UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**MARCH 17TH, 2019**

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Yardville, NJ 08620

(609) 585 – 5770

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**WELCOME**

You have come to hear the Word of God, and you shall hear it read and preached. We hope that by hearing it, you will also meet the Word of God, the Living Word, Jesus, Our Savior. And we pray that you will leave our church equipped to serve him more faithfully and effectively.

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY**

March 17th, 2019

PRELUDE “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” arr. R. Powell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER HYMN “Wait For the Lord” Jacques Berthier

Wait for the Lord whose day is near,

Wait for the Lord,

Keep watch, take heart.

**WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Today, God comes to us, to gather us in worship

**All: To wait in silence for the Word, to sit at the Table of grace.**

Leader: Tomorrow, the Word of God comes, calling us to go forth to serve:

**All: to bring hope to those who have none, to love all tossed aside by indifference.**

Leader: The next day, and the next day, the Holy Spirit will come:

**All: so we might discover the gift of peace, and offer it to our broken world.**

\*HYMN “Be Thou My Vision” #339

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Offered a feast at grace’s table, God of the covenant, we choose to gorge ourselves on the empty calories of greed. Invited to live in your house, we move into death’s fear-infested boarding house. Though you promise to be with us, we toss you aside, chasing after those who will abandon us at the first chance. But you will not let the foxes of foolishness devour us, God who Mothers us. You will gather us under the shelter of your love. You do so in order to give us that peace which heals us, that wonder which surprises us, and that faith which enables us to let go of the present to walk into the covenant of grace made possible through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God does not abandon us. Like a border collie, God gathers us up, leading us to that shelter of love and life.

**All: Today, tomorrow, and the next day, God’s grace rests upon us and gives us hope and mercy. Thanks be to God! We are forgiven. Amen.**

\*GIVE GLORY TO GOD “Give Glory to the Father” #577

**Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,**

**World without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,**

**World without end. Amen.**

**Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Leader: May the words of my mouth

**All: and the meditations of our hearts,**

Leader: give us a message for today.

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: GENESIS 15:1-12, 17-18**

1After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, ‘Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.’ 2But Abram said, ‘O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?’ 3And Abram said, ‘You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.’ 4But the word of the Lord came to him, ‘This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.’ 5He brought him outside and said, ‘Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.’ Then he said to him, ‘So shall your descendants be.’ 6And he believed the Lord; and the Lord [\*](javascript:void(0);)reckoned it to him as righteousness. 7Then he said to him, ‘I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.’ 8But he said, ‘O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?’ 9He said to him, ‘Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.’ 10He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. 11And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. 12As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

17When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. 18On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, ‘To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.

ANTHEM “Great is Thy Faithfulness” W. Runyan

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: LUKE 13:31-35**

31At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, ‘Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.’ 32He said to them, ‘Go and tell that fox for me,[\*](javascript:void(0);) “Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. 33Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem.” 34Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 35See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when[\*](javascript:void(0);) you say, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.”’

**SERMON**

Rev. Alice Batcher

MOMENT FOR QUIET REFLECTION

\*HYMN “This is the Day the Lord Has Made” #230

*(Joys and concerns may be written on the pew cards and given to the ushers during this hymn. They will be shared during the prayers of the people, unless you mark them confidential.)*

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostle’s Creed

***I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and Earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the* *dead.* *I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

**Incline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy Peace.**

**WE PRESENT TO GOD OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY “From My Heart, I Will Hold You Dear, O Lord” B. Schmid

\*WE GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;**

**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Praise him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\*PRAYER TO DEDICATE OUR GIFTS

\*HYMN “God of Grace and God of Glory” #420

**WE RECEIVE GOD’S BLESSING**

POSTLUDE: “Postlude” R. Perdew

\*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND

**TODAYS FLOWERS** June Helsel *In Memory of Raymond Helsel*

**GREETERS & USHERS** Pat Anthony & Soam Chhedi

**UPCOMING EVENTS** Mar 10th – Mar 17th

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sun 3/17** | **Mon 3/18** | **Tue 3/19** | **Wed 3/20** | **Thurs 3/21** | **Fri 3/22** | **Sat 3/23** | **Sun 3/24** |
| **9:30am**-Adult Sunday School  **9:30am**-E3 Worship  **11am-**Worship Service | **12pm-** A/A  **8pm-** N/A | **12pm-** A/A |  | **6:30pm**- Girl Sct Trp70015  **7:30**- Cantata Choir Rehearsal  **8pm**- A/A | **6pm-**Boy Sct Den #5  **8pm-** A/A | **10am-**Chuch clean up day  **7pm**- A/A | **9:30am-** Adult Sunday School  **9:30am-**E3 Worship  **11am-**Worship Service |

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Pam & Dan Rose

Jim Davis – Kidney Issues

Jim – Home from rehab

Donna

John

Glen – recovery from surgery

Terri’s Sister – Healing

Howard – Fell and broke collarbone

Jim – Knee replacement surgery

Audrey – suffered a stroke

**THE EASTER CANTATA** The Easter cantata ‘Christ Above All’ will be presented during worship on Palm Sunday (April 14th) at the 11 a.m. worship service.  This cantata integrates well known praise and worship songs with a scriptural retelling of Christ’s last days on earth.  All are welcome to join the choir for this presentation; weekly rehearsals are held on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

**THE SPRING GIFT CARD CAMPAIGN** will begin on March 10 and end on March 31.  Place your orders for the Easter Holiday keeping in mind you can obviously order gift cards as gifts but also order for your personal use, i.e.; groceries. You get face value of purchase and UPC gets a rebate.

Order forms are available in the Narthex.  Karl Peterson, cell 609-306-7868

**MOLD REMOVAL**: On Sat. March 23 at 10:00 AM the Session is having a sorting/ organizing/ discarding day for the contents of our basement in preparation for Mold Remediation work. We must clear out the entire basement in order for the work to begin. All hands on deck! Anyone who can help out that day in ANY way please just show up!

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

We are called by Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to celebrate

And share the love of God with grace and joy. Gracefully and joyfully we seek to share our gifts in the community through: Open Doors, Diverse Worship, Innovative Education, Creative Mission, and Dynamic Service.

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

You are invited to make a commitment to follow Jesus Christ as Lord of Life, or to renew your commitment as a Christian Disciple. Please speak to the pastor who will talk and pray with you. If you are looking for a church home we invite you to join this family of faith and service. This is a caring congregation, open to all. Please let us know we can serve you.

**CHURCH STAFF**

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Pastors Emeriti: Rev. Terry E. Fouse, Rev. John H. Milne, Rev. Jean B. Pinto

Organist/Choir Director: Marilyn Machmer

Church Secretary: Katlin Briggs

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Prayer Requests Daytime: Church office Tel. (609) 585-5770

Evening: Joyce Vaughn Tel. (609) 915-3733

If you would like to make a written contribution to our worship bulletin, please forward same to the church office no later than Monday @ 12 noon. Thank you.