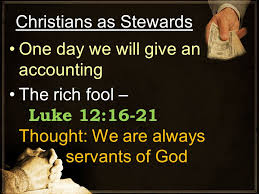
***UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH*** 

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[***www.upcnj.org***](http://www.upcnj.org)***.***

***April 15, 2018***

## 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

## April 15, 2018

PRELUDE “Healer of Our Every Ill” J. Honore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER HYMN “Seek Ye First” 333

Seek ye first the kingdom of God

And His righteousness

And all these things shall be added unto you.

Allelu, alleluia!

**WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God gathered them out of the lands; from the east and from the west,

from the north, and from the south.  
 People: They were hungry and thirsty; their spirits languished within them.

Leader: In their trouble they cried to the Lord, who delivered them from their distress.  
 People: For God satisfied the thirsty and filled the hungry with good things.

All: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good, whose mercy endures forever!

\*HYMN “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending” 422

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, it is so easy to want our share, to get all we can. Sometimes in the getting and wanting, we lose sight of you, O God. We think we need so much — that new car, a new suit, a new stereo or the latest smart phone. In all this accumulation, we just have more things. Today, all around our neighborhoods, families go hungry. More and more children go to bed hungry each night. Help us, Lord, help us to see beyond ourselves and our wants. Help us to look to the needs of others above our own; in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*GIVE GLORY TO GOD“Glory Be 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

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON II Kings 23:1-13

**1** Then the king directed that all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem should be gathered to him. **2** The king went up to the house of the Lord, and with him went all the people of Judah, all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests, the prophets, and all the people, both small and great; he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant that had been found in the house of the Lord. **3** The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to follow the Lord, keeping his commandments, his decrees, and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. All the people joined in the covenant. **4** The king commanded the high priest Hilkiah, the priests of the second order, and the guardians of the threshold, to bring out of the temple of the Lord all the vessels made for Baal, for Asherah, and for all the host of heaven; he burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron, and carried their ashes to Bethel. **5** He deposed the idolatrous priests whom the kings of Judah had ordained to make offerings in the high places at the cities of Judah and around Jerusalem; those also who made offerings to Baal, to the sun, the moon, the constellations, and all the host of the heavens. **6** He brought out the image of Asherah from the house of the Lord, outside Jerusalem, to the Wadi Kidron, burned it at the Wadi Kidron, beat it to dust and threw the dust of it upon the graves of the common people.

**7** He broke down the houses of the male temple prostitutes that were in the house of the Lord, where the women did weaving for Asherah. **8** He brought all the priests out of the towns of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had made offerings, from Geba to Beer-sheba; he broke down the high places of the gates that were at the entrance of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on the left at the gate of the city.

**9** The priests of the high places, however, did not come up to the altar of the Lord in Jerusalem, but ate unleavened bread among their kindred. **10** He defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of Ben-hinnom, so that no one would make a son or a daughter pass through fire as an offering to Molech. **11** He removed the horses that the kings of Judah had dedicated to the sun, at the entrance to the house of the Lord, by the chamber of the eunuch Nathan-melech, which was in the precincts; then he burned the chariots of the sun with fire. **12** The altars on the roof of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars that Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the Lord, he pulled down from there and broke in pieces, and threw the rubble into the Wadi Kidron. **13** The king defiled the high places that were east of Jerusalem, to the south of the Mount of Destruction, which King Solomon of Israel had built for Astarte the abomination of the Sidonians, for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.

CHILDREN’S SERMON “Too Much of a Good Thing” Rev. Jean B. Pinto

ANTHEM “Jesus Loves Me” Bradbury/arr. McGlohon

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Luke 12:16-21

**16** Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. **17** And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' **18** Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. **19** And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'

**20** But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' **21** So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

SERMON “Cleaning Out Your Closet”Rev. Jean B. Pinto

MOMENT FOR QUIET REFLECTION

\*HYMN “Jesus, Priceless Treasure” 365

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 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Christ the Lord Is Risen Again” J.G. Walther

\*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 Lord, giver of life and source of freedom, we know that all we have received is from your hand. Gracious and Loving Father, you call us to be stewards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us to always use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Send the Holy Spirit to work through us, bringing your message to those we serve. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our lives. We pray with grateful hearts, in Jesus' name. Amen.

\*HYMN “Take My Life” 391

POSTLUDE “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High!” J.G. Walther

\*WE RECEIVE GOD’S BLESSING

Liturgist: Bob Conner

Flowers: Given By Jean Malloy in Memory of her mother, Mildred Chumney.

Greeters & Ushers: Joyce Vaughn & Ginny Demeter

***UPCOMING EVENTS April 15th – April 22nd***

**Sunday—April 15th    9:30 amE3 Worship Service**

**9:30 am Adult Sunday School**

**11:00 am Traditional Worship Service**

**6:00 pm Youth Group**

**7:00 pm Boy Scouts**

**Monday- April 16th 12:00 pm AA**

**8:00 pm NA**

**Tuesday- April 17th 12:00 pm AA**

**7:00pm Session**

**7:00 pm Boy Scouts**

**Wednesday-April 18th  6:45 pm Bear Cub Scouts**

**7:00 pm AA Thursday—April 19th 6:30 pm Trenton State Prison Team Meeting**

**7:30 pm Choir**

**8:00 pm AA**

**Friday------April 20th  8:00 pm AA**

**Saturday---April 21st 9:00 am Girl Scouts**

**9:00 am UPMen @ Golden Dawn Diner**

**1:00 pm Nick Alpeza Eagle Scout Ceremony**

**Sunday— April 22nd 9:30 am Adult Sunday School**

**9:30 am E3 Worship**

**11:00 am Traditional Worship Service**

**6:00 pm Youth Group**

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

**UPMen –** will be meeting Saturday April 21st at the Golden Dawn Diner 9:00 am. The diner is located on Whitehorse-Mercerville Road, Hamilton Twp., NJ. Any questions, please contact Jim Dixon phone 609-298-3398 or email [jdixonsr@comcast.net](mailto:jdixonsr@comcast.net). There might even be an egg or more left by the rabbit for all to enjoy! Come and enjoy friendship and fellowship!

