

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026

Gathering

PRELUDE

Traci Bopp, Keyboard

During the prelude, please take a quiet moment to prepare your hearts and minds for worship

WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

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

Expansion of Our Hearts

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsive)*

How are we to live as God's beloved children?

We are to have attitudes and actions of compassion and justice.

How are we to live as neighbors with one another?

We are to put on the garments of love and peace.

Let us come before the Lord in gratitude for all we have been given.

Lord, thank you for all you continue to do in our lives. AMEN.

*GATHERING SONG #11 *(blue hymnal)* "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Brooke Burgin, Song Leader

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF GRACE

What burdens your spirit? What regret or hurt do you carry today? Together, let us confess that which does not give us life and take up, instead, the love and grace of God.

Eternal God, we come before you aware that you know the truth of our hearts before we can utter a word. You know when our good intentions exceed our capacity for gospel living. You know when our actions harm the loving community that we seek to build.

Forgive our shortcomings and the times we have failed to live the words we say.

Restore us in the confidence of people who have heard good news and remind us that even when we arrive late, there is still community-building work to be done. Amen.

*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.)* "Awake, My Soul"

by Lee Black & Tony Wood

Chancel Choir; Kim Lampe, Director

Ian Milligan, Cajon

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 LESSONS Colossians 3:1-17 (NIV)

Susan Breznak, 8:30 Reader & Joann Warner, 10:00 Reader

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. 7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. 8 But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. 11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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

MESSAGE "A Uniform for the Transformed"

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

Transformation of Our Lives

SONG OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE #17 *(green book)* "Step by Step"

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

DOXOLOGY #815 *(blue hymnal)*

Compassion For the World

*SENDING SONG **#425** (*blue hymnal*) **“Bind Us Together”**

*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 Ken Hellyer, given by Sue Hellyer.



Hearing assist technology is available during worship services. To find out how to connect your hearing aids or to borrow a hearing assist device, please see a greeter.



TODAY & THIS WEEK – SEPT. 27, 2026

WELCOME TO FRC: This Sunday, we will continue our journey through a new sermon series for the fall - "Called to Community: Growing Deeper and Wider in the Love of God." As we review a portion of Paul's letter to the church in Colossae, we will be learning more about the value of Christian community. We'll seek to answer these questions; "Why do we gather and what is it that unites us in our gathering?" Pastor Dave will bring a message entitled, "A Uniform for the Transformed." Our Scripture text for Sunday, September 27th is Colossians 3:1-17.

JOIN US OR GAME NIGHT FRIDAY OCT 2 @ 7:00 PM: Fall is here and so are Game Nights, held the first Friday of the month from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in Keator Parlor. Come, bring a friend and have fun playing Canasta, five crowns, Uno, Scrabble or any other game you might want to play or learn to play. Light refreshments will be served.

WEAR PINK TO CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY OCT. 4 FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH: The Health & Wellness Team is asking the Congregation to wear PINK on October 4. Also join us for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 11 in Friendship Hall. We will honor those we have lost and celebrate survivors. Look for a sign up sheet. Lunch is free but we need a head count.

SIGN UP NOW TO BE A READER: As we return to the fall schedule, please remember to sign up as a reader for both services. The sign-up sheet is on the kiosk near the coffee bar.

THINGS TO KNOW

FALL SENIOR TEA - OCTOBER 4 AT 1:00 P.M. IN GRACE CHAPEL: FRC's Care & Connection Team will be celebrating our 75+ Seniors with a Tea on September 28th. It will be held from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. in Grace Chapel. Enjoy a light lunch and fellowship with friends! RSVP after receiving your invitation. If you did not receive one, contact the office to update your birth date. Any questions can be directed to Eileen Bundz, phone or text 973-476-2600.

NEXT SUNDAY IS WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY: Sunday, October 4th is World Communion Sunday! Children and youth are invited to meet in the back of the sanctuary prior to the 10:00 a.m. service to help process with "flags from around the world" during the first song. We will also celebrate the day with a communion table filled with "bread from around the world." Stay for coffee hour after the second service to sample these breads.

