

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY

CELEBRATION OF THE GIFTS OF WOMEN

March 10, 2019 at 10:00am

First Sunday of Lent

We Gather Around God's Word

We invite you to please enter quietly during the Prelude and prepare for the service to begin.

Prelude

*"Adoration" by Florence B. Price
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist*

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Chris Kile

Introit

Chancel Choir, Alison R. Nead, Directing

***Call to Worship**

Mackenzie Cruz and Carina Hechevarria

Leader: We gather to worship God, for God is good.

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: We gather to worship God, for God has called us, God's own people,
and has given us gifts to be a faithful people.

All: We remember that God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Let us now offer worthy worship to God,

All: whose steadfast love endures forever.

****Hymn of Gathering #469 "Morning Has Broken"***

We Are Called to Confession and Reconciliation- Mackenzie Cruz and Carina Hechevarria
Loving and merciful God, you have searched us and known us and still you love us. We confess that we take this love and mercy for granted; we are careless with our gifts and resources, and we refuse to focus on you and your will for all creation. You call us to lead with love but we are reluctant leaders or we lead with only rules and efficiency in mind. Grant us, O God, caring hearts, attentive minds and renewed commitment to follow you and to help lead others to you and so we now pray and offer our silent confession...

Congregational Response

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Assurance of Reconciliation and Passing of the Peace

Rev. Joanne Miller

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

****We Give Glory to God (raising hands)***

Glory be to the Father

And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end, Amen, Amen.*

We Proclaim God's Word

Prayer For Illumination

Mackenzie Cruz and Carina Hechevarria

Gracious God, as we prepare to hear your word to us, quiet other voices that would draw us away from attentive listening and faithful responding. Grant us new understanding and insights to help us follow you more faithfully. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 15:7-11 (O.T. pg. 215)

M.Cruz and C.Hechevarria

Children's Message

Rev. Chris Kile

Child care for infants to 2 ½ year olds will be held in the Nursery on the first floor across from Thomson Youth Center. Children in Pre-K should go directly to their classroom. Children in grades K through 8 will be dismissed to the Chapel then go to their regular Sunday School rooms.

Women's Ensemble

"You Raise Me Up with Be Still My Soul"
Alison Ruth Nead, Directing

New Testament Reading: Matthew 26:6-13 (N.T. pg. 36)

Rev. Joanne Miller

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: "Extravagant Love"

Rev. Joanne Miller

We Respond to God's Word

****Hymn of Response #87 "The Glory of These Forty Days"***

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Joanne Miller

Minute For Mission

Kevin Murphy

We Worship With Our Offerings

Call For Offering

Amy Aaroe

Offertory

*"As the Deer" by Susan Caudill
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist*

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CRANFORD**

11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

Phone (908) 276-8440

www.firstprescranford.org



Extravagant

Love

**Doxology*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, Ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen*

**Prayer of Dedication*

Rev. Chris Kile

**Hymn of Sending #84 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"*

Benediction

Postlude

Rev. Joanne Miller

Robert Grube, Jr.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

The Ministers of the First Presbyterian Church, Cranford NJ:

The Entire Congregation of FPCC

Pastor and Head of Staff – Rev. John Christian Kile

Music Director – Alison R. Nead

Assistant Music Director – Elsa G. Hahn

Organist – Robert Grube, Jr.

Administrative Coordinator – Carol Thee

Sunday School Coordinator – Beth Marshall

Mission statement - As the body of Christ empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek to live God's Word and inspire others to embrace Jesus' commandment to love one another as the Lord loves us.

Prayers of the Church Family

Pray for those in the FPCC Family facing health challenges and the loss of family members.

Pray for loved ones and friends of the FPCC Family.

We pray for people all over the world who are seeking asylum or a better life for themselves and their families. We pray that as a nation, we respond to all people in need in a way that Christ would affirm. We specifically pray for children and parents separated at the border and for their quick reunification.

We pray for the youth of FPCC and the adults who are in their lives. Prayers for peace, understanding and love for all.

Please ask for God's daily blessing for all in need, for those serving in the military, especially for Shane Deacy and family on his deployment, for married couples facing turmoil, first responders, those in leadership of our nation, and for peace in our country and the world.

Emergency and immediate prayer support is available! Join over 200 people on the First Presbyterian Church Prayer Chain by receiving emails and adding people to your prayer list. To add someone, contact Linda Thorn at lindathorn427@gmail.com, at 908 358 8127, fill out the Prayer Request in the pew or call the office at 908-276-8440.



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TO REACH THE PASTOR – Pastor Chris Kile can be reached via cell phone at 215-933-8805 or at jckile@firstprescranford.org. Pastor Chris' office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30am to 2:30pm or by appointment.

TODAY

WELCOME! Today we welcome Rev. Joanne Miller. Joanne has been a member of Newton Presbytery since 1985. She was the Associate Minister at the Presbyterian Church on the Green in Morristown for 15 years. Currently she is a Pastoral Counselor and a New Jersey State Certified Psychoanalyst at Grace Counseling Center in Madison.

