

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

And he was
transfigured

before them, and *his face*

shone like the sun.

and his clothes became
dazzling white.

Matthew 17:2

12 Yardville-Hamilton Square Road

Yardville, NJ 08620

(609) 585-5770

(609) 585-5674 fax



www.upcnj.org

March 2, 2014

WELCOME

Welcome! You have come to hear the Word of God, and you shall hear it read and preached. But we hope that by hearing it, you will also meet the Word of God, the Living Word, Jesus, our Master and 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 2, 2014

PRELUDE "Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior" arr. Broughton

PRAYER HYMN "Christ of the Upward Way" 344

*Christ of the upward way, my guide divine,
Where You have set Your feet may I place mine;
And move and march wherever You have trod,
Keeping face forward up the hill of God.*

WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather as the faithful of God,
we come to listen to what God has to say to us.

**People: God has invited us to this place;
may our faces reflect our hopes and our hearts.**

Leader: We gather as the faithful of God,
people of the new covenant of hope and promise.

**People: We boldly enter into the presence of God,
hoping to be transformed into new people.**

Leader: We gather as the faithful of God,
our fears melting away in the heart of God.

**People: We come to share in the freedom of the Spirit,
we come to praise God's holy name.**

*HYMN "Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory" 73

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We may not actively conspire against you, Glory and Grace, but we do make those conscious choices which draw us away from you. We fear ridicule from neighbors and co-workers, and so do not mention who you are in our lives. We want to walk your path,

but find ourselves going down a rabbit trail which leads to trouble. We find it so easy to listen to the seductive words of our culture, but have trouble hearing your whispers of hope and healing.

Forgive us, Revealer of mystery and wonder. Call us to that discipleship that is found on mountaintops in your presence, and in the valleys where we serve others in your name. As people of faith, we would not stay here, but follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, into every place which longs for your glory and your grace, your strength as well as your gentleness. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GIVE GLORY TO GOD

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell” 220
*All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell,
Come ye before Him and rejoice.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE LESSON

Pg. 1026

Colossians 1:15-23a

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; 16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

21 And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 22 he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him— 23 provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven.

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

“On the Mountaintop with Christ”

Rev. Jean Pinto

17 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. 2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. 3 Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4 Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” 5 While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” 6 When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. 7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” 8 And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

SERMON

“The Power of Sonlight”

Rev. Jean Pinto

MOMENT FOR QUIET REFLECTION

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—The Apostles’ 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.

WE PRESENT TO GOD OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“Shall We Gather at the River”

arr. Livingston

*WE GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO GOD

(tune # 455)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise Him above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*PRAYER TO DEDICATE OUR GIFTS

O God, sometimes it takes a mountaintop experience before we can see how tightly clenched our hands have been, or how hardened our hearts have become. Open us to be generous instruments of your love throughout the world, for the glory of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

*COMMUNION HYMN “Deck Yourself, My Soul, with Gladness” 506
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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYER

People: Holy, holy, holy are you, God of wonder.

All creation gathers to praise you.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who receives honor and glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

PRAYER

People: Christ died, coming to the end of life;

Christ rose, coming with the bright sun of the resurrection;

Christ will come, so we may be God's beloved children.

PRAYER AND 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.*

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE ACT OF COMMUNION

THE BREAD (Please hold the bread until all are served)

THE CUP (Please hold the cup until all are served)

COMMUNION PRAYER

We thank you, Gracious God, for providing spiritual nourishment through your Word, and in this holy meal of bread and wine. This meal, as no other, fills us, renews us, convicts and sustains us in our quest to further your kingdom. Fortified by the Spirit, may we faithfully serve you and our neighbors as you have served us in Christ. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*HYMN

“Jesus on the Mountain Peak”

74

WE RECEIVE GOD’S BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Go in peace, go in love, finding joy in each other.

Go in peace, go in love, in Christ we’re sister and brother.

Led by His Spirit, there’s strength each day,

Light for the way together.

Go in peace, go in love, may God be with you forever.

Edelweiss

POSTLUDE

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

arr. Birchwood

*Those who are able may stand.

The flowers today are given by Megan Gadsby in memory of Carol Metzger.

Greeters and Ushers:

Liturgist:

UPCOMING EVENTS March 2nd – March 9th

Sunday—March 2nd:

9:30 am E3 Communion Worship

9:45 am Adult Bible Study

10:15 am Coffee Hour

11:00 am Traditional Communion Worship

Tuesday—March 4th:

10:00 am UPW Circle Meeting

Wednesday—March 5th: 7:00 pm Education Committee
 6:00 pm Soup and Bread Supper
 7:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday—March 6th: 10:00 am TASK
 7:30 pm Choir-Cantata Rehearsal
Sunday—March 9th: 9:30 am E3 Worship
 9:45 am Adult Bible Study
 11:00 am Traditional Worship
 6:00 pm Youth Group

There are large print bulletins available. Please see an usher if you need this service.

