



# First Presbyterian Church

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost  
November 5, 2023, 10:00 AM

## GATHERING

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

**Prelude** Wir danken dir, Herr Jesu Christ - Dietrich Buxtehude Lucas Brown, organ

### Opening Sentences

**One:** O come, let us sing to the Lord and shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

**All:** Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving, singing joyful songs of praise.

**One:** What shall we return to the Lord for all the good things God has done for us?

**All:** We will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

**\*Hymn #515** "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

### **\*Invitation to Experience God's Grace (Romans 5:8, Hebrews 4:16)**

**One:** The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

### **\*Laying Down Our Burdens**

**All:** Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God.

Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

### **\*Silent Prayer**

### **\*Declaration of Forgiveness (1 Timothy 1:15, 1 Peter 2:24)**

**One:** Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

**All:** He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

**One:** I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**All:** Thanks be to God! Amen.

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

### **\*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.**

One: Let us greet one another with signs of Christ's peace

**Chapel Choir** "Wade in the Water" arr. Max V. Exner

### **Time with the Children**

### **Celebrating the Life of the Church**

### **Stewardship Testimony**

## **THE WORD**

### **Prayer for Illumination:**

**All: Blessed Lord, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **Scripture Reading**

Joshua 3:7-17

<sup>7</sup>The Lord said to Joshua, "This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, so that they may know that I will be with you as I was with Moses. <sup>8</sup>You are the one who shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, 'When you come to the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.'" <sup>9</sup>Joshua then said to the Israelites, "Draw near and hear the words of the Lord your God." <sup>10</sup>Joshua said, "By this you shall know that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites: <sup>11</sup>the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is going to pass before you into the Jordan. <sup>12</sup>So now select twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. <sup>13</sup>When the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan flowing from above shall be cut off; they shall stand in a single heap."

<sup>14</sup>When the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, the priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people. <sup>15</sup>Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the edge of the water, <sup>16</sup>the waters flowing from above stood still, rising up in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing toward the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea, were wholly cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho. <sup>17</sup>While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan.

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"How Do We Get to the Other Side?" Rev. Marvin Lindsay

\*We Affirm our Faith

"The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)," pp. 14 in The Presbyterian Hymnal

## GIVE THANKS

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



Offertory: "River in Judea" arr. John Leavitt, Chancel Choir

\* Doxology #592 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

\* Prayer of Dedication

### The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.**

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth, with joy we praise you and give thanks to your name...

Therefore we lift our hearts in joyful praise, joining our voices with choirs of angels, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Hymn #552**

We praise you, most holy God, for sending your only Son to live among us, sharing our joy and sorrow...

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Hymn #553**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine...

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, forever and ever.

**Hymn #554**

The Lord's Prayer (p. 16)

Breaking of Bread

Communion of the People

Amen

## LEAVE TO SERVE

**Hymn #505** "Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread"

### Charge and Benediction

Choral Amen, Chancel Choir

**Sending Music** Fugue in D - Johann Pachelbel  
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 loving memory of Chris Mahoney and her magnificent apple pies by Betsy Westerneier.

**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.



## WORSHIP NOTES

### "Wade in the Water"

An African-American spiritual, "Wade in the Water" can reflect two separate occurrences in history when people had been enslaved and were seeking freedom. The lyrics of "Wade in the Water" reference the Biblical story of the Israelites crossing the river Jordan. The lyrics also reminded freedom-seeking African-Americans to walk in the rivers along their underground railroad journey, so that tracking dogs and slave-catchers could not follow their footprints or their scent. Thus, "Wade in the Water" is not just a song, but a beacon of hope and resilience in the face of adversity. --Bud Miller

"Wade in the Water" Chapel Choir Duets:

Nickolas Adkins and James Gushue: "See that band all dressed in white!"

Mikey Hall and Matty Hall: "The leader looks like the Israelite."

James Gushue and Ellie Murphy: "See that band all dressed in red!"

George Brannon and Owen McGovern: "It must be the band that Moses led."

† 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 the QR code 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.



