

# Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

## November 10, 2024

### Gathering

#### MOMENT TO MARK VETERAN'S DAY

PRELUDE (10:00 a.m.) "We Worship You Alone" by Penny Rodrigues & John B. Dykes  
Chancel Choir; Kim Lampe, Director

#### WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

Rev. Dave Sippel, Pastor of Discipleship, Mission, and Outreach Leadership

### Expansion of Our Hearts

#### CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Come and worship, people of God!

**We gather here by God's hand:**

Who gives us life and all that we have.

**We gather here by God's hand:**

Who fills us with love and God's Spirit.

**We gather here by God's hand:**

Whose generosity compels us to open our hands to our neighbor.

**Let us worship God with open hearts and open hands!**

#### \*GATHERING SONG #13 (Green book) "He Has Made Me Glad"

Kim Lampe, Song Leader; Traci Bopp, Musician

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsive)

God of endless generosity,

We owe all that we are to you: our life, our breath, the gifts of family, love, and possessions. You are endlessly open-handed to us.

**Yet we confess how often we live with closed fists. We convince ourselves that the gifts you have given are our by own making. We hoard your gifts, not living with open hands to our neighbor or the work of your kingdom.**

Forgive us, God. Reorient our lives to your generosity, that we might be shaped by your example of open hands and offer back what you have first given us. Amen.

#### ASSURANCE OF GRACE

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE May the peace of Christ be with you all! **And also with you!**

(10:00 a.m. only) Children and youth are invited to leave for their classes.

SPECIAL MUSIC (10:00 a.m.) "Above All/All In All" arr. by Mass Anthem  
"Above All" by Michael W. Smith; "You Are My All In All" by Dennis Jernigan  
Charlotte Milligan, Ian Milligan, Rileigh Slufik; Vocalists

### Reception of God's Word

#### PREPARATION FOR READING

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scriptures. **Our hearts and minds are open.**

#### SCRIPTURE LESSON Deuteronomy 8: 6-18; 14: 22-23; 15: 7-8, 10-11 (NIV)

Readers: 8:30 a.m. Pauline McKeown; 10:00 a.m. Lew Shafer

#### Deuteronomy 8

6 Observe the commands of the Lord your God, walking in obedience to him and revering him. 7 For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; 8 a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; 9 a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills.

10 When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you. 11 Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. 12 Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, 13 and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, 14 then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 15 He led you through the vast and dreadful wilderness, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. 16 He gave you manna to eat in the wilderness, something your ancestors had never known, to humble and test you so that in the end it might go well with you. 17 You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." 18 But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

#### Deuteronomy 14

22 Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year. 23 Eat the tithe of your grain, new wine and olive oil, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks in the presence of the Lord your God at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name, so that you may learn to revere the Lord your God always.

Deuteronomy 15

*7 If anyone is poor among your fellow Israelites in any of the towns of the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hardhearted or tightfisted toward them. 8 Rather, be openhanded and freely lend them whatever they need.... 10 Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to. 11 There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land.*

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God**

MESSAGE “The Power of Remembering: From Tight-Fists to Open-Hands”

*Rev. Stacey Duensing Pearce, Pastor of Worship, Care and Strategic Leadership*

---

## Transformation of Our Lives

SONG OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE **#678** *(Blue Hymnal)* **“We Are an Offering”**

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING & OFFERTORY *(10:00 a.m.)*

DOXOLOGY

---

## Compassion For the World

\*SENDING SONG **#589** *(Blue hymnal)* **“Here I Am, Lord”**

\*BENEDICTION This time of worship has ended. **Let the service begin!**

\*POSTLUDE

*\* Indicates to please stand, if able.*

*The altar flowers are offered in memory of Arline Friedrich given by Jan Friedrich and*

*in memory of Warrant Officer Patrick R. O’Brien given by Donna Lajterman*



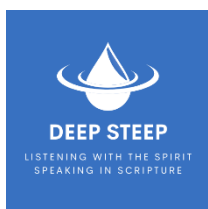
## TODAY & THIS WEEK – NOV. 10, 2024

**WELCOME!** As we continue to explore what it means to live with Open Hearts, we will listen to a passage from Deuteronomy which urges us to move from living with "tight-fists" to "open-hands". Pastor Stacey's sermon is entitled: "The Power of Remembering: From Tight-Fists to Open-Hands". Glad you joined us!

