

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY

July 11, 2021 at 10am

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We Gather Around God's Word

*Please stand and sing if masked.

WELCOME

Rev. Leigh Gillis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rosemary Schultz

PRELUDE *Gabriel's Oboe (from "The Mission") - Ennio Morricone*
Robert Grube, Jr., Organist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mark Cassidy

Leader: The word of God comes into our lives in many ways.

People: God's word comes to us, calling us to action and to new life.

Leader: God's word calls us now, here in our worship.

Do we have ears to hear?

People: God's calling word invites us to service and ministry, to praise and thanksgiving.

All: Let us worship and offer our praise to the eternal One who calls us together!

***HYMN #138 "Holy, Holy, Holy"**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Mark Cassidy

Through the selflessness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we have been given a pardon by God's grace. "He has rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Colossians 1:13-14). Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, as we confess in humility and faith...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, how many times must we fall before you in repentance? We are so broken. We desire to be holy, but apart from you, we are nothing. Thank you for forgiveness even at times when we can't forgive ourselves. Your grace extends beyond all we can imagine. We confess our weaknesses and failures, knowing that you see us as your children, chosen and dearly loved. Pick us up, for we have fallen. Restore us to a right path and keep us there, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Leigh Gillis

***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 "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" duet by Jill Gallina
Karen Bruno and Karen Cassidy

We Proclaim God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mark Cassidy

Open our hearts and minds, O God, by your Spirit, that we may hear with refreshed hearts and renewed minds your Word prepared for us this day. Through Christ, the Living Word, we pray. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 119:1-3, 10-16 Mark Cassidy

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 13:31-35, 44-50 Rev. Gillis

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: DIGGING INTO THE PARABLES:

SOME SMALLER ONES

Rev. Leigh Gillis

We Respond to God's Word

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH
In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified,

suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

CALL FOR OFFERING

Rev. Leigh Gillis

OFFERTORY *"He's Got The Whole World In His Hand"* - Gallina
Karen Bruno and Karen Cassidy

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

*CLOSING HYMN # 358 *"Help Us Accept Each Other"*

*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 Grevious, Rosemary Schultz,
Tina Hechevarria, Phyllis Dunlop

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CRANFORD

11 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey 07016

Phone (908) 276-8440

www.firstprescranford.org



WHAT CAN A LITTLE YEAST DO?

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 the Mission Study Team. Pray for graduates.

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  
Amy Aaroe and family on the passing of her mother,  
Emma Aaroe,  
the Ruggiero family on the passing of Mark,  
the Guyette family on the passing of June,  
the Cook family on the passing of James  
and all who have lost a loved one.*



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**PASTORAL CARE** – For Pastoral Care needs and concerns, contact Pastor Leigh Gillis who can be reached at 908-432-3959  
[pastorleigh@firstprescranford.org](mailto:pastorleigh@firstprescranford.org).

**FLOWERS** – The flowers today are given with gratitude to the congregation for their thoughts and prayers.

**MISSION STUDY TEAM** - Your Mission Study Team (MST) is hard at work on their report based on your responses to the congregational survey. Please support them with your prayers! This report is key to "next steps" for FPCC, as shown on the progress charts posted around our building. They have a dedicated e-mail address you may use to contact them in order to ask questions or give insights which might help in their work. It is [fpccmst@gmail.com](mailto:fpccmst@gmail.com) . Please plan to attend a congregational informational gathering AFTER WORSHIP JULY 25 in the chapel. A Zoom link will be made available next week for those who wish to participate remotely.

**REMEMBERING EMMA AAROE** – Amy and her family will be greeting friends at Costello-Greiner Funeral Home, 44 Green St, Woodbridge on Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 7pm. Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 10am at First Presbyterian Church of Woodbridge, 600 Rahway Ave, Woodbridge. Emma's life is recounted in her obituary which can be found on Costello-Greiner website.

**CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY TEAM** - The CY&F Team is looking for volunteers to help in the new School Year 2021-2022. If interested, please contact Daniel Velez.

### LET'S HAVE A HYMN SING!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Hymn(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Why it is special \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Union County Interfaith  
Coordinating Council  
invites you to



## Interfaith Worship

Celebrating Sacred Stories That Got Us  
Through the Pandemic Wilderness

Thursday, July 22  
7 pm

The Institute of Music for  
Children (formerly Third-  
Westminster  
Presbyterian)  
780 Salem Ave.  
Elizabeth, NJ 07208

An evening of worship,  
music and prayer. Join  
us for this interfaith  
service and celebrate  
safely outdoors.

Please bring your own  
blankets and chairs.



### UNION COUNTY INTERFAITH COORDINATING COUNCIL

is looking for members who will:

- Attend monthly meetings.
  - Invite other community leaders to attend our meetings and events.
  - Support or host interfaith and fundraising programs.
  - Sign up for our mailing list.
  - Share useful information about your organization.
- Contact Carmine Pernini at [CPernini@caunj.org](mailto:CPernini@caunj.org) for  
information on becoming a member.

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