**The Women's Book Club** - The Women's Book Club will meet Tuesday evening, April 24th at

7:00 pm in the Bertolet Lounge.  We will be discussing Susan Vreeland's book, LUNCHEON of the BOATING PARTY. The story brings Renoir's painting to life with the telling of the lives of the characters in the picture.  We learn of their loves, losses, and triumphs in the luscious landscape of Paris in the 19th century. All women of the church and their friends who enjoy good books and good fellowship are encouraged to join us.

**UPW** - will have its meeting on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall. A discussion of Chapter 5 entitled “What Are You Chasing?” of the new book Discovering God's Will For Your Life by Sheila Walsh will take place during this meeting. All women of the church are cordially invited to join! After the meeting that is done at Noon, those women who would like to go for lunch are invited to go to a local restaurant

**ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH**! Please mark your calendars! You will be singing an anthem on Sunday, May 13th – Mother’s Day. It will be “In the Garden” with CD accompaniment. (Based on the familiar hymn) There will be a rehearsal after the 11 am service on May 6th for about 15 minutes. It will be beautiful! Come join in song! We will also go through this anthem on Sunday, May 13th at 10:30am before service.

**Survivors** - will meet in UPC’s parking lot at 10:30 am on May 10, 20187 for Brunch at Pandora Diner in Mt. Holly, and then proceed to the Smithville Mansion Complex for a tour. This industrial complex was fueled by water power and through the years was home to industries like calico printing, and wood working (foundry) machinery If you plan to attend make your reservation with Rita Peterson 259-7256 or email [ritapete@optonline.net](mailto:ritapete@optonline.net).  All seniors of the church and their friends are welcome to join the Survivors for an interesting tour and wonderful lunch with much fellowship.

**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**](http://www.upcnj.org/opendoors.htm)

[**Diverse Worship**](http://www.upcnj.org/worship.htm)

[**Innovative Education**](http://www.upcnj.org/education-nurture.htm)

[**Creative Mission**](http://www.upcnj.org/mission.htm) **Dynamic Service**

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Healing** – for all those ill with cancer, undergoing surgery as well as treatment for cancer including Laura Burdge & Betsy Holderried; Sally Bailey – breast cancer; Sylvia – return of cancer; Carl – bladder cancer; Livia – diagnosed with Stage 4 colon cancer; Carol & Al D’Amico; John Demeter; Lenny; Dan Rose; Mathew Johnson; Pam Rose; Scott Rose; John Borak; Sue Fleming; Bud; Margaret Archibald’s Niece – Fiona suffering from rectal cancer; a family member of the LaCrosse family suffering from Crohn’s Disease, her children’s needs as well as help with insurance coverage for treatment; Mike McHugh; for those awaiting test results; Mr. & Mrs. Walter who are both in failing health ,as well as strength/support for their family members; John – recovering from surgery/rehab; Linda Ramos; for those in hospital, or, having surgery and in recuperation – including Helen McKeins; Jaden – surgery on foot; Barb – fell at home badly bruising herself; Linda Tadlock – suffering from complications from MS & is in the hospital: Reva Rinehart; Lew Rogers – heart; Jenna Ciambelluca; Ruth Zeyack – heart; Debbie Krevor - leg; Brian – hospitalized with a broken neck and back; Mr. Hrabcheck – recovering from pneumonia; Mike – recovering from back surgery; Girja Singh – hospitalized with pulmonary edema; Matt Machin; Charlie – hospitalized with kidney failure; Colton Thibodeau – continued healing and happily home; Fred – heart issues recuperating as well as also home; Crystal Purvis; Dave Carle – suffered another fall also support for Helen and the Carle family; Rosemary Bateham – suffering from Alzheimer’s and moved to a nursing home in Monmouth Junction; Karen Machin’s niece Donna; for those in need of improved health including Frank & Marilyn Kostar; Karen & Keith Ezzo; Tom Gardecki (surgery) – and Family; Susan Anthony; Dot Brocaloni; Walt; John; Lisa; Danny & Emily approaching their due date; Tom; Tony; Carl, friends of the LaCrosse family suffering from depression; those having personal problems like Paul McHugh; Carly Mauer; French family – reconciliation; those suffering emotionally. Gary Scott – comes to know Jesus.

**Thanksgiving:** Carolyn Reynolds home from rehab

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
* Pearson Memorial Food Bank
* Womanspace
* Homefront

**CHURCH STAFF**

Ministers: All the Members of the Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Jean B. Pinto (737-8011) [jeanbpinto@gmail.com](mailto:jeanbpinto@gmail.com)

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

Organist: Marilyn Machmer

Choir Director: Michael Mraz

Church Secretary: Michael Mraz

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

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