

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2026

Gathering

PRELUDE

Lori Yost, 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)*

God is good!

All the time!

And all the time!

God is good!

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. Let all the people proclaim:

God's steadfast love endures forever! The Lord is my strength, my song, and my salvation!

We will proclaim what the Lord has done.

We enter the gates of the Lord and give thanks, for this is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*GATHERING SONG #223 *(green book)* "Shout to the Lord"

Brooke Burgin, Song Leader

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Prayer of Confession

Gracious Father, You have chosen us for a purpose – that we might bear lasting fruit for Your Kingdom. You call us to walk humbly before You and to share in the struggle with the least of these, yet we have failed to live up to this call.

(Silence)

When the church becomes the center of our world and we fail to see beyond its walls.

Forgive us.

When our eyes become so fixed on priorities of our own making, that we fail to look for Jesus in the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and the imprisoned.

Forgive us.

When we praise You with our lips yet fail to reach out to others with acts of loving and caring, justice and mercy.

Forgive us.

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news!

"All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name!"

In the name of the risen Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! 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 "Loved By You"

by Riley Clemmons

Brenna Tesauro, Vocal Solo; Martin Williams, Guitar

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 Acts 10: 34-48 (NIV)

Pauline McKeown, 8:30 Reader & Joann Warner, 10:00 Reader

34 Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism 35 but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. 36 You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. 37 You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

39 "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, 40 but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. 41 He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. 45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. 46 For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

Then Peter said, 47 “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.” 48 So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

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

MESSAGE "Getting Out of the Way"

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

Transformation of Our Lives

SONG OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE **#591** *(blue hymnal)*

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord” v. 1,2,4

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

DOXOLOGY **#815** *(blue hymnal)*

Compassion For the World

*SENDING SONG **#690** *(blue hymnal)* **“He Leadeth Me”**

*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 Jan & Arline Friedrich given by their loving family.



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.



529 Newark Pompton Tpke
Pompton Plains, New Jersey 07444
(973) 835-1144
office@frc-pp.org
www.firstreformedchurch.com



TODAY & THIS WEEK – OCT. 11, 2026

WELCOME TO FRC: In Acts 10:47, Peters exclaims, "Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." For Peter, this is a new understanding of God's grace. A vision described in Acts 10 has opened his heart and released the Gospel to those who are not Jewish. God is casting a wide net that doesn't exclude anyone or show preference to anyone. Peter's heart was moved. How are we doing? Do we fully understand God's plan for people around the world? The sermon is entitled, "Getting Out of the Way."

THINGS TO KNOW

NEW EXHIBIT IN FRC-PP ART GALLERY: Our children have created collages to depict the beauty of GOD's Autumn season. Please stop by and view their creations.

HELP US TELL STORIES OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!

Stewardship Team is creating videos highlighting FRC's 6 key ministry areas. They need your help on Sunday, October 18 telling stories of what you appreciate about worship services at FRC. Stop by Keator Parlor after either the 8:30 or 10am service to share your own response to the following two questions:

- 1) What part of a worship service speaks to you the most?
- 2) Tell about a moment you have experienced God's presence in worship.

Thank you in advance for helping us see, learn, and celebrate how we experience God in worship at FRC!

PASTORAL TRANSITION: Pastor Dave has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of Sycamore Community Church in Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ. His last Sunday with us will be October 25th and his last day in the office will be October 26th. Please join us in giving God thanks for Pastor Dave and his 11 years of ministry at FRC. On Sunday, October 25th we will have a moment in worship to give thanks for Pastor Dave and bless him as he moves toward his next call. Here are ways you can help say thank you to Pastor Dave.

- 1) Write a note or card of thanksgiving to Pastor Dave and drop it by the office. These cards will be collected and given to Pastor Dave on his last Sunday.
- 2) Bring a baked good to coffee hour on October 25th in celebration for Pastor Dave.
- 3) Give a "Love Gift". A Love gift is a financial gift to bless a staff member who is leaving us. If you would like to give a love gift you can bring your cash or check to the office and give it to our finance Manager, Ann Marie Ziffer. Please note that love gifts are not tax deductible and will not be listed on your FRC yearly contributions statement.

