30 a.m.
in the PW Lounge and by Zoom
With Rev. Fred Garry

Can't make it in person? Join by Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84711673419>
Use Meeting ID: 847 1167 3419

HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY



*What My Grandmothers
Taught Me*

December 6, Monday
7:00 p.m.

In the PW Lounge and by Zoom

Learn from the women in Matthew's genealogy of Jesus. **ALL congregants are invited!**

This month's lesson is Lesson 3 about Rahab, with Scripture: Joshua 2, 6: 22-25. Access the lesson from our website.

<https://fpcmetuchen.org/ministries/presbyterian-women/>

Call, text or email to sign up for one lesson or all!

Deb Teall: 908.917.3990 | debteall@optonline.net



**BE AN ANGEL FOR SOMEONE
THIS CHRISTMAS !!**

The Advent Angel Trees are up! Please check them out in the Narthex and in the foyer of the Social Center. Select your angel and get a head start with shopping for the recipients of our Advent Angel Tree! Take advantage of Good Friday specials to get more bang for your bucks! Best of all, spread love and cheer this Christmas season!



Once again, we want to come together and bring to our community the hope in Christ's birth. We have non-speaking parts for our young children to be sheep, shepherds, and angels, and speaking parts for older children as townspeople, innkeepers or as narrators. Adult volunteers are also needed to help with the management and set-up of the pageant.

To sign up your child or to volunteer, please email:

fpcpageant@fpcweb.org

No later than December 1

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **December 1**

Deadline to sign up by email for the pageant. Please include names and ages of participants.

- **December 12 / 10:45 am – 11:30 am**
Rehearsal/Costumes
- **December 19 / 10:45 am – 11:30 am**
Dress Rehearsal
- **December 24 / 3:15 pm**
Report for show; 4:00 pm SHOWTIME



**FAITH AT HOME FOR ADVENT
Paper Chain
Advent Calendar**

The purpose of Advent is to prepare our hearts for the birth of our Lord. Does your family have a favorite way of counting down the days of Advent?

Here's a fun and easy craft to teach Advent.

Everything you need to create your family's paper chain will be provided in a kit. This Faith at home kit is ready for pick up. Call Nancy Leardi to reserve your kit today.

Say It with Flowers!

**Sanctuary flowers
needed for:
December 19 and
December 26**



We invite you to help brighten our Sunday worship by filling in the need for the dates above. Whether you're honoring the memory of a loved one, celebrating a milestone or just feeling grateful, ***say it with flowers!*** Please let us know which date you want to donate:

Dec. 19 - 1 arrangement Dec. 26 - 2 arrangements
Each floral arrangement cost \$25. You may donate 1 or 2 floral arrangements, as you wish. Thank you!
Contact Deb Teall:(908)9173990 debteall@optonline.net

**Let's support our
very own Girl Scout!**



Our Senior youth, Veronica Lijeron, has been a Girl Scout with Troop 80612 for 12 years. Inspired by her years of participation in the 30-Hour Famine, Veronica seeks to use her Gold Award project to benefit local food insecure families create meals that are both affordable and nutritious. She invites her church family to partner with her in her project of printing recipe books for each FPC Food Pantry family. If you would like to support this worthy project, you may send in cash or check donations throughout November to the church office with the memo, "Food Pantry Recipes." For more information or if you have questions, contact: veronica.m.lijeron@gmail.com