

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY

July 18, 2021 at 10am

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We Gather Around God's Word

***Please stand and sing. New masking parameters: All who are vaccinated may sing without masks, but anyone who has not had the vaccination, or wishes to, may choose to continue to mask for their own health and safety. Your being safe is paramount.**

WELCOME

Rev. Leigh Gillis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rosemary Schultz

PRELUDE

"Spirit of Life"
Kelli Bruno, Pianist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Alex Lehner

Leader: The Word of God is near us.

People: The reign of God is close at hand.

Leader: Daily, daily it draws closer.

People: Yet its movement is very slow.

Leader: So slow we often lose sight of it.

People: Our hope falters.

Leader: Let us place our hope in God.

**People: Let us commit ourselves to God's work -
then we shall see a New Day**

All: Let us worship God! *from Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirbassi, eds., Touch Holiness*

***HYMN #142 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Alex Lehner

The God revealed to us in the pages of Scripture is a welcoming and inclusive God who directs us to love one another. So, we gather to seek removal of all barriers to that love. Let us confess all that separates us from one another and from our own best. Let us pray together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Alex Lehner

Forgive me my sins, O Lord. Forgive me the sins of my youth and the sins of my age, the sins of my soul and the sins of my body, my secret and my whispering sins, the sins I have done to please myself and the sins I have done to please others. Forgive those sins which I know and the sins which I do not know. Forgive them, Lord; forgive us all in your great goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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 "Precious Lord" (arranged by Arnold Sevier)
Kelli Bruno, Soloist

We Proclaim God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Alex Lehner

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

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 11:3-9

Alex Lehner

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Rev. Gillis

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: DIGGING INTO THE PARABLES:

WAITING FOR THE HARVEST

Rev. Leigh Gillis

We Respond to God's Word

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH- 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 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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

Rev. Leigh Gillis

RESPONSIVE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Leader: O God, let it be that we give not because
we feel we should.

People: Let it be that we give not in expectation of recognition.

Leader: Let it be that we give not because we will get
a tax deduction.

People: Let it be that we give because we want to.

Leader: Let it be that we give because we have a yearning
to make this world your world.

**All: Let your kingdom come, O God, through us.
This we pray with grateful hearts. Amen.**

OFFERTORY *“Every Time I Feel the Spirit” arr. J.T. Jones
Kelli Bruno, 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

*CLOSING HYMN #551 vv. 1, 3, 4 *“Come, Ye Thankful People”*

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Leigh Gillis

POSTLUDE

“Clair de Lune”

Kelli Bruno

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

**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.*

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  
the Mathews family on the passing of Jane,  
the Gingery family on the passing of Harold  
and all who have lost a loved one.*

## 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



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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 in loving memory of a father, father-in-law and grandfather by his son and family.

**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.

**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.

**WHEN DID WE SEE YOU?** – This is the theme of the Presbyterian Youth Triennium 2022 which will be held in Indianapolis, IN from July 24 -27. It will be a gathering for high school age youth, youth leaders and young adults in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Fee is \$515 for youth and \$535 for adults. See Daniel Velez for more information.

## LET'S HAVE A HYMN SING!

Write down some of your favorite hymns and drop this in the offering plate or send it to the office. Later this summer we will have a Hymn Sing for worship with as many of your choices as we can fit in.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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