**CHRISTMAS CHOIR OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL CHILDREN & YOUTH!** If your child (K-12) is interested in singing with the children's/youth choir during the month of December, we would love to have you! Rehearsals for the Christmas season will start this Sun, 11/10 in the choir room after church. No need to be at every Sunday rehearsal! For more information, please stop by the choir room after church or text Brooke Burgin @ 201-303-1808.

### ORDER GIFT CARDS FOR THE HOLIDAYS & SUPPORT FRC YOUTH MISSION:

Please consider supporting Youth Mission by ordering Raise Right gift cards. Orders will be accepted today through Sunday, November 24th and will be available for distribution on Sunday December 8th. Order forms and a list of available cards can be found on the kiosk in the Friendship Hall lobby or in the Youth Mission box in the office. Additionally the list of available cards can be found at <https://www.raiseright.com/brands> Orders can be given to Eileen Bundz or brought to the office. Any questions, please contact Eileen at [eileen.bundz@gmail.com](mailto:eileen.bundz@gmail.com)



### DISCIPLESHIP STUDY: "DEEP STEEP: LISTENING WITH THE SPIRIT SPEAKING IN SCRIPTURE":

Meeting each Sunday after the second worship service, the study will dive deeper into listening and learning about the scripture passages read in church. We will meet in the Blue Room from 11:30 am –12:30 pm through Nov. 24th. Grab your coffee/tea after worship and join us.

**EMPTY BOWLS DINNER 2024 TOMORROW EVENING:** *Helping to end hunger and food insecurity, filling one empty bowl at a time.* The Empty Bowls dinner is set for Monday, November 11th at 5:30 p.m. in Friendship Hall. Visit [www.cpfhemptybowls.org](http://www.cpfhemptybowls.org) for event, sponsorship and registration details. Proceeds will benefit the Pequannock Food Pantry and Grains of Hope.

### NOTES FOR WORSHIP/OFFICE SCHEDULE CHANGES:

- Nov. 11** – Office closed for Veteran's Day
- November 17** – Both Services in Friendship Hall. New City kids visit
- November 24** - Both Services in the Sanctuary. Craft fair take down
- November 28 & 29** – Office closed for Thanksgiving

## GIVE/SERVE/SUPPORT

### PLEDGE CARDS & FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS ON

**NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>:** Sunday, November 24th is our Thanksgiving and Stewardship Sunday! On this Sunday you are invited to bring your completed pledge cards to worship and there will be a moment in worship to put these in the offering plate and say a prayer of blessing. We are also asking everyone to bring a food pantry donation to worship on November 24th and put it at the back of the worship space. At the 10:00 a.m. service, children and youth are invited to gather at the back of the sanctuary. During the first hymn, they will process with the food donations to the front of the sanctuary. A list of needed food pantry donations is below:

- Coffee, Oatmeal, esp. round container of oats
- Canned chicken, Spam, Corned beef hash
- Mayonnaise, Canned or pkg. fruit
- Dinty Moore stew, Complete meals (Hormel)
- Dish and laundry detergent, Deodorant
- Pkg milk like Parmalat
- Snacks - cookies, crackers, nuts, chips
- Paper products (paper towels / tissues / toilet paper)
- Shampoo / conditioner, Body lotion or wash,



Please help us live out Open Doors, Open Hearts and

Open Hands this holiday season as we partner with Scanlan's to place a wreath on the grave of every service person laid to rest in our historic cemetery. You can purchase one or more wreaths (\$17 each) via our special link below. If you buy 2, we get 1 free! You can also volunteer at the event on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and help place the wreaths or help with crafts. To sponsor and/or volunteer please scan or visit [https://bit.ly/veteran\\_wreaths\\_FRC2024](https://bit.ly/veteran_wreaths_FRC2024) Questions? Contact Bob Nixon at [robertnixon9@hotmail.com](mailto:robertnixon9@hotmail.com)



**ANNUAL COAT DRIVE:** The annual coat drive will benefit Market Street Mission and Bessie Green Community. It will be held through Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. There are coat racks in Friendship Hall. All sizes are needed, especially children. Please bring coats clean and on hangers (if possible). Thank you for your generous contributions.

