

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

September 5, 2021 at 10am Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

We Gather Around God's Word

***Please stand and sing with masks.**

WELCOME Rev. Leigh Gillis

ANNOUNCEMENTS Rosemary Schultz

PRELUDE "Andante Tranquillo"- Mendelssohn
Robert Grube, Jr. Organist

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Catherine Felegi

Leader: Everyone come, come and refresh without money
and without price.

**People: Our hunger is not slight. We thirst for harmony and
hunger for integrity.**

Leader: Listen together, for we have words of life. Your yearning
shall be filled; our longing shall be touched.

**People: For there is a promise: "My love for you shall be as
for David. Listening, you shall have good food and
abundance."**

Leader: Gracious God, who had satisfied the hungry and quenched
the thirst of longing people: Grant us now the gift
of attentiveness, that our eyes may see the favor of your love.

**People: Grant us quickness of imagination, that we may see
the signals of your promise. Grant us warmth of heart,
that companionship may bind all within this house
in peace and love so that we may enjoy your wonder and
grace. For the sake of Christ, and for the sake of all
humankind, we pray.**

All: Let us worship God!

***HYMN #466 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"**

CALL TO CONFESSION Catherine Felegi

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit
(Psalm 34:18). Let us admit our brokenness to God as we pray
together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Catherine Felegi

God, you know that we have sinned. You know that we have hurt
each other, been unkind and thought only of ourselves. We know
these things too but prefer to hide them. Only you know our full
thoughts and actions. Yet you love us and show us grace and
mercy; help us to extend the same to our brothers and sisters.
Free us from holding grudges and from passing judgment.
Help us to love and to walk with each other toward forgiveness
and restoration. May we always remember we are yours,
gracious God. 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 Lynn Pinto, Soloist

We Proclaim God's Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Catherine Felegi

**O Lord, no one lives by bread alone but by your eternal Word.
By your Spirit, make us hungry for this spiritual food, that we
may live according to your will for the sake of our savior, Jesus
Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 6:25-34 Catherine Felegi

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 Corinthians 15:1-7, 12-19 Rev. Gillis

SERMON: "FIRST THINGS LAST" Rev. Leigh Gillis

We Respond to God's Word

CALL FOR OFFERING Rev. Leigh Gillis

OFFERTORY Lynn Pinto, 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

***HYMN #507 “I Come with Joy” vv. 1,3,5**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER Rev. Leigh Gillis

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

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.

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

Tina Hechevarria

The Lord’s Prayer

The Words of Institution

Communion of the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

***CLOSING HYMN # 540 “God Be with You Till We Meet Again”**

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Leigh Gillis

POSTLUDE

Robert Grube, Jr.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

The Ministers of the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford

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

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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  
Lori Fleissner and family on the passing  
of her mother, Sandi Owens,  
families of Helen Sutton, Peter Shanley,  
Betty Ambrose  
and all who have lost a loved one.*



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**FLOWERS** – The flowers today are given in memory of parents.

**CONGRATULATIONS!** We rejoice that our Director of Children, Youth, and Family, Daniel Velez Acevedo was approved for ordination by the Presbytery of Northeast New Jersey. We look forward to the joyful ordination ceremony this fall!

**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.

**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.

**GRIEF SEMINAR** – The next Journey Toward Wholeness Seminar will be offered via Zoom. It will begin September 12<sup>th</sup> and run from 6:30 to 8:30pm until October 24<sup>th</sup>. Call Patti Williams to register at 908-709-1341.

**BIBLE EXPLORERS** - will resume their study of Romans on Sunday September 12<sup>th</sup> at 11am. For now, they will be meeting via Zoom. Contact Mark Oricchio if you are interested.