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.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 144 ANNUAL SALE IS HERE - ORDER DEADLINE OCTOBER 19! Help support the troop FRC sponsors. 22" Wreaths - \$30.00 - 19"X30" Swags - \$30.00 Decorated Memorial Blankets - \$35.00. Poinsettias also available: 5" - \$10.00, 6" - \$15.00, 8" - \$30.00 & 10" - \$35.00. Place your order by texting or calling Patti Bauer 201-874-0377 or through a scout you know. Checks should be payable to *Peq. Boy Scout Troop 144*. Pick up is Saturday, Dec. 5 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in Grace Chapel OR a boy scout can deliver to your home.

NEW FRC TREASURER: FRC has a new Treasurer! Join us in giving thanks to God for Frank Chara and his willingness to serve. Please also join us in giving thanks to God for Pat Philipson as our outgoing treasurer and her many years of service. Frank will soon have a new church email that will be frank.chara@frc-pp.org

MISSION/OUTREACH/SUPPORT

COAT DRIVE: The Mission Team will once again sponsor a coat drive starting October 18 through December 13. As always, the coats will be shared with Market Street Mission and Bessie Green. All sizes are needed. Please bring clean coats on hangers and place on the coat rack in Friendship Hall. Thank you again for your generosity.

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 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

MISSION OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER: The mission of the month for October will support Church World Services *CROP Hunger Walk*. *CROP Hunger Walks* are community-based walk events held in cities and towns across the United States, raising funds to support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. To donate, you can mail in a check, place it in the collection kiosk during worship any week in October, or donate online securely through our website on the line item: "Mission of the Month." Make checks payable to FRC and note "October Communion" in the memo line.

EMPTY BOWLS DINNER 2026 - MONDAY OCTOBER 19TH: *Helping to end hunger and food insecurity, filling one empty bowl at a time*

Join us for the Empty Bowls dinner in Friendship Hall on Monday, October 19 to help end hunger. Proceeds benefit the Pequannock Food Pantry and Grains of Hope. Visit www.cpfhemptymbowls.org for details, sponsorship and registration information.

- 5-6 pm to-go soup orders
- 6-8 pm Soup meal and entertainment from the Bloomingdale Big Band

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

WITH SYMPATHY:

For the family of **Addie Scattaglia** who passed away on Sept. 24. A service in the sanctuary and repast in Friendship Hall are being planned for December 12 starting at 1:00 p.m. Cards to her daughter Nadine Taylor 117 Round Hill Rd., Kennett Square, PA 19348

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

Katie Wilson is finally feeling better after the last couple weeks, so again your prayers are working. This week she will have a full body scan and then a stent placed in her collapsed ureter so her kidney can function again. The family would appreciate your continued prayers for successful outcomes.

Henry Hanzo, fractured his distal radius in the wrist and had to have surgery. Prayers for healing.

Colleen Erickson, niece of Rose and Frank Chara, now in a nursing care facility. Chemo treatments are not working. Prayers for Colleen and family during this difficult time.

Joyce Forde Muller, recovering from knee replacement surgery. Prayers for healing. Cards to 10 Arundel Rd, PP

Prayers for **Linda Rossow**, Frank Chara’s sister, undergoing treatments for chronic leukemia.

Prayers for **Chip Hallock**, recovering from two surgeries and is doing well.

Prayers for **Diane**, (who works with our Spectrum for Living friends). She is looking for housing after a fire.

Paul, Susan DeBell’s brother, will be going to Mayo Clinic in November for testing. Prayers for good test results.

Craig, Joann Warner’s brother, prayers of healing for health issues and for his children Sally and Andrew who are caring for him.

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 the 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	
	10/4/2026	10/5/2025
Sunday Collection	\$ 1,876.00	\$ 28,913.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 11,509.40	\$ 5,878.80
Total Weekly Contributions	\$ 13,385.40	\$ 34,791.80
Yearly Collection Goal (BUDGET)*	\$ 717,863.84	\$ 665,510.00
Weekly Goal*	\$ 13,805.07	\$ 12,798.27
Weekly Collection Surplus/Deficit	\$ (419.67)	\$ 21,993.53
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (72,836.49)	\$ 28,596.59