

## A SERVICE OF WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY

February 21, 2021 at 10am

First Sunday in Lent

### *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* "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" by Dale Wood  
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Carol Berns

Leader: Even as we enter the wilderness of Lent,

**People: We rest in the shelter of the Most High;**

Leader: We abide in the shadow of the Almighty;

**People: We find refuge under the wings of our Holy Parent.**

Leader: We trust that the angels of God,

**People: the words of God,**

Leader: the people of God,

**People: the hands of God**

Leader: Will somehow bear us up.

**People: We come to call on God who has promised to answer.**

**All: Let us worship God!** (Based on Psalm 91, spaciousfaith.com)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Carol Berns

Our God is ever more ready to listen than we are to pray. Let us bring our whole selves to this time of prayer, opening our hearts to God in honest acknowledgement of our shortcomings.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Carol Berns

In these moments of stillness, let us think back our new year's resolutions. It is only February and yet ... we confess those resolutions, though thoughtfully made, were quickly broken.

So, we come to you again to admit we have fallen short of our own expectations and yours. We confess that we have squandered our time instead of having meaningful interaction with others. We regret that we have neglected our lonely neighbor, our elderly church member, our homebound acquaintance. We are sorry for the times we have spoken in anger or impatience. We offer our private confessions for those things which weigh down on our hearts and minds. (Silence.) Forgiven now, let us pledge before God to examine and improve our actions as we travel the Lenten road to the new life of Easter. 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* "My Song Is Love Unknown" by Jennings  
Elsa G. Hahn, Soloist

*We Proclaim God's Word*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Carol Berns

Loving God, by your Spirit, may we recognize you in your Word for us this day. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:9-15

Carol Berns

Epistle Lesson: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Rev. Leigh Gillis

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: PREPARING FOR EASTER

Rev. Leigh Gillis

*We Respond to God's Word*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Leigh Gillis

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## WE WORSHIP WITH OUR OFFERINGS

Call For Offering

Rev. Leigh Gillis

*Offertory* "I Will Lift Up My Eyes" by Wagoner  
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

Benediction

Rev. Leigh Gillis

*Postlude*

Robert Grube, Jr.

*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 of Cranford**

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

### **Sunday Worship Action Team**

Thank you to these people who make remote worship possible.

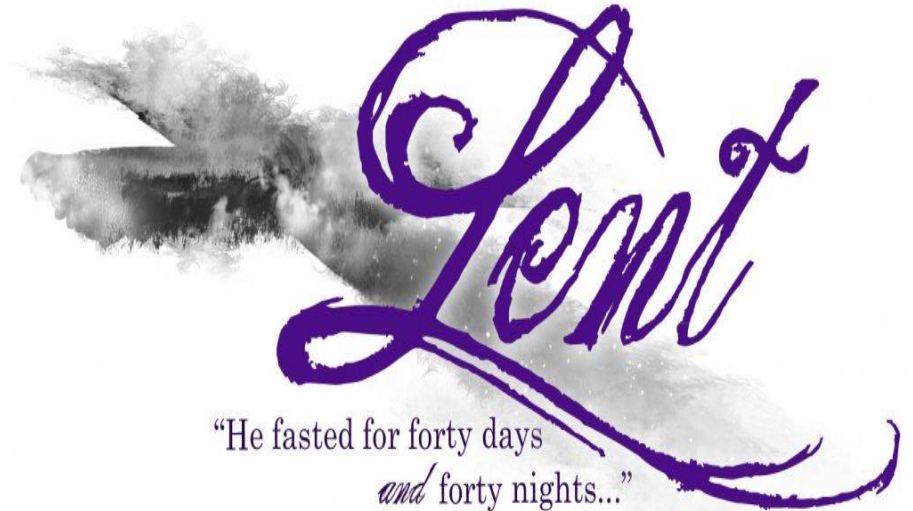
Pastor Leigh, Bob Grube, Elsa Hahn, Laura Simone,  
Kris and Colin Farley, Sarah Cassidy, Terry Schultz,  
Rob Berns, Janice Greivous, Rosemary Schultz,  
Tina Hechevarria, Phyllis Dunlop, Larry Imboden

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CRANFORD

11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

Phone (908) 276-8440

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



"He fasted for forty days  
and forty nights..."

### *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.

Pray for loved ones and friends of the FPCC Family.

Prayers for *those in leadership of our nation and for peace in our country. Prayers for healthcare and essential workers.* Prayers for the people of Nicaragua, for those who feel forgotten or unloved, for those feeling overwhelmed. 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.

***Emergency and immediate prayer support is available for friends and family of the Church! To add someone, contact Linda Thorn at [lindathorn427@gmail.com](mailto:lindathorn427@gmail.com), or at 908 358 8127.***

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*Our Prayers of Condolence for  
family and friends of*

*Lillian Cabarle,  
Philip's sister, Fr. Rigo's Capuchin brothers  
and for all who have lost a loved one.*



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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](mailto:pastorleigh@firstprescranford.org).

**FLOWERS** – The flowers today are given in loving memory of Linda Bristow from her husband, Eric Rosenberg, son Kyle, daughter-in-law, Tamara and grandchildren, Carter and Evie.

**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).

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**DANIEL'S MESSAGES**

Daniel Velez can be reached at [daniel@firstprescranford.org](mailto:daniel@firstprescranford.org).

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING!** - We will be demonstrating love through the Souper Bowl Fundraiser! Because of Covid we will not be selling or eating soup together. However, we are going to be selling a mini cookbook with recipes for you to make at home.

Your donation can be sent to the church office to the Children, Youth, and Family Team and the cookbook will be sent to you by email through pdf or by mail.

**CONFIRMATION 2021 IS UNDERWAY!** - Confirmation is up and running! Join me in congratulating Vanessa Hechevarria, Joseph Paccione and Connor Wyrick. Please pray for these Confirmands as they begin their confirmation journey.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL IS ZOOMING!** - Sunday School Spring 2021 has begun. We have been having fun, learning so much and asking a lot of question about God, the Bible, and the world around us! If you would like to know how your child can join (Children and Youth), please contact Daniel Velez.

**YOUTH SNOW TUBING – RESERVATION DEADLINE IS TODAY!** Youth Members and Parents! Would y'all want to make a group and go Tubing at Campgaw on February 28?! Then contact Daniel as soon as possible to reserve your space and get more information. The cost will be \$30.00.

1. We will meet up at the church at 4:50pm.
2. Parents are responsible for their children's transportation.
3. Deadline to apply to go is Sunday 2/21/21.
4. If someone wants to go but needs help, contact Daniel.



## **A Mini Cookbook**

## **To Help Fight Hunger**

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