**PUZZLES, PUZZLES, PUZZLES:** Women's Ministries is asking that you donate jigsaw puzzles (small or large) for the Craft Fair. Please keep them at your house until *the week before* the fair. At that time, puzzles can be left on the stage in Friendship Hall and labeled for the craft fair.

**NOVEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING WILL SUPPORT OASIS:** Oasis, a non-profit organization located in Paterson, offers educational and social service programs that help women enter and succeed in the workforce and help children flourish academically. They also operate a soup kitchen and provide emergency food, clothing, and social support to city residents in need. To donate, you can mail in a check, place it in the collection during worship, or donate online securely through our website on the line item: "Mission of the Month." Make checks payable to FRC and note "November Communion" in the memo line.

## EVENTS COMING UP



**TEDDY BEAR CLINIC - NOVEMBER 17 AT 11:15 A.M. IN FRIENDSHIP HALL** (right after Sunday School): The purpose of this is to try to alleviate fears when seeing the doctor. Kids can come and bring their teddy bears to be

checked at various stations to make sure they are healthy or if needed get medical treatment. There will be an ambulance for kids and their teddy to tour and they will receive a Teddy Bear Health Certificate.

**IT'S APPLE PIE SEASON! HELP MAKE THEM & ORDER YOURS NOW!** Deborah Circle and Women's Ministries will be making apple pies on Monday, November 18th at 9:00 a.m. in Friendship Hall. Look for sign-up sheets in the lobby of Friendship Hall and volunteer to help or bring donations of flour, sugar and butter. You can leave donated supplies in the Friendship Hall kitchen or refrigerator marked "pies". Sign-up to purchase the pies also. Pies will be frozen and can be picked up at craft fair. You can choose from regular apple pie, no sugar added pie, and apple crumb pie, for \$15 each. All orders must be in by November 17th. Contact Sharon Hollick with any questions [sharhollick@gmail.com](mailto:sharhollick@gmail.com)

## CHILDREN & YOUTH

**AMAZING STAR ART CLASS - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH FROM 10:00 A.M. – 12 NOON:** Children ages 5-14 are invited to join us for this special art class to make an "Amazing Star" for their Christmas tree. The class will meet upstairs in room 21. Space is limited, so register online by December 1st. Contact Janet for more details at [janet@frc-pp.org](mailto:janet@frc-pp.org).

**WORLD VISION BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION NOVEMBER 17:** Our Spark Kidz classes will be celebrating the 15<sup>th</sup> birthday of our sponsored child, Edith from Bolivia. Kids are invited to bring a special offering which will be sent directly to Edith through the World Vision field office and any small flat items such as socks, small towels, stickers, hair ties etc. that can be mailed.

**FUEL YOUTH GROUP:** Middle school and high school youth gather weekly on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in Friendship Hall. Please reach out to Pastor

Dave if you need any assistance or support. [dave@frc-pp.org](mailto:dave@frc-pp.org)

## PRAYERS & CONCERNS

### FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE:

**Joann Warner's sister-in-law Regena** passed away last Sunday. Cards to Joann 138 Butternut Dr. Wayne, 07470

Prayers for the friends and family of **Michael Carbone**, who passed away suddenly this past week. Cards to Sue & Ken Hellyer at 60 Voorhis Rd., Lincoln Park 07035 and to Mike, Amy & Phoebe Patterson at 420 Newark Pompton Turnpike, Pompton Plains 07444

Prayers for the family of **Sally Cameron**, a former member of FRC, who passed away on Oct. 28

### CONCERNS:

**Prayers for our nation on Election day and beyond**

**Prayers for peace in our world**

**Rich Chere**, recovering from surgery. Cards to 26 Brookvale Rd. Kinnelon 07405

**Ed**, Jodi Chere's father, prayers for health

**Christopher Martin**, Pat Lento's sister in law's nephew, being treated for myocarditis. Prayers for healing of his heart.

