

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY

April 18, 2021 at 10am

Third Sunday of Easter

We Gather Around God's Word

WELCOME

Rev. Leigh Gillis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rosemary Schultz

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

PRELUDE

*"Aria" - Andrew Carter
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Kristine Farley

Leader: Lord of Resurrection surprises, open our hearts this day
to the presence of Jesus Christ.

**People: Erase our excuses for unbelief, and make us fervent
witnesses to the power of your mercy and love.**

Leader: Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path
of discipleship,

**People: Knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and
guiding our steps.**

Leader: We gather to praise, to pray, and to prepare for sharing
the Word.

**People: Fill us with faith and love, to go forth with the gospel,
the good news.**

All: Let us worship in Spirit and in truth!

CALL TO CONFESSION

Kristine Farley

We are still celebrating the resurrection, but what does it really mean
to us? Does it change our priorities or our lives? As we come to a time
of confession, we should examine our thoughts and actions in light of
these things. Let us pray together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Kristine Farley

**God of our time and all times, we confess that for us, Easter has
passed. We are on to other things these two weeks later, and it
loses its impact on us. If we stop to think about it, we may marvel
at the empty tomb, but we do not think about it too much
anymore. Are we called to be witnesses? We are not even sure
what that means today, so we probably don't do a very good job.
Forgive and focus us, O God. Help us to keep our minds on things
that are important for us and for the world. Help us to care for
people not things which fade. Help us to be more like the disciples,**

**once they were filled with the resurrection news. We pray in the
name of the risen Christ, 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

*"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!"
Elsa G. Hahn, Soloist*

We Proclaim God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Kristine Farley

**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.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 4

Kristine Farley

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 24:36b-48

Rev. Leigh Gillis

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: GHOST OR GOD?

Rev. Leigh Gillis

We Respond to God's Word

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Leigh Gillis

**AN 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 *“Hymn of Promise” – Sleeth*
Elsa G. Hahn, Soloist, (lyrics in insert)

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.

RESPONSIVE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Leigh Gillis

Pastor: Holy One,
you have given yourself to us
in Creator, in Christ, in the Spirit.
We now give back to you:

**People: this money that seems so little;
this worship that seems so small;
these words that never quite get it right.**

Pastor: Receive what we offer
and transform it by the power of your Spirit into:

**People: enough money,
sufficient praise,
worthy words
for proclaiming and enacting
your peace, justice, and love in the world. Amen.**
(from Spacious Faith)

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



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.*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the Bulb There Is a Flower 250

Hymn of Promise

Capo 3: (D) (Em)
F Gm

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

(A7) (D)
C7 F

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

(D7) (G) (Em) (D) (Bm) (Em) (F#) (Bm)
F7 Bb Gm F Dm Gm A Dm

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

(G) (Em) (D) (Bm) (Em) (A7) (D)
Bb Gm F Dm Gm C7 F

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T. S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning."
Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/composer's husband was diagnosed with what proved to be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.



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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.

FLOWERS – The flowers today are given in honor of Deacon Judy and Deacon Karen.

BIBLE EXPLORERS - Bible Explorers began a new study of Paul's Letter to the Romans. Bible Explorers meet nearly every Sunday until June 27th via Zoom from 11:00 to noon. All adults are welcome. Contact Elder Mark Oricchio - moricchio@verizon.net to join or for more information.

THANK YOU! Once again your kindness and caring is shining through as \$900 in gift cards was given to help the young people in the Roots and Wings program. We pray that God will guide these young people on their journey to find their own roots and wings,. Thank you!

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 Grevious, Rosemary Schultz,
Tina Hechevarria, Phyllis Dunlop, Larry Imboden

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

Prayers of the Church Family

Pray for those in the FPCC Family facing health challenges.

Pray for our Confirmands.

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, unloved, 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, or at 908 358 8127.

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*Our Prayers of Condolence  
for the Tong Family,  
for the Hicks Family on the passing of Betty  
and for all who have lost a loved one.*