

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY

March 22, 2020 at 10:00am

Fourth Sunday in Lent

We Gather Around God's Word

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

Prelude "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" by Wood
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist

Welcome Rosemary Schultz

***Call to Worship** Phyllis Dunlop

Leader: Let us worship God. Blessed are the poor in spirit,

People: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Leader: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

People: for they shall be satisfied.

Leader: Blessed are the peacemakers,

People: for they shall be called the people of God.

Leader: Almighty God, we thank you for Jesus Christ, who lived among us and healed the sick, comforted the discouraged and sad, and inspired the strong.

People: Open our eyes so we may see him; enlighten our understanding so we can know him; and strengthen our wills so we can follow him.

All: Amen!

We Are Called to Confession and Reconciliation Phyllis Dunlop

You are holy, Lord. We sing our praises to you and glorify your Name. In your merciful presence we confess our shortcomings, and our offenses. You know how often we have wandered from your ways. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, for we are sorry. Forgive us, we pray, and help us to live in your light, walk by your ways, and exemplify your love, for the sake of Jesus Christ in whose name we pray and offer our silent confession...

Assurance of Reconciliation and *Passing of the Peace Rev. Jeremy Campbell

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Everyone is invited to share Christ's Peace with one another.)

***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 Phyllis Dunlop

Guide us, O God our creator, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light, we may see light; in your truth find freedom; and in your will, discover your peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: John 9:1-41 Phyllis Dunlop

Children's Message Daniel Velez

Second Scripture Reading: Psalm 23 Rev. Jeremy Campbell

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "For thou art with me" Rev. Jeremy Campbell

We Respond to God's Word

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

We Worship With Our Offerings

Call For Offering Phyllis Dunlop

Offertory "Amazing Grace" by Wood
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist

***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. Jeremy Campbell

Benediction Rev. Jeremy Campbell

Postlude Robert Grube, Jr.

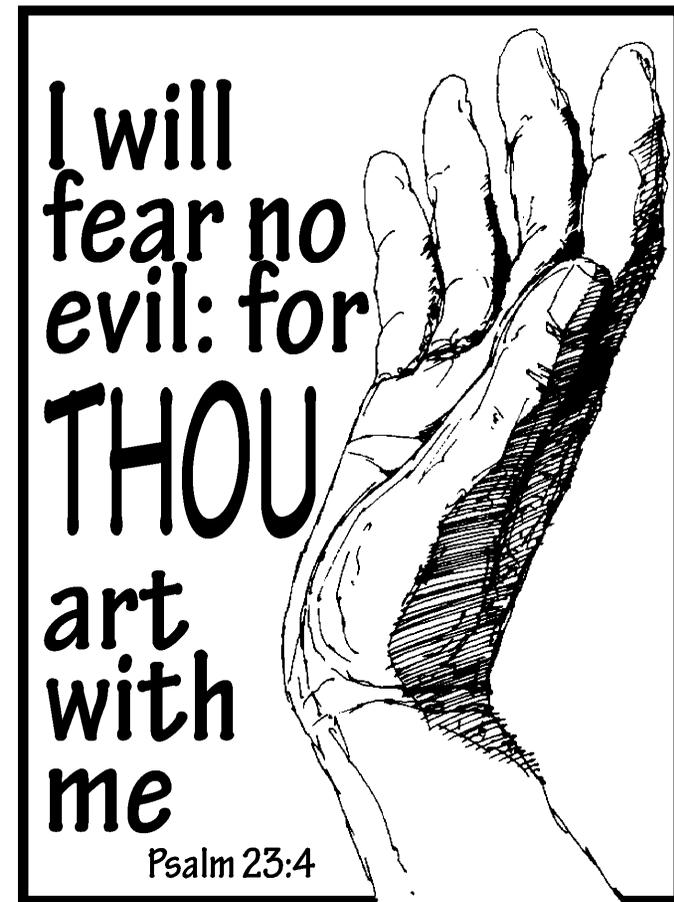
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CRANFORD**

11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

Phone (908) 276-8440

www.firstprescranford.org



The Ministers of the First Presbyterian Church, Cranford NJ:
The Entire Congregation of FPCC
Pastor and Head of Staff – Rev. Leigh B. Gillis
Director of Children, Youth and Families - Daniel Velez-Acevedo
Music Director – Alison R. Nead
Assistant Music Director– Elsa G. Hahn
Organist – Robert Grube, Jr.
Office Administrator – Carol Thee

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 especially children and parents separated at the border. We pray for the youth of FPCC and the adults who are in their lives. Prayers for peace, understanding and love for all. Prayers for our college students, all students and their teachers. We pray for God's blessing for all in need, *for those serving in the military*, 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 for friends and family of the Church! Join over 200 of us on the First Presbyterian Church Prayer Chain. To add someone, contact Linda Thorn at lindathorn427@gmail.com, or at 908 358 8127.