**Linda Wilson**, Thank you for your prayers for favorable test results

**Lori Osborne**, starting a new treatment plan for her MS. Prayers for its effectiveness

**Frank Scangarella**, now in Care One in Wayne

## FINANCIALS

### **HOW TO DONATE TO FRC:**

**Give Electronically:** Have your weekly or monthly contribution debited from your checking or savings account and transferred directly into the church account safely and electronically. You can also scan the QR code to donate or visit our website at [www.firstreformedchurch.com](http://www.firstreformedchurch.com) and choose the blue "Donate" button. **In Person:** Drop your check at the office or place it in kiosk or the offering during worship.



### LONG TERM CONCERNS:

**Norma Quist, Mark Halliday, Steven Janowicz** (son of former members Joyce and George), **Tom Brown** (friend of Frank & Rose Chara), **Frank Scangarella, Colleen Erickson** (niece of Rose & Frank Chara), **Lorraine Nichols, John De Falco, Judy Napoli, Karen Milligan, Heather** (Tony's daughter-in-law), **Michael Bozza** (friend of Gloria Krueger), **Brandi** (friend of Ann Marie Ziffer), **William (Bill) Erickson** (brother-in-law of Frank and Rose Chara), **Nancy Crefeld** (Pete's mom), **Kathryn Dontje** (Barbara Ball's daughter), **Brenda** (Barbara Ball's daughter), **Logan Boncek** (Gloria Krueger's cousin's grandson), **Judy Lento** (Pat Lento's sister in law), **Charles Cunningham, Dee Patrick, Dolores Garritano** (Gloria Krueger's sister) **Peter Garritano & Jim Jenkins** (family of Gloria Krueger), **Jim**, (Lynn Rayner's brother), **Candace** (Jane Young's sister), **Patti Moffa** (Alyse Cafasso's friend), **Amy Griffith, Adele Ebert** (Shell's mom), **Paul** (Susan De Bell's brother), **Michael Clark** (Sharon Hollick's son-in-law), **Johanna Clark** (sister of Michael Clark)



## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVENTS



### ORDER CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS BY NOVEMBER 24 – ORDER FORM ENCLOSED IN YOUR BULLETIN TODAY:

The poinsettias that are purchased are used to beautify the worship spaces for the Christmas Eve

Services. You may order plants in memory of or in honor of family and friends. You may choose to donate the plants to shut-ins and members who have had a loss in their family this past year or indicate that you wish to pick up your plant(s) starting after the 11:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. Plants are \$12 each. Proceeds will support the Deacon's Fund.

**FAMILY ADVENT CANDLE CRAFT!** The Discipleship Team is sponsoring a family craft to celebrate Advent! Come



join us after the second service on November 24th in Grace Chapel to make a simple but fun Advent wreath with sand art and candles! Fun for all ages! A \$5.00 donation is requested but not necessary.

Can't make it? Feel free to pick up

a Do-it-yourself bag to bring home to complete with your family! Please RSVP by Nov. 17 if you are interested to [christine.hudson@frc-pp.org](mailto:christine.hudson@frc-pp.org)

**ADVENT SERMON SERIES: CANTICLES:** Did you know that the Gospel of Luke includes four songs or "canticles" sung around the time of Jesus' birth? Join us this Advent as we listen to the songs of Zechariah, Simeon, Mary, and the Angels. As we enter the story, you might even see an appearance from some of these characters in worship. Each Sunday in worship, special music or congregational singing will put the scripture "canticles" to music as we worship and wait for the coming of the Savior.

### ADVENT BEGINS WITH A HANGING OF THE GREENS SERVICE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1:

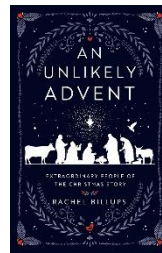


Christians have remembered and celebrated Christ's coming and birth with evergreens and decor in the Advent Season.

On the first Sunday in Advent,

December 1st, we will continue this tradition by "hanging the greens" in worship. Join us for this interactive and meaningful service! Everyone is invited to stay after the service to help decorate the church for the coming Christmas season.

**DECK THE HALLS - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1:** Everyone is invited to take part in decorating our church buildings for Christmas! After each service, there is decorating to do. We will celebrate our efforts with bagels for the early team and a pizza party when we finish up after the second service! Many hands can make our church buildings a warm and welcoming place to worship during the Christmas season. The Congregational Life team is hosting.



