

**A SERVICE OF WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY
WITH HOLY COMMUNION**

January 3, 2021 at 10am

Second Sunday After Christmas

We Gather Around God's Word

Listen quietly to the Prelude and prepare for the service to begin.

WELCOME

Rev. Leigh Gillis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rosemary Schultz

Prelude "The Old Year Now Has Passed Away" - J. S. Bach
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Amy Aaroe

Leader: We gather this first Sunday morning of the year to consecrate this time to God;

People: to praise and give thanks; to learn and to teach.

Leader: We seek instruction, a map for this new year; we pray for the ability to fulfill God's Law of Love;

People: we pray for strength and wisdom, and a growing sense of new life!

Leader: God's steadfast love endures forever. God cares for us and will take us through 2021.

People: Thanks be to God!

ALL: Let us unite in worship and praise!

CALL TO CONFESSION

Amy Aaroe

As we continue to celebrate the gifts of Christmas joy and peace, we know that we have broken covenant with God in a number of ways, no matter how contrite we might feel. Let us pause to confess our sins together, knowing that our God is ever-willing to bestow grace and forgiveness upon us. Let us pray together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Amy Aaroe

Dear Lord, we try to walk by faith, but often find ourselves surrounded by the darkness of doubt, distrust and disobedience. It is as if we are fleeing in the night to a strange land. We call out to You in times of need but fail to embrace Your wise response. We try to believe Your promises, but fear prevents us from traveling the path You have chosen for us. Help us look forward to a time of health and plenty. Forgive us, and open our ears to your voice, our eyes to your way, and our minds to your

wisdom. Give us strength to know that in seeking You we will find refuge. 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.***

Anthem

Elsa G. Hahn, Soloist

We Proclaim God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Amy Aaroe

Loving God, we praise you for your Word which is truth. By your Spirit, open our hearts and minds to your Word that we may be guided all our days for the sake of Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-12

Amy Aaroe

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:13-23

Rev. Leigh Gillis

Sermon: "IS 2020 OVER?!"

Rev. Leigh Gillis

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

We Respond to God's Word

WE WORSHIP WITH OUR OFFERINGS

Call For Offering

Rev. Leigh Gillis

Offertory

Elsa G. Hahn, 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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER Rev. Leigh Gillis
INVITATION TO THE TABLE
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed, Traditional

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.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Communion of the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

Benediction

Rev. Leigh Gillis

Postlude

Robert Grube, Jr.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CRANFORD

11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

Phone (908) 276-8440

www.firstprescranford.org



Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Children's Message with Daniel Velez and Teddy

Posted at 9:15am before Sunday School

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 – 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.*



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Prayers of the Church Family

Pray for those in the FPCC Family facing health challenges.

Pray for loved ones and friends of the FPCC Family.

Prayers for the people of Nicaragua, 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, the adults who are in their lives, 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.

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*Our Prayers of Condolence for  
Rev. Valencía Norman and family  
on the passing of her mother  
and for all who have lost a loved one.*

**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](mailto:pastorleigh@firstprescranford.org).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** – is held from 9:30am to 9:55am on Zoom. For registration and more information contact Daniel Velez at [daniel@firstprescranford.org](mailto:daniel@firstprescranford.org).

**FOOD DONATIONS** - Food donations will now be accepted each Sunday in the Narthex. Donations continue to be accepted on the porch of 214 Pawnee Road in Cranford. Mary Petty will deliver the food to local distribution sites.

**STEWARDSHIP UPDATE** – All session members have made pledges in the 2021 Stewardship campaign. Have you? All pledges are gratefully received whether it is the amount you pledged last year, increased amount or if necessary a decreased amount or a pledge to spend time in prayer for the congregation and the church. All are gratefully accepted. Contact Paul Gish, campaign chairperson at [pvgish@gmail.com](mailto:pvgish@gmail.com) or submit a pledge card to the office.

## Sunday Worship Action Team

Pastor Leigh

Organist - Bob Grube

Music Director - Elsa Hahn

Videographers - Laura Simone, Kris and Colin Farley, Sarah Cassidy

Sound - Terry Schultz, Rob Berns, Janice Grevious

Worship Elder - Rosemary Schultz, Tina Hechevarria, Assistant

Head Usher - Larry Imboden