Looking for a change in the new year? The **Adult Sunday School** offers the opportunity for learning about some Old and New Testament subjects and church history over the past 1000 years as well as fellowship and coffee. We hope to see you on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am.

Topic	Dates	Teacher
First Corinthians, One In Christ	Mar 2 - May 18	
	Mar 2, 9, 16, 23	Curly Rentner
	Mar 30, Apr 6, 13, 20	Peggy Ayres
	Apr 27, May 4, 11, 18	Tony Nami

We will have our traditional Soup and Bread Supper on Ash Wednesday, March 5th at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. The service of imposition of ashes will be held at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary. There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall to let us know how many will be coming to the Soup and Bread Supper.

Easter Cantata Choir Rehearsals began Thurs. Feb. 13th. The choir began rehearsals on the Easter cantata “In His Hands” on Thursday, Feb. 13th at 7:30 in the sanctuary. The cantata will be presented on Palm Sunday, April 13, 2014. There will be a dress rehearsal on Sat., April 5th at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend; this cantata speaks powerfully to believer and unbeliever alike.

The Outreach Ministry is collecting gloves and scarves for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen. During the last visit to TASK the team found a special need for gloves and scarves due to the very cold weather this area has experienced this winter. There is a very short span of time to collect these items so we are requesting that they be dropped off no later than Mar. 2nd in a box that will be provided in the back of the sanctuary. If you have any questions please feel free to call Tom Zeyack at 838-1256 or Benita Rommel at 585-1583. The Outreach Ministry Team thanks you in advance for your generosity in helping those in need.

The United Presbyterian Women will have their monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 4th in the Bertolet Lounge. We will be studying, Hagar from our book, "Women of the Bible." We will begin with our usual time of fellowship and coffee and follow our Bible study with a business meeting. After our meeting, whoever can, will go to lunch together at a local restaurant. All women are welcome. We would love to have you join us!

The Survivors Senior Group will meet at the North Star Vets (Veterinary Emergency Trauma & Specialty Center), in Robbinsville, NJ on March 12th at 11:00 a.m. for a tour of their facility. It is located at 315 Robbinsville-Allentown Road, Robbinsville. Following our tour we will enjoy lunch at Iccara's in Yardville. Please contact Rita Peterson at 259-7256 or email ritapete@optonline.net if you plan to attend or should need a ride. All seniors of the church and their friends are welcome to join the Survivors for a wonderful tour of this state of the art animal hospital and a delicious lunch and fellowship.

The United Presbyterian Men's Group will have a breakfast meeting on March 15th at 9:00 am at the Golden Dawn Diner, Whitehorse-Mercerville Road, Hamilton. This will be a Dutch treat event. Come join us for the fellowship and spiritual uplifting as we continue to share ways of socializing and serving our church. A sign up sheet is in Fellowship Hall and must be completed by March 9th. For more information, contact Jim Dixon, 609-298-3398 or e-mail jdixonsr@comcast.net.

THE WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB will meet March 25th (the last Tues. of the month) at 7:00 pm in the Bertolet Lounge. We will be discussing THE UNLIKELY PILGRIMAGE OF HAROLD FRY by Rachel Joyce.

Our mission focus for the month of March is the Monmouth Presbytery. All of the contributions received for Mission this month will support the work being done by the Presbytery. Please give generously.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Healing of Ralph Giordano (St. Lawrence Rehab); Lew Thorn (recovering at home); Mary Rittenhouse (RWJ Hospital); Louise; Angela; Cyndy; Bryan; John; Tony; Karla; Walter; Pam Rose; Bob; Lois; and Gene LaMonica (chemo).

Comfort for the bereaved families and friends of Robert Ruch; Virginia Brooks; and the Haywood Family.

Joy and thanksgiving for 2 birthdays on the same day – Peg Ayres' nephew Gerard (28th), and Peg's dog Truman (3rd).

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](#)
[Dynamic Service](#)

CHURCH STAFF

Ministers: All the members of the Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Jean B. Pinto (737-8011) jeanbpinto@comcast.net

Pastors Emeriti: Rev. Terry E. Fouse and Rev. John H. Milne

Organist: Michael Mraz

Choir Director: Marilyn Machmer

Church Secretary: Betty Reinert

Prayer Chain: Daytime: Carol Heberling (298-2594); Betty Reinert (585-5770)

Evening: Gail Fouse (585-3248); Joyce Vaughn (888-1187)

OUR CONGREGATION IN MISSION

Because of your stewardship commitment, the United Presbyterian Church is supporting the ministries of:

- ❖ The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) through Monmouth Presbytery; the Synod of the Northeast, and the General Assembly.
- ❖ Mobile Meals of Hamilton Township
- ❖ Princeton Theological Seminary Scholarship Fund
- ❖ Trenton Area Habitat for Humanity
- ❖ Trenton Area Rescue Mission
- ❖ Presbyterian Camp at Johnsonburg
- ❖ Trenton Area Soup Kitchen
- ❖ Pierson Memorial Food Bank
- ❖ Womanspace
- ❖ Homefront
- ❖ Trenton Area Campus Ministries