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PASTORAL CARE – For Pastoral Care needs and concerns, contact President of Deacons, Amy Aaroe at 908-403-5321. Amy will contact the covering pastor for you.

TODAY

WELCOME, REV. JEREMY CAMPBELL – Rev. Jeremy Campbell serves the Presbytery of Newton and the Presbytery of Elizabeth as Stated Clerk. He is a graduate of Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA with a BA in Graphic Design and German Language. He completed his MDiv and an MA in clinical counseling at Moravian Theological Seminary and is a Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CAADC). In addition to serving as clerk, Jeremy is an outpatient addictions counselor. He his wife, Megan and daughter, Ruby live in Metuchen, NJ with their three cats and two fish. We are happy to have you with us today!

CRANFORD ELMORA SOUP KITCHEN REQUESTS DONATIONS - Due to the COVID-19, we will be suspending our usual hot meal service. We want to keep our guests and volunteers as safe as possible. However, there is still a need for food in the Elizabeth area that we serve. Until further notice, our volunteers will be preparing takeout lunches. This will limit everyone's exposure to a large group setting and will still serve the need. We are looking for donations of small water bottles (8 oz.), granola/fruit & nut bars (individually wrapped) and applesauce or fruit cups (single serving size only). All donations can be left at Skip Winter's home at 210 Oak Lane, Cranford. Thank you from the CESK team and our guests!

LENT 2020 - Lent and the additional gift of time we have received gives us the opportunity to remember and to observe the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the son of God. This is an opportune time for our congregation to reflect on what it means to honor and follow the ways of Jesus. There are many ways to express and nourish our spiritual well-being knowing that all of our gifts are given to us by the same Spirit. Take time to support your spiritual growth during Lent, as we prepare for Easter.

LOOKING AHEAD

Registration for Youth Confirmation 2020 is Open! Do you have questions regarding God, faith, the bible, church, baptism and how it all ties in with your life and the world around you? Well, we are here to help and to walk with you in your faith journey. One of

the ways we do this is through Confirmation. If you want to register or have any questions, please email Daniel A. Velez at daniel@firstprescranford.org. Must be 13 or older.

Inquiring Minds Want to Know: Considering membership ??
Please contact Phyllis Howard at 908-931-0362. We welcome your inquiry!

THIS WEEK AT FPCC

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CRANFORD RESPONSE TO COVID-19 OUTBREAK

In the interest of public safety and following the recommendations of public health officials, the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford has voted to **suspend all in-person Sunday church activities for Sundays March 15, 22 and 29, 2020** due to concerns related to the COVID-19 virus. The situation will be reassessed in real time as it evolves and additional dates may be added.

The in-person suspension includes Bible Explorers, Worship, Sunday School, and Youth Fellowship.

During this time of uncertainty, it is important to remember that Jesus walks along side us during this journey. While we may be physically separated, we will continue to offer a meaningful worship experience with prayer for our congregation. A shortened worship service will be livestreamed to Facebook and we are investigating other platforms such as YouTube. A separate email will be sent with information on how to participate in worship on-line, and instructions will also be posted to the website at www.firstprescranford.org.

Helen K. Baldwin Nursery School and PrimeTime follow the schedule for the Cranford Public School district which has suspended classes through March 27, 2020.

Please call Deacon President, Amy Aaroe, at 908-403-5321 for pastoral care concerns.

You may also email Donna Graziano, Clerk of Session at dagrazrdh@gmail.com for more information.

To protect our congregation, staff and the children who attend the schools, if you have traveled to any affected areas or have been in contact with someone exhibiting flu or cold-like symptoms or someone that has tested positive for COVID 19, please **DO NOT** enter the facility.

Thank you for your understanding and please pray for health, safety and a swift resolution to this public health crisis.

Welcome!
Rev. Leigh B. Gillis,
Transitional Pastor



The Rev. Leigh B. Gillis is a native of Norfolk, VA and has pastored churches in VA, NC and NJ. She was Associate Executive Presbyter for Congregational Vitality of Heartland Presbytery in Kansas City, and has served seven intentional interim pastorates. Leigh holds degrees from Virginia Tech (BA), Norfolk State University (MA) and Union Presbyterian Seminary (MDiv) in Richmond. Her husband, John, is retired and pursues his avocation of direction in community theater productions. They enjoy theater, music, walking and exploring new places, spending time with family, and sailing on Viking. John's daughters and granddaughter live in Halifax, Nova Scotia and his son in Brussels, Belgium. Leigh's son and family live in Lynchburg, VA.

Pastor Leigh does not "friend" church members on Facebook, but invites them to follow and interact on her Facebook page for work, "Pastor's Pondering Page." Please let her know if you have any problem finding it.