

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY

August 16, 2020 at 10:00am Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We Gather Around God's Word

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

WELCOME Rev. Leigh Gillis
ANNOUNCEMENTS Rosemary Schultz

*Prelude Blessing ("Psalm Impressions") by D. Wagner
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist*

CALL TO WORSHIP Mason Towery

Leader: God forgives us and draws us close, desiring to be in community with people.

People: We gather with one another and the One who draws us together.

Leader: With joyful and praise-filled hearts let us come before the Lord.

People: God's blessings know no bounds.

All: Let us worship God!

CALL TO CONFESSION Mason Towery

Let us confess our sin without fear, to the One who yearns to embrace us, forgive us, protect us and bless us.

Let us pray together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Mason Towery

Have mercy on us, O Lord, We are tormented and our lives are disrupted by what we do, what we do not do, and by the actions of others. We anguish over what is going on around us and contrive to "fix things" ourselves. We cannot undo what we have done, the messes that we have made, and often we continue to be haunted by the consequences of these things. Forgive us. Help us to confess to you earnestly, in faith, and to flourish in your promised forgiveness. Reconcile us to ourselves and one another, we ask in Christ's name. 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 Mason Towery

God of light and life, by your Word you spoke the world into being. By the power of your Holy Spirit, speak your Word to us today, that we might testify to the light and life of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Psalm 133 Mason Towery

Scripture Reading: Genesis 35-48 select verses Rev. Leigh Gillis

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "JOSEPH - NOT JESUS' DAD" Rev. Leigh Gillis

We Respond to God's Word

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Leigh Gillis, Tina Hechevarria
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

We Worship With Our Offerings

Call For Offering Rev. Leigh Gillis

*Offertory "It Is Well With My Soul"
Lynn Pinto, Soloist*

***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

Benediction Response "God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

Lynn Pinto, Soloist

Postlude

Robert Grube, Jr.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

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
Assistant Music Director– Elsa G. Hahn
Organist – Robert Grube, Jr.
Office Administrator – Carol Thee

Sunday Worship Action Team
Pastor Leigh
Organist - Bob Grube
Videographers - Laura Simone, Kris and Colin Farley, Sarah Cassidy
Sound - Terry Schultz, Rob Berns, Janice Grevious
Worship Elder - Rosemary Schultz, Tina Hechevarria, assistant

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CRANFORD

11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

Phone (908) 276-8440

www.firstprescranford.org



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.*



We send a very big *THANK YOU* to member, Dale Schoustra for making it possible for us to have our picnic on the grounds of Gray Memorial Funeral Home. The setting was beautiful and made the occasion special on a summery day.
Thank you, Dale!

**LET'S HAVE A PICNIC!
ON AUGUST 23, AT 11:30,
DRIVE OR WALK TO
GRAY'S PROPERTY
ON SPRINGFIELD AVENUE
FOR AN IN-PERSON GATHERING.**

*YOU CAN SPREAD A BLANKET ON THE GRASS,
OR BRING A CHAIR.
BRING YOUR FAMILY, LUNCH AND MASKS.*

*WE WILL DISTANCE SOCIALLY
AND ENJOY ONE ANOTHER'S COMPANY*

**WORSHIP ON-LINE AT 10
PICNIC AT 11:30
HAVE FUN ALL DAY!!**



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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 908-432-3959
pastorleigh@firstprescranford.org.

JOIN US! FPCC has begun a weekly service of morning prayer on Tuesday mornings. You are welcome to gather for "Morningsong". The Morningsong prayer service in the chapel will be at **8:30 a.m.** Thanks to all who responded to the poll. Masks are required.

UPCOMING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES - The next Vespers service in the chapel will be August 18 at 6:30 p.m. Masks are required.

On August 30 and September 6 we will be blessed with worship services created by teams of churches around the Presbytery of Elizabeth. They will stream on our platforms at the regular time of 10:00 a.m. The service for Sept. 6 will be recorded here at FPCC in August. The presbytery suggested, helped organize, and will make available these worship services so that all who have worked so hard in our congregations can have a little break from weekly production.

FLOWERS – Flower requests have been received for remaining Sundays in August. Thank you! If you would like to donate flowers in September "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" someone, contact Judy Bobucky at 908- 272-3643 or jbobucky@verizon.net. The flowers will be delivered by the Deacons after the service to someone who is in need of support at that time. The cost is \$50 which can be mailed to the church directly. Please be sure to note that the money is for flowers.

TODAY'S FLOWERS are donated in memory of departed loved ones.

GRIEF SEMINAR – The next seminar will be conducted on Zoom and will be held at 6:30pm Sunday evenings from September 20th through October 25th. To register, contact Patti Williams at 908-709-1341.

BIBLE EXPLORERS - Here we are in the middle of August - no closer to in person meetings than we were at the end of June. I am proposing to restart the weekly Zoom meetings after worship on Sundays at 11am beginning on September 13th.

I plan to take up a Kerygma study of 2 Corinthians as follow-on from the just completed 1 Corinthians. Study Guides will be \$23 for a 14 lesson course. I need to know by September 4th who is interested in this so I can obtain the study guides. Please contact me to register at morrhio@verizon.net.
Mark Orrichio

PASTORAL THOUGHTS - We continue to find ourselves "stuck in Covid-19 time." Social anxiety has only continued to grow. They are even talking about those born in the last year or so and into the early 2020s as "The Covid Generation." This is a time which will have lasting impact on us all much as 9/11 or, for us Boomers, the Kennedy assassination.

In addition, we all have health concerns for ourselves and loved ones, as well as the world. There is worry about money, some very justified, some because peoples' ideas of "enough" vary and those with much are scared of having less.

Scripture is very clear on the call to followers of Christ in response to the upheaval which is going on now in our society. To be faithful people of integrity, we must put aside our own heritage, our own feelings, our comfort, our pride in what our families historically did or did not do and do what Jesus calls us to do.

I will probably read this in worship because I want you to hear it, and everyone does not download or read the weekly bulletin. You/we at FPCC are only "church" because of Jesus Christ. There is no other reason for this entity to be. THAT is/should be our primary focus. We are called to live our faith even more visibly now, not to retreat into selfish, insular, preservationist habits springing from fear. Be more visible in your love and care and expressions of understanding of the plights of others. Opportunities to share the gospel, the good news which we claim to believe, are more prevalent now than ever.

Ponder this: Jesus completely emptied himself for you and all of us. Can we not be expected to do the same?

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.

Prayers for those who feel forgotten or unloved, for those feeling overwhelmed. Prayers for healthcare and essential workers. We pray for people seeking asylum. We pray that as a nation, we respond to all people in need in a way that Christ would affirm. We pray for the youth of FPCC and the adults who are in their lives. We pray for those serving in the military, for married couples facing turmoil, 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! To add someone, contact Linda Thorn at lindathorn427@gmail.com, or at 908 358 8127.

*Our Prayers of Condolence for
the families of the Marines killed in the training mishap,
and for all who have lost a loved one.*