

# A SERVICE OF WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY

July 13, 2014 at 8:30 am and 10:00am

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

## *We Gather Around God's Word*

*Prelude*

*Robert Grube, Jr. Organist*

### **\*Call to Worship**

Kris Farley and Tina Hechevarria

Leader: God has abundantly cast seeds of the words of Scripture and the faith of your people upon us.

People: **May we be fruitful soil for the planting and growing of love, hope and peace.**

All: **Come let us worship God with gratitude and joy.**

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

*Bunessan*

### **Prayer of Adoration and Confession (unison)**

Lord, forgive us when we doubt your faithfulness and love. We sometimes blame you when things don't go our way. We forget that you are with us always standing beside us in our pain and struggles. We are so caught up in the busyness of our everyday lives, and the efforts of getting all that we think we need, that we often forget to turn to you for guidance and wisdom. We have trouble waiting for you to answer our prayers and often don't trust your "still small voice within". It is difficult for us to believe that we can be fruitful, good soil for your words and work, and sometimes cast off your seeds for our own desires. Remind us again of the power of your love in the teachings of your Son. Hear us as we lift up the prayers of confession that remain silent in our hearts...

### **Congregational Response**

*Iverson*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

Rev. Liz Alexander

### **\*We Give Glory to God (holding hands)**

*Gloria Patri*

*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.*

### Announcements

Rev. Liz Alexander

Please fill out the Friendship Pad completely and legibly, pass it along and return it to its starting point. Be sure the page is dated.

### *Special Music*

*"Aria*

*J.S. Bach*

*Joanne Ply, Trumpet, Robert Grube, Organ*

### Children's Message/A Time for Children

Rev. Liz Alexander

Child care for infants to 5 year olds will be held in the Nursery on the first floor across from Thomson Youth Center.

## *We Proclaim God's Word*

### **Prayer for Illumination (unison)**

Kris Farley and Tina Hechevarria

**Open our hearts and minds, O God, by your Spirit, that we may hear with refreshed hearts and renewed minds your Word prepared for us this day. Through Christ, the Living Word, we pray. Amen.**

Scripture: Isaiah 55:10-11 (O.T. pg. 839)

Kris Farley and Tina Hechevarria

Matthew 13:1-2, 18-23 (N.T. pg. 16)

Rev. Liz Alexander

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Message: "Good Soil"

## *We Respond to God's Word*

### **Hymn of Response #339 "Be Thou My Vision"**

*Slane*

### We Worship With Our Offerings

*Offertory*

*Robert Grube, Jr. Organist*

### **\*Doxology**

*Old Hundredth*

*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. Liz Alexander

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving, Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

*\*Hymn of Sending (Tune of "The Church's One Foundation")  
"Christ Taught Us of a Farmer"*

*Aurelia*

Christ taught us of a farmer who went out sowing seeds.  
A few had trouble growing among the rocks and weeds.  
But others grew till harvest in soil that was so good.  
O God, you sow the gospel: The seed is your own word.  
You sowed your word of love here so many years ago.\*  
Your message found a welcome; your word began to grow.  
By grace, this church was built here by saints who followed you.  
The seed took root and flourished: we hear and follow, too.  
We thank you for each member who lives in loving ways,  
For those who seek to serve you without expecting praise.  
For hearts and songs uplifted, for work and sacrifice.  
The seed you planted grows here: we grow in Jesus Christ.  
In times of joy we praise you, in struggling times we search,  
And always we are learning to be your faithful church.  
Your Spirit gives us vision, and hearts and lives made new.  
Your harvest is for sharing: sent out, we work for you.

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Benediction  
Postlude

**Go In Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!  
Christ Changing Lives**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF  
CRANFORD**

11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016  
Phone (908) 276-8440  
[www.firstprescranford.org](http://www.firstprescranford.org)



*The Parable  
of the Sower*

Pastor and Head of Staff – Rev. John Christian Kile  
Associate Pastor – Rev. Liz Alexander  
Director of Christian Education – Mary E. Beckhusen, C.C.E.  
Music Director – Alison R. Nead  
Assistant Music Director – Elsa G. Hahn  
Organist – Robert Grube, Jr.  
Administrative Coordinator – Carol Thee

# Dedication Plaque Order Form

*Honoring and Remembering the Special People in Our Lives*

We all have people who have made an impact on us during our lives. These are the ones who have touched our hearts, guided us in our faith journey and encouraged us in our personal growth. We remember them and honor them.

Just as these people have a permanent place in our memories and hearts, they can now always be remembered in our church. First Presbyterian Church is offering you the opportunity to purchase brass dedication plaques that will be permanently installed on the backs of the pews in our beautiful sanctuary. The names of the special people will be in front of all who worship with us as a reminder of the faithfulness and love others bring to our lives.

These brass dedication plaques are 1 inch by 3 inches and may contain up to 3 lines of dedication text appropriate for display in the sanctuary. Plaques are \$150 each and are available for ordering now. These plaques will be available in the future so you can continue to honor those you love. The proceeds from each plaque purchased will support the on-going ministry and programs of First Presbyterian Church.

If you are interested in placing an order for one or more plaques, fill out the order form below and return it to the church office with a check for the full amount of your order. Suggestions for dedication may include: "Dedicated to the Glory of God by...", "In Memory of..." or "in Honor of..." (baptism, marriage, graduation or anniversary).

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## Brass Dedication Plaque Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

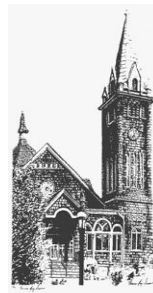
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Number of plaques ordered \_\_\_\_\_

Plaque Dedication Text:

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Use additional sheets for multiple plaques.