OCTOBERFEST AND ATTIC TREASURES COMING OCT. 10: The Knit and Crochet Group is hosting an October craft, rummage and bake sale in Friendship Hall on Saturday October 10 from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. Proceeds will go toward FRC's budget deficit. Church members are invited to participate:

- Donate craft items for sale
 - Set up a table and consider donating some of the proceeds
 - Donate a special craft item for raffle
 - Donate glass vases, containers or items that can be painted / decorated
 - Come to one of the knit and crochet meetings starting Sept. 14 to help make items for sale
 - Donate baked goods for sale
 - Donate items in EXCELLENT condition for a Fall / Christmas boutique
 - Help with set-up, clean-up and/or sales that day
 - Join us that day for fellowship and shopping
- For additional information please contact Linda Wilson, Pauline McKeown, Carolyn Connerton or Susy Kerber

THE CARE AND CONNECTION TEAM is seeking people who are interested in visiting or calling members of our congregation that are homebound or hospitalized. Please reach out to Eileen Bundz at [973-476-2600](tel:973-476-2600) or eileen.bundz@gmail.com by 9/30 if you feel led to be a part of this important ministry team. In October, an email will be sent to interested people to schedule a short info session.

MISSION/OUTREACH/SUPPORT

GIFT CARD ORDERS WILL SUPPORT YOUTH MISSION: Please consider supporting Youth Mission by ordering RaiseRight gift cards. Ordering just one card can make a difference! Orders will be accepted 10/4 thru 10/25 and will be available for distribution on Sunday, November 8. A second option for ordering will occur between 11/1 and 11/29 with cards available for distribution on Sunday, December 13. 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, a list of the available cards can be found at <https://www.raiseright.com/brands>. Orders can be given to Eileen Bundz after the 8:30 a.m. worship service or left in the Youth Mission box in the office. Any questions, please contact Eileen Eileen.bundz@gmail.com or 973-476-2600 (phone or text). Thanks for your continued support of First Reformed Church of Pompton Plains Youth Mission.

CROP WALK 2026 OCTOBER 25 AT 11:30 A.M.: We're participating in the 2026 CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Hunger Walk to support Church World Services and help families who are struggling with hunger. Join us with your steps and donations to provide meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them and promote food security worldwide. We will walk a 3-mile loop that will begin and end at FRC. Meet at 11:30 a.m. on October 25 in front of Friendship Hall for a short blessing before the walk. A portion of the funds raised will support the Pequannock Food Pantry. You can contact Eileen Bundz for more information or to support a walker at 973-476-2600 or eileen.bundz@gmail.com

COMMUNITY MEAL PACKING EVENT IN LINCOLN PARK:
Join Grains of Hope on Saturday, October 17 to Pack nutritionally fortified rice and beans meals for the hungry. No special skills needed. Each job is simple, and we will train you. Everyone can participate, according to their capabilities - even accompanied young children. Register at: www.gohnj.org

RCA SOUTH AFRICA MISSION TRIP | FEB 8–19, 2027
Through our church's ongoing partnership with Setshabelo Family and Child Services, we already help provide vital care for orphaned and vulnerable children in South Africa. RCA Global Missions invites you to journey to Soweto and Botshabelo to connect with the Setshabelo team, encourage and engage in their daily ministry, dive into local history, and experience the region's wildlife and landscape. Cost: \$3,100 (covers all in-country expenses) + international airfare. \$500 deposit due Dec 15, 2026.
For More info: Visit <https://bit.ly/RCA-SouthAfrica-2027> or contact FRC Mission Team: Michele (mcrefeld@gmail.com) or Angela (atkohle@gmail.com)

COMMUNION OFFERING FOR SEPTEMBER: JJ TenClay serves as the Refugee Ministries Coordinator for RCA Global Mission, where she equips churches to respond to the needs of refugees, asylum seekers, and displaced people around the world. After spending four years as an RCA missionary in Italy working directly with migrants and refugees, she now builds partnerships between churches and frontline ministries, develops educational resources, advocates for compassionate refugee care, and helps congregations turn biblical hospitality into practical action. To donate, you can mail in a check, place it in the collection kiosk during worship any week in September, or donate online securely through our website on the line item: "Mission of the Month." Make checks payable to FRC and note "September Communion" in the memo line.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

FUEL YOUTH GROUP: Middle school and high school youth are invited for snacks, activities and a lesson to get growing. FUEL meets in Friendship Hall every Wednesday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Friends are always welcome! Contact Pastor Dave with any questions dave@frc-pp.org