MINUTE FOR MISSION - Today we welcome Kevin Murphy, representing Operation Chillout, an organization that is supported by the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford through the Service and Mission benevolence fund.

Operation Chillout is an all-volunteer outreach dedicated to ending to the crisis of homelessness for men and women veterans throughout New Jersey by:

- Promoting awareness of the multi-faceted nature of poverty and homelessness.
- Advocating for sustainable solutions and programs serving the needs of the poor, addicted, abused and homeless to improve the quality of their lives leading to permanent change and independent living.
- Organizing for peace and economic justice to address systemic inequities challenging impoverished communities.
- Engaging in direct compassionate action including the collection, dissemination and delivery of supplies to homeless people and the agencies that provide for their temporary care.

Operation Chillout was founded in December 2000 to help a group of homeless Viet Nam veterans living in the open under a railroad trestle in Northern NJ and became a registered 501 C3 non-profit in 2011. They provide emergency supplies and survival gear to the most vulnerable members of our communities and bring care to all homeless people without regard to their religious affiliation, ethnic heritage or state of life.

FLOWERS – The flowers today are given in loving memory of a husband and sister.

PRAYER AND INSPIRATION TREE – Many of us grew up assuming that Lent was a time to give up something as a sacrifice to please God. In truth, we focus on building our spiritual life, on becoming more connected with God and the world in which we live. We focus on growing new relationships and sometimes mending broken ones. We focus on our gifts and how they may be used to impact the Kingdom of God on earth. We focus on our connection to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit that we may serve the Lord fully.

With this in mind, we offer you prayer that you may cultivate your thoughts for the season. That you may pray for those needing God. That we may see our Prayer Tree blossom with new life each week and be a tribute to God’s power and love and our need for God in our lives. If you have questions, see Karin Burk.

LOOKING AHEAD

SAVE THE DATES! There are several upcoming events. They are:

March 16 at 7pm – Game Night in Thomson Youth Center

April 6 – Progressive Dinner – Contact Marge Nicholls if you would like to host dinner at your house

Watch for details in future bulletins!

COME CELEBRATE! On Sunday March 24th FPCC will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Cranford-Elmora Soup Kitchen. A special service is being planned and we hope that everyone will come to help us celebrate the first 30 years.

NICARAGUA - On March 31, Skip Winter will be reporting on his recent mission trip to Nicaragua. His presentation will include highlights of the trip featuring details of the various organizations that are supported, discussion of current political, economic problems and social problems in the country and future opportunities to serve. The presentation will be held in the Thompson Youth Center at 11:30am immediately following the conclusion of morning worship.

JOURNEY TO WHOLENESS – HEALING THE GRIEVING HEART –The next seminar will begin on April 28th and will run for eight weeks. It will be facilitated by Patti Williams and Virginia Waters. Sessions will be held from 6:30pm to 8:30pm in the Prime Time Room. To register call Patti at 9089-709-1341.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: LOVE GROWS BY GIVING – 2019 BIRTHDAY OFFERING - What does it mean to support the mission of the church worldwide? For Presbyterian Women, it means that we respond to God’s love for us by offering our many gifts to ensure wholeness for all. Standing alongside the PC(USA) and our ecumenical partners, we bring Christ’s love to the world through thought mission and ministry. From knitting a baby’s hat, leading a Bible study, participating in a community-building relationship, to offering financial support through the annual BIRTHDAY OFFERING, we are engaged and passionate in all we do to make this world a better place.

Your gifts to the PW 2019 Birthday Offering will ensure that PW will continue to make God’s world a place of hospitality and abundance for God’s people. Love grows by giving. Visit www.presbyterianwomen.org for how to donate. Or using a pew envelope today, please put in your donation and mark the envelope “PW.” Make a check out to “PW FPCC.” Thank you for your generosity.

THIS WEEK AT FPCC

Sunday, March 10th - Gifts of Women Sunday

Daylight Saving Time Begins	
8:30 am Bible Explorers	Board Room
10:00 am Worship – Chapter 27	Sanctuary
11:00 am Fellowship	Thomson Youth Center
11:15 am Deacons	Board Room
6:30 pm Grief Support	

Monday, March 11th

6:00 pm Elder Training	Board Room
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Tuesday, March 12th

6:00 pm Operation Warm Heart	Alliance Church
7:00 pm Children and Youth	Thomson Youth Center

Wednesday, March 13th

6:30 am Men’s Prayer Breakfast	Rustic Mill Diner
7:30 pm Personnel	Church Office
7:30 pm Trustees	Board Room

Thursday, March 14th

3:30 pm Caroler Choir	Choir Room
4:30 pm Crusader Choir	Choir Room
6:30 pm Jubilee Bell Choir	Choir Room
7:30 pm Chancel Choir	Choir Room

Saturday, March 16th

8:00 am Women’s Breakfast Bible Study and Prayer	Thomson Youth Center
7:00 pm Game Night	Thomson Youth Center

Sunday, March 17th

8:30 am Bible Explorers	Board Room
10:00 am Worship	Sanctuary
11:30 am Fellowship	Thomson Youth Center
1:00 pm Soup Kitchen Team #1	
6:30 pm Grief Seminar Ends	