### ADULT DISCIPLESHIP: "AN UNLIKELY ADVENT" BY RACHEL BILLUPS - AN ADVENT STUDY FOR SMALL GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS:

You can join a small group or use the study independently. The in-person group will meet on Wednesdays Nov. 20, Dec. 4, 11 & 18 at 7:00 p.m. in The Study. Sign up on the

church website. Study guides can be purchased in the church office or online. Here is a description of the study from the author: "Expect the unexpected this Christmas: This four-week Advent study focuses on the experiences of four sets of often overlooked characters in the Nativity story. During this Advent season, Rachel Billups guides readers through the themes of hope, love, joy, and peace by sharing the stories of Elizabeth and Zechariah, Herod, the Magi, and the shepherds. Each set of unexpected characters has something to teach about living faithfully on the journey to Christmas."

### YOUNG FAMILIES EVENT - GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1:

Come out to the next young family's event on Sunday, December 1st after the second service at 11:00 a.m. in Grace Chapel. We will be decorating gingerbread houses for the holiday season. Parents are asked to stay and help in the decorating process. Please use the QR code to sign up so the planning committee knows who is coming and how many supplies we need to have pre-made for the event. All information can be found on the sign-up sheet attached to the QR code or by going to the link below. This is a great way for young church families to connect after the service and spend time as a family. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KPiyjb6R4q-D3BCbckzBySj8Rqtnz92xLBdfzfNP7Bw/edit?usp=sharing>





**“HOPE & LIGHT” COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING & PROGRAM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1 IN FRONT OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING:** The Community Partners for Hope and township ecumenical community present the annual tree lighting event! The day will start with a

parade of decorated vehicles at 4:00 p.m. Activities include trackless train rides, crafts, letters to Santa, Hope One collection, photo ops, and of course Santa himself and lighted vehicles! The Tree lighting ceremony will begin at approximately 5:30 p.m. In addition, donations of socks, gloves and winter hats for the homeless people throughout Morris County will be collected.

**THE DRIVE THRU NATIVITY IS BACK! DECEMBER 7 & 8 FROM 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.**

Sign up to dress up as a character from the Christmas story. This can be done online through the church website <https://tinyurl.com/FRCDriveThru2024>, by scanning this QR code, or in person after both services on Sundays (at the Welcome Center in the Friendship Hall Lobby) starting in November. Shifts will be 6-7 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. both nights! Have any questions or want to get more involved in the setup process? Contact Jessie Bundz, 973-476-8392 or [jbundz@optonline.net](mailto:jbundz@optonline.net)



**ANNUAL TOY DRIVE FOR BESSIE GREEN COMMUNITY**

Once again we will be collecting toys and gifts for the Bessie Green Community. Look for the holly leaves posted in Friendship Hall starting on Sunday November 17 th . There will be a large box in Friendship Hall to receive the gifts. All gifts must be received by Sunday December 8 th . All gifts should be unwrapped with the tag attached. Thank you for your continued generosity at this time of giving.

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 9:00 A.M. IN FRIENDSHIP HALL:**



Calling all bakers and cookie lovers!! Our annual cookie sale will be held on Saturday, December 21st starting at 9:00 a.m. This fundraiser is always

very popular with the community. Consider helping the Women’s Ministry with this fundraiser by baking 8-10 dozen of your specialty or favorite cookies (please no chocolate chip). There is a sign-up sheet on the welcome center in the Friendship Hall lobby. The sale will continue until noon (or end earlier if cookies are

sold out). Trays will be available for pick up a few weeks before the event. Drop off Friday, December 20th between 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in Friendship Hall kitchen OR Saturday, December 21st before 9:00 a.m. Please clearly mark for “Cookie Sale”.

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES DECEMBER 24, 2024**

**Family Christmas Eve Service**

5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A service focused on sharing the Christmas story with children and families in an interactive way. All are invited.

**Christmas Eve Communion Service**

8:00-8:45 p.m. in Grace Chapel. A quiet service sharing the Christmas story with carols, candles, and communion.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

11:00 p.m.-Midnight in the Sanctuary. A celebratory service sharing the Christmas story with music from the Chancel Choir, special music and carols. The service will end at midnight with the lighting of candles and singing Silent Night.