PRAYERS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:
Prayers for peace in the Middle East, especially between the United States, Iran, Israel and Lebanon.
Prayers of protection for **US service members** who are deployed.
Prayers for **Rev. Linda** serving the hungry and homeless in Lebanon who are displaced due to war. Linda is connected in mission to us through our Classis and Ponds Reformed Church. Pray for her ministry
Joyce Forde Muller, having knee replacement surgery Sept. 28. Prayers for healing and recovery. Cards to 10 Arundel Rd, Pompton Plains 07444
Prayers for **Addie Scattaglia**, she is under Hospice care in Pennsylvania.
Prayers for **Linda Rossow**, Frank Chara’s sister, undergoing treatments for chronic leukemia.
Prayers for **Chip Hallock**, who has two upcoming surgeries in the next few weeks.

Prayers for **Diane**, (who works with our Spectrum for Living friends). She is looking for housing after a fire.
Paul, Susan DeBell’s brother, undergoing testing for Parkinsons. Prayers for good test results.
Barbara Livingstone, was transferred to JDT for rehab. Cards to 735 Cannella Way, Riverdale 07457
Colleen Erickson, niece of Rose and Frank Chara, undergoing cancer treatments. They found a small mass outside of her brain and she is awaiting discussion for next steps. Also currently experiencing fluid retention that requires drainage. Prayers for healing.
Craig, Joann Warner’s brother, prayers of healing for health issues and for his children Sally and Andrew who are caring for him.
Jo Bradford, broke her wrist. Prayers for healing. Cards to 30 Andrews Place, Pompton Plains 07444
Jane Young, prayers as she begins the transition to Assisted Living in Care One.
William DeBell, Susan’s husband, improving while doing cardiac rehab.

LONG TERM CONCERNS:
Frank Chara, treatments for non hodgkins lymphoma, **Christine**, (friend of Michele Crefeld) colon cancer, **Mary & John** (Linda Wilson), **Brian Farley**, **Katie Wilson**, cancer treatments, **Tom Larkin**, **Ann** (friend of Eileen Bundz), **Lois Wickham**, **Michael Angelucci** (son of Gail Trappe’s friend), **Michele Brauman** (sister-in-law of Joanna Minassian & Meg Sturm), **Jamie Spillane** (college classmate of Karen & Tom Kamp), **Jennifer Carpentieri**, **Cindy**, **Anna Miller** (future daughter-in-law of Kathy & John Shea and future niece of Judy Shivy) **Joyce Gruzdis**, **Michael Clark** (Sharon Hollick's son-in-law), **Peggy Biondi** (friend of Amy Muller) receiving chemo, **Beverly Adams** (Jennifer Adams’ mother) blood cancer, **Carol** (friend of Leeanne Leck) pancreatic cancer, **Sue Rayner**, lung cancer, **Kristen**, vision issues, **Christopher Martin** (Pat Lento’s relative) myocarditis, **Steven Janowicz** (son of former members Joyce and George), **Judy Napoli**, **Karen Milligan**, **Heather** (Tony’s daughter-in- law), **Nancy Crefeld** (Pete’s mom), **Kathryn Dontje** (Barbara Ball’s daughter), **Judy Lento** (Pat Lento’s sister in law), **Charles Cunningham**, **Jim**, (Lynn Rayner's brother), **Candace** (Jane Young's sister), **Amy Griffith**, **Adele Ebert** (Shell's mom)

FINANCIALS

HOW TO DONATE TO FRC:
In Person: Drop your check at the office or place it in kiosk or the offering plate during worship.
Give Electronically: You can have your weekly or monthly contribution debited from your checking or savings account and transferred directly into the church account safely and electronically. Visit our website www.firstreformedchurch.com and choose the blue "Donate" button. You can also scan the QR code



Thank you for your generosity!		
	Week Ending	
	9/20/2026	9/21/2025
Sunday Collection	\$ 52,479.00	\$ 2,428.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 6,545.40	\$ 6,666.94
Total Weekly Contributions	\$ 59,024.40	\$ 9,094.94
Yearly Collection Goal (BUDGET)*	\$ 717,863.84	\$ 665,510.00
Weekly Goal*	\$ 13,805.07	\$ 12,798.27
Weekly Collection Surplus/Deficit	\$ 45,219.33	\$ (3,703.33)
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (66,672.25)	\$ 10,932.03