



# First Presbyterian Church

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

Fifth Sunday of Eastertide  
April 28, 10:00 AM

## GATHERING

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

**Prelude-** Prelude on ST. COLUMBA - Franklin D. Ashdown ~ Lucas Brown, Organ

### Opening Sentences

One: We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

**All: for we are the church of Jesus Christ!**

One: We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

**All: opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!**

**\*Hymn** #366 "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"

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

One: When we come before God, we remember and proclaim who God is: merciful, just, holy, and loving. We must also remember who we are, and we are a people who have not always been the people God has called us to be. We have not always been merciful, just, holy or loving. So let us confess our sin, trusting in God's goodness to forgive us and create us anew for our lives ahead.

### \*Laying Down Our Burdens

**All: Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it. Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone. Amen.**

### \*Silent Prayer

### Declaration of Forgiveness

One: Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations. The old life is gone, thank God! A new life has begun. Know you are forgiven, and be at peace.

**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.

**Cherub and Carol Choirs** ~ "We Are The Church" by Richard Avery and Donald Marsh

**The Baptism of Kiran Neal Kassee and the Children's Message**

**Celebrating the Life of the Church**

## **THE WORD**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

**All:** Gracious God, may your Holy Spirit open our hearts and minds to your words of love and grace this day. Amen.

**Scripture Reading:** 1 John 4:7-21

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us.

13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. 15 God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 16 So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. **17** Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. **18** There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. **19** We love because he first loved us. **20** Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. **21** The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon ~ "What Is Love?" Rev. Marvin Lindsay

## GIVE THANKS

### Prayers of the People

#### 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.**



#### Practicing Abundant Generosity

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

† Offertory: Chancel Choir: "O Love"- Elaine Hagenberg.

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

\* Prayer of Dedication

## LEAVE TO SERVE

\*Hymn #335 "Though I May Speak"

Charge and Benediction ~ Choral Amen, Chancel Choir

Sending Music ~ Prelude and Fugue in F major, BWV 556 - J.S. Bach ~ 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 all our PreK - 2nd Graders who participated in choirs this year!

**Cherub Choir:** Brennan "ChiChi" Andriunas, Lucy Bonnette, Laura Catral-Bjorklund, John Farrow, Evie Feld, Lici Geiger, Madelyn Guiffre, Evelyn Kelly, Addisyn Kent, Julian Lombardi, Olivia McPherson, Rose Rao, Olivia Saidel, Taline Schmidt, Dom Silva, and Brooklyn Still.

**THANK YOU to Julie Guiffre**, who assisted with the Cherub choir this year.

**Carol Choir:** Charlotte Barclay, Carson Boyce, William "Chip" Bradford, Linda Ding, Annabelle Donegan, and Allie Hall.

**Special thanks to the accompanist for our Carol and Cherub Choirs, Liz Olson**, who also volunteered with our Whitechapel Bells!

**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 Victor and Dorothy Westermeier, given by their daughters Betsy Westermeier and Vicky Malthamer. If you would like to place a live flower arrangement in the sanctuary, please contact Diane Thorne at [dthorne31@comcast.net](mailto: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.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**Christian Heritage Class for April 28:** The Holy City and the Dream of Zion: The Earthly Jerusalem and its Heavenly Counterpart "*The Mountain of the House of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills.*" Isaiah 2:2 The greatest world significance of Jerusalem "consists in the conviction that the fulfillment of history depends on the fateful transformation of the earthly Jerusalem into a screen onto which over-powering millennial fantasies can be projected. The *end of history* is conceived variously by the monotheistic religions: For Jews it is the *arrival* of the Messiah (at the Golden Gate). For Christians it is the *return* of the Messiah – and the subsequent battle of Armageddon when angelic forces vanquish those of Satan Jerusalem as it sits on its hill takes on a transcendent place in the imagination as the "earthly reflection of heaven" – but it is a "heaven" that casts a notable shadow on the earth

**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>.

**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. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

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.

**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE** 04/21/24: 141 in person and 26 online.

#### **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Pledge Giving:	219,942	Budget: 460,000
Non-pledge giving:	32,916	Budget: 160,000
Per Capita:	5,972	Budget: 11,000
Loose:	5,714	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.
- Pray for **Pat Lindsay**, Marvin's mother, who underwent surgery to repair a hernia on April 21 (**4/22- M. Lindsay**).
- Pray for **Ken Carter** as he helps his wife **Debbie** through her last stage of Parkinsons and Dementia (**4/22- Lorna Klimas**)
- Prayers for **Margie** for healing of her chronic pain (**4/22-R. Kouhoupt**)

- Pray that all will go well for **Dan**, who is having a health procedure next month (4/19-J. Metz)
- Continue in prayer for **Scott** on the challenging road to sobriety (4/19-P. Urian)
- 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 **Chris Welch** who is in the hospital recovering from a serious automobile accident (4/14-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)
- **A Note of Thanks**. To all who were so kind and cooked and delivered meals to me when I came home from the hospital - thank you so much! It was very helpful to have delicious food to eat while I was recuperating. I feel blessed to be a part of such a caring congregation. Sincerely, **Peggy Shannon**

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor - [mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org)  
The Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante, Associate Pastor - [npassante@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:npassante@haddonfieldpres.org)  
Peter Leibensperger, Minister of Music - [pleibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:pleibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org)  
Lucas Brown, Principal Organist - [lbrown@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:lbrown@haddonfieldpres.org)  
Nancy Ruth Wainwright, Director of Children's Choirs - [nancyruthw@comcast.net](mailto:nancyruthw@comcast.net)  
Marisa McGovern, Preschool Director - [preschool@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:preschool@haddonfieldpres.org)  
Kris Bean, Business Manager - [kbean@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:kbean@haddonfieldpres.org)  
Travis Bogetti, Building Manager - [tbogetti@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:tbogetti@haddonfieldpres.org)  
Kyrylo Chastukhin, Sunday Caretaker



**First Presbyterian Church**  
OF HADDONFIELD

(856) 429-1960 [www.haddonfieldpres.org](http://www.haddonfieldpres.org)



**STEPHEN**  
MINISTRY