

# A SERVICE OF WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY

April 19, 2020 at 10:00am

Second Sunday of Easter

## *We Gather Around God's Word*

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

*Prelude* Meditation on the Hymn "Christ is Arisen" by Purvis  
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist

WELCOME Rosemary Schultz

CALL TO WORSHIP Larry Imboden

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen indeed!**

Leader: What has been sown in the earth as perishable is raised imperishable.

**People: Alleluia! We respond with songs of praise!**

Leader: You alone are the Resurrection!

**People: You are all goodness and joy!**

Leader: Teach us how to show your amazing love. Teach us how to pray.

**All: Teach us, Lord, to share the news that you are the way, the truth and the life.**

Let us worship God!

CALL TO CONFESSION Larry Imboden

**O God of transformation, where we have been fearful and doubting, bring new life. May we show that we believe the good news: death has lost its sting. Where we have been hardhearted and unforgiving, make us malleable. Where we have sown discord and wounded others, grant forgiveness and harmony. Where we have been selfish and greedy, bring selflessness. Where we have been tired and confused, renew us, and clear our minds. We trust in your promise of forgiveness. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Rev. Leigh Gillis

*\*We Give Glory to God*

*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 Larry Imboden

God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open us so that as the Scriptures and your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth and taught your will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Epistle Lesson 1 Peter 1:3-9 Larry Imboden

Gospel Lesson John 20:19ff Rev. Leigh Gillis

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: "The Seven Next Words" Rev. Leigh Gillis

## *We Respond to God's Word*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Leigh Gillis

We Worship With Our Offerings

Call For Offering

*Offertory* "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" by Hebble  
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. Leigh Gillis

Benediction Rev. Leigh Gillis

*Postlude* Robert Grube, Jr.

Streaming after the service: Daniel Velez - Children's Message

### THE EASTER BANNER

The Easter Banner was made by Karin Burk and hangs in the Sanctuary today.

The left side of the banner is purple indicating the period of Lent and Holy Week. The banner's colors change to the liturgical white which is traditional for the time in the Christian calendar from Easter to Pentecost. The Butterfly is a symbol of new life, and therefore a symbol of the Risen Christ. The butterfly on the Easter banner is leaving the cross, symbolizing that Christ is risen.