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

Phone ( 908)276-8440

E-mail [Office@firstprescranford.org](mailto:Office@firstprescranford.org)

[www.firstprescranford.org](http://www.firstprescranford.org)

**TO REACH THE PASTORS** – Pastor Chris Kile can be reached via cell phone at 215-933-8805 or at [jkile@firstprescranford.org](mailto:jkile@firstprescranford.org). Pastor Liz Alexander can be reached at the church office (extension 13) or at [ealexander@mindspring.com](mailto:ealexander@mindspring.com).

**WORSHIP BAGS** for children may be found in a basket at the entrance to the sanctuary. Please return the worship bags following the worship service.

**FLOWERS** – The flowers today are given in to the Glory of God and in appreciation for all doctors, nurses, aides and health care technicians.

**FLOWER INFORMATION** – For several years, Ellie of Cranford Florist has very faithfully created and delivered two bouquets to the church each week for worship on Sunday. She considers it a privilege to provide this service. She has with great regret sent notification that because of increased expenses, the cost of providing flowers each week will be fifty dollars beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**SUMMER MUSICIANS NEEDED** – for July 20, August 10 and August 24. Contact Alison Nead at [music@firstprescranford.org](mailto:music@firstprescranford.org) to volunteer. Please consider sharing your talents during worship at 8:30 and 10am.

**PRAY FIRST** – On Wednesday mornings at 10am, all are invited to join the staff and others in the Chapel for a half hour of silent prayer for the congregation and our ongoing ministry. If you cannot be present, you can join your prayers with ours wherever you are at that time.

**PRAYER SUPPORT** – Emergency and immediate prayer support is available for friends and family of the Church. Consider joining more than 60 people already on the First Presbyterian Church Prayer Chain. There are no calls to make; simply receive emails and add them to your prayer list. Contact Linda Thorn at [lindathorn427@gmail.com](mailto:lindathorn427@gmail.com) to volunteer and also with prayer requests.

## What's Happening at First Presbyterian Church this Week?

### Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>

|          |                     |               |
|----------|---------------------|---------------|
| 8:30 am  | Worship             | Chapel        |
| 9:30 am  | Fellowship Time     | Patio         |
| 10:00 am | Worship             | Chapel        |
| 7:00 pm  | Grief Support Group | Mettam Lounge |

### Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>

|          |                        |                   |
|----------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 6:30 am  | Men's Prayer Breakfast | Rustic Mill Diner |
| 10:00 pm | Pray First             | Chapel            |

### Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>

|          |                     |               |
|----------|---------------------|---------------|
| 8:30 am  | Worship             | Chapel        |
| 9:30 am  | Fellowship Time     | Patio         |
| 10:00 am | Worship             | Chapel        |
| 7:00 pm  | Grief Support Group | Mettam Lounge |

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**EXCITING OPPORTUNITY** - There are some old photos and miscellaneous records in the basement under the sanctuary that might be worth preserving digitally. We are looking for someone to sort and scan these items. This can be done at home on your schedule. You'll need a scanner and computer. The possibilities are endless once we have digital copies. This can be a solo or multi-person undertaking and there is no deadline. Different people could jump into this project at a point where their own talents lie. Contact Donna Graziano, Clerk of Session and discuss the possibilities. 908-276-3274 [dagaz@verizon.net](mailto:dagaz@verizon.net)

### **Please save Box tops and Labels for Education for the Menaul School in New Mexico.**

They sell the labels and purchase equipment for their school. On the last card received from the school we were told that they earned \$8000 for this purpose. Please give the labels to Mamie Parker or put them in the basket on the table in the Narthex. During the summer the basket will be on the table by the Chapel. Your contributions will be appreciated!

Some of the products that contain this label are:

*General Mills cereal, Progresso or Cambells Soup, Pepperidge Farm bread and cookies, Arnold Bread products and Land-o-Lakes butter. There are many other products just look for the Labels for Education logo on the top and elsewhere on the box.*

## E-mail from Rev. Nadia Ayoub 7-5-2014



Peace and grace in abundance to you. I pray all in the church are doing well.

Thank God life in the west part of the country is still peaceful and safe, although they are calling the young people to join the army, that is making parents worry and try to find some ways to save their children. Many families with more boys try to immigrate to other countries. With the situation in Ukraine the internet is not available all time. I admit that it is taking me much longer to adjust back to life in Ukraine. But thank God because he is victorious and gives us victory over all.

The reunion with the children was great, we celebrated Easter together and we repeated the life, death, and resurrection story of the Lord Jesus but as well we were encouraged to await his return to take us to be with him forever. The teacher and I continued to visit the children in their homes. Thank God they are all healthy. We have a cool summer with good rain so far and I pray will continue to be like that till the VBS time that starts July 28 till August 1.

The house is not ready to bring the children for classes. There are not many jobs available, and much of the work that has been done is not in good condition and not working properly. The people who are doing the renovation are not professional and have little training, they are church members and do not allow others to work. I had the chance to have the driveway made, and a gate and fence; they are not very fancy but they are working and new. I ordered 10 church pews to be made; Zoltan the carpenter made one and I inspected it and I pray he will be able to finish soon.

Thank you so much for your prayers, encouragements and support. I pray God will encourage you more and bless you in all that you do for his glory.

Nadia

*Please keep the people of the Ukraine in your prayers as they face this volatile political situation. And please keep Nadia and her teachers and school in your prayers as they struggle with many challenges.*