Lyrics to "River in Judea" arr. John Leavitt:

Oftentimes I dream of music,  
Of the river that freely flows.  
And it sings a song sweeter than honey,  
One everybody knows.  
Late at night, I hear it singing.  
Then again when I wake at dawn.  
And it fills me up with hope and goodwill,  
The will to go on.

*There is a river in Judea  
That I heard of long ago.  
And it's a singing, ringing river  
That my soul cries out to know.*  
May the time not be too distant  
When we meet by the river shore.  
'Til then dream of that wonderful day  
As we sing once more:

## NEWS AND EVENTS

**Got an extra 2024 calendar?** The prison ministry is accepting donations. Please drop off at the main office.

**NEW BIBLE STUDY:** Join us on Zoom at 7:00 PM on Wednesdays from **November 1 through November 15** as we read and discuss a sample of scripture passages related to violence and peacemaking.

- November 1: Crime, war, and peace in select Old Testament passages (Exodus 21:12-27, Deuteronomy 20, Isaiah 2:2-4)
- November 8: Loving enemies – Jesus's Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:38-48)
- November 15: Vengeance is mine (and the government's?) – the Apostle Paul on revenge and respect for authority (Romans 12:14 – 13:10).

To register and get the Zoom link use the QR code:



**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 sign-up 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](mailto: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** meets for lunch on November 14 at noon at the Legacy Diner on the White Horse Pike. Our November study is online, November 7 at 7 p.m. 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](mailto:debranussbaum1987@gmail.com).

**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](http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/presbyterian-women).

**SAVE THE DATE: The Advent Festival will be Sunday, December 3rd from 11am - 1pm:** We are changing things up and having the festival after church, but the format will be the same...soup, sandwiches, desserts and crafts. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Cheryl Tarditi: [cheryltarditi@gmail.com](mailto:cheryltarditi@gmail.com).

### JUSTICE AND ADVOCACY

- **VOTE YOUR FAITH!** - Go to [lwvccnj.org](http://lwvccnj.org) or [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org) to compare what the candidates said about important issues when invited by the non-partisan League of Women Voters. Discover our denomination's positions on important issues at [votervoice.net/mobile/PC\(USA\)/home](http://votervoice.net/mobile/PC(USA)/home)
- **LET'S TALK! Be Part of the Solution!** Join our Justice and Advocacy Committee on **Sunday, November 12th at 9am** in the Hospitality Center for our last in-person meeting of 2023. How can we be effective advocates for God's people in 2024?
- **EMBRACING RACE - The Conversation meets Thursday, 11/9, 7pm** at First Baptist Church of Collingswood church hall, 23 Frazer Ave, Collingswood. Please join us in rolling up our sleeves to explore what we can do to support diversity in our communities. For more info, contact [embracing.race.conversation@gmail.com](mailto:embracing.race.conversation@gmail.com) or call (856) 986-9556.
- **HELP PROTECT POLLINATORS as you prepare for winter!** Go to the Social Justice page on the church website to find tips to help bees survive until spring.

**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](mailto:ElonMail@yahoo.com) or Bonnie Manskopf at [BonnieManskopf@yahoo.com](mailto:BonnieManskopf@yahoo.com).

**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](mailto:jmfiorella@gmail.com) or Marsha Reed at [marsbarr83@gmail.com](mailto:marsbarr83@gmail.com) if you are interested.

**CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CLASS** - *Our 34<sup>th</sup> 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 5th and 19th

**November 12: Joseph of Arimathea: The Secret Disciple.** Joseph of Arimathea was a highly visible, distinguished member of the Sanhedrin, the Jewish council led by the high priests. The seventy-one members of the Sanhedrin were the wealthiest and most powerful men of Jerusalem and the surrounding region. Matthew calls Joseph rich, a fact which is verified by his ownership of a tomb carved in the rocks. And he was a secret follower of Jesus. Today his feast day is August 31 (formerly March 17), and he is patron saint of undertakers. Joseph is also, in legend, an uncle of Jesus, a visitor to Britain, and associated with the Holy Grail.

**FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN:** On Friday, November 17 and Saturday, November 18, 2023, the Haddonfield Council of Churches will host a food-packing event at Haddonfield Middle School. Volunteers of all ages will pack a combination of soy, rice, dehydrated vegetables, vitamins and minerals to be sent to children in developing nations who are suffering from starvation and malnutrition. Scan the code to sign up to pack and/or donate here.



**MISSION GRATITUDE:** \$10,579 and 2,239. What do these numbers mean? They reflect the Thanksgiving generosity of this congregation over more than 20 years, expressed in cash and frozen turkeys! Once again, on **November 19th beginning at 9:00 am until noon**, we will be in the parking lot, whatever the weather, collecting frozen turkeys and cash donations to aid Your Food Shelf (a Presbyterian based and funded food pantry). Please remember to drive carefully when entering the parking lot.

**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 10/29/23:** 170 in person and 7 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:	\$ 481,559.00	\$ 570,270.00
Loose Offering:	\$ 8,677.00	\$ 12,000.00
Per Capita:	\$ 9,321.00	\$ 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 victims, family members, friends, and all first responders of and for the mass shooting in Lewiston, Maine. Lord Have Mercy and hear our prayer.*
- Pray for the people, government, and country of **Ukraine** as war continues.
- Pray for a just and peaceful resolution to the **Israeli-Palestinian** conflict.
- The Nussbaums ask for prayers for family friends **Lynn, Yair, Daniela, Omri, Emily and Dean, Miriam, Aron and family** who are in Israel and some are hoping to get their children to America for safety (11/2).
- 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)
- Please be with the **family and friends of Susan Blackwood** as they grieve for their dear, Susan, as she has been embraced in heaven by our Lord and Savior (10/15-C. Carty)



- Please pray for **Linda's brother Roy** as he continues chemotherapy treatments for cancer (10/10-L. O'Neill)
- 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 (10/10-T. Adkins)
- Please pray for **Jeff** who is living with cancer, and pray also for his wife **Wanda** (10/9-Seddon family)
- Please pray for **Tai-Nisha's freedom and her children's safety** (10/6-G. Ladies)
- Please pray for **Michele's family, all the ladies at the Camden County Jail**, and pray for **Michele's enemies** that they will find their way (10/6-G. Ladies)
- Pray for **Morgan and her two daughters, Willow and Ivy**, that they are protected and safe. Pray also for her sister **Ellen** that she would be set free from addiction (10/6-G. Ladies)
- Pray that **Carlie** will be released from jail, and that she and her fiance John have a peaceful rest of their lives together. Pray also for **John's health** (10/6-G. Ladies).
- Please pray that **Summer** will be released to her children: Lucas, Jonah, Genesis and Jordan (10/6-G. Ladies).
- Pray for **Enza** to be back with her daughter Adline (10/6-G. Ladies).
- Pray for **Tamiyah** that she will be reunited with her children and overcome the current situation. Give her strength, guidance and healing (10/6-G. Ladies)
- Please pray for physical and mental healing for **Raj** (10/4-R. Prasad)
- Continue in prayer for **Isabel Pross** as she continues cancer treatment (10/4-pastors)
- Pray for the **family and friends of Asher Barkan**, who passed suddenly. He is missed (10/4-N. Passante)
- Please keep **Connie Reeves** and her family in your prayers as they grieve the sudden death of John, son, father, and brother (10/2-C. Carty)
- Pray for **Ginny and the entire Ritchie family** on the death of Al (10/1-pastors)
- Pray for **the family of Luke Watson** who passed suddenly. Luke was a freshman at Rowan and a 2023 graduate from Haddon Township (9/28-T. Adkins)
- Keep **Nancy** in your prayers as she continues cancer treatments (9/27-C. Carty)
- Please pray for **Jean Yount**, her medical team, and her family (9/27-C. Yount)

### Make Your Pledge Online:



### CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor and Head of Staff - [mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org)  
 The Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante, Associate Pastor - [npassante@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:npassante@haddonfieldpres.org)  
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