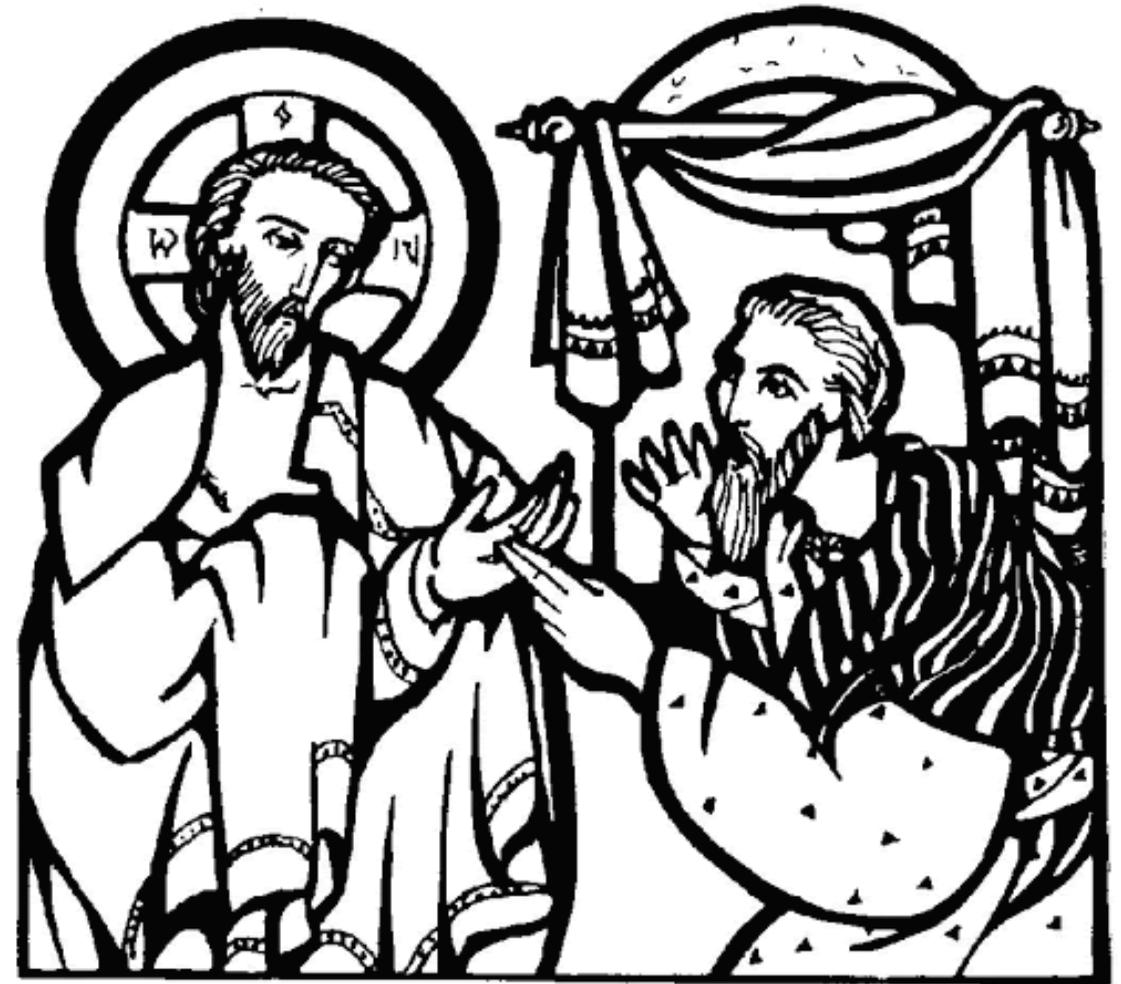
*Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF CRANFORD**

**11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016**

**Phone (908) 276-8440**

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



The Ministers of the First Presbyterian Church, Cranford NJ:  
The Entire Congregation of FPCC  
Pastor – 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

*“Peace be with you.”*

### 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](mailto:lindathorn427@gmail.com), or at 908 358 8127.***

### *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.*



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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 pastor for you. Pastor Leigh Gillis can be reached at [pastorleigh@firstprescranford.org](mailto:pastorleigh@firstprescranford.org).

Dear Friends,

You may not be able to imagine how strange it is for an incoming pastor not to be meeting the congregation - Quite a challenge!

I do know 2 others doing this right now, one here in this presbytery, so I know I am not alone. What I have been trying to do is work on a lot of planning behind the scenes, and introduce myself to you via the streaming Sunday sermons, the newsletter item, and the "Pastor's Pondering Page" (PPP) videos. I'd be interested to know if any of you have found blessings in the movies, books or art I recommended, so I can aim those more precisely at this audience. If you are on Facebook, you may see the videos on the "Members and Friends of First..." page or PPP itself - just type either of the full page names in your search box, and go to the "Video" tab.

Session meets on Tuesday night via Zoom and I look forward to our first time together. You may not be aware how much is still going on although the staff and officers are not on the church premises right now. Believe me, whenever the "all clear" is given that gathering is safe for people's health, we will be ready to welcome you back at FPCC. In the meantime, take advantage of as many streaming opportunities as you can. You can even enter prayer requests interactively with Laura Simone on "Facebook" during worship and they will be read real-time.

It has been a pleasure to meet about a dozen of you, and I look forward to getting to know many more as soon as science tells us that the time is right. Please continue to stay home as much as possible and to be in prayer - this is ALWAYS what we can do in a time when we can do nothing else. Remember, our God is a God of abundance and abundant love.

Blessings in the name of our risen Savior,

*Pastor Leigh*

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13*