



**First Presbyterian Church  
of Metuchen**

Where God's Love Welcomes All



## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN**

**March 23, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.**

**Third Sunday in Lent**

**Our vision is to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength,  
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

**Livestreamed on our website and Facebook/FPC Metuchen**

**270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840**

**[www.fpcweb.org](http://www.fpcweb.org)**

**(732) 491-2300**



Senior Pastor and Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry  
Associate Pastor: Rev. Khayla Johnson  
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Robert A. Beringer  
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Glory J. Thomas  
Indonesian Pastoral Supply: Rev. Leksmana Leonard  
Director of Music Ministries: Jordan Klotz  
Minister of Music Emeritus: Brenda Arnold Day  
Director for Christian Education: Nancy Leardi

## ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD

**\*Please rise in body or spirit.**

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### GATHERING

**PRELUDE** When I Survey the Wondrous Cross    Handbell Trio: Helen Burr-Cackowski,    arr. Larry Sue  
Laura Cabbage-Draper, Nicole Wagner

**WELCOME/TIDINGS**

The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is king!

**All:    Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!**

Leader: His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.

**All:    The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.**

Leader: The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory.

**All:    For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.**

Leader: Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

**All:    Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!**

**\*HYMN #215          What Wondrous Love Is This**

WONDRIOUS LOVE

**\*OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION – Unison**

Rev. Khayla Johnson

**God of mercy, hear our prayer. We carry in our hearts the blessings and burdens, the joys and sorrows of our day. We see the brokenness of the world as well as the grandeur of nature.**

**We wait for the daffodils and the roses amidst the buds not yet blooming. Give us the courage to trust your goodness; give us the strength to see the wonders of life. Let us not be overwhelmed by the storms for we know they pass. God of mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Rev. Khayla Johnson

**\*HYMN #577          Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us**

KYRIE ELEISON

*Dinah Reindorf (1938-2025) was a Ghanaian musician who wrote the "Kyrie" we are singing during this Lenten season. Her impressive career included serving as the first woman conductor of Ghana's National Symphony Orchestra, being a skilled music educator, and a published composer. "Kyrie eleison," which means "Lord, have mercy," is an ancient Christian prayer.*

**ANTHEM    Hear, O Lord, My Plea for Justice**

Westminster Choir

Michael Morgan

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Nancy Regan

Nursery care is available in Room 107. Children Pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join Sunday school in the GLOW room. All other grades remain in worship.

# THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

<b>FIRST SCRIPTURE READING</b>	Genesis 18:22-25	Eli Duhme
	This is the Word of the Lord . . . Thanks be to God.	
<b>ANTHEM</b>	A Tree Once Stood	Senior Choir
		Joseph Martin
<b>SECOND SCRIPTURE READING</b>	Luke 10:13-16	
	This is the Word of the Lord . . . Thanks be to God.	
<b>SERMON</b>	"Deeds of Power"	The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

### SETTLING OF THE WORD

<b>*HYMN #728</b>	Somebody's Knocking at Your Door	SOMEBODY'S KNOCKIN'
<b>CALL TO OFFERING</b>		Rev. Khayla Johnson
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	Silence May Be Kept	Dan Locklair

### \*LENTEN DOXOLOGY

Praise God throughout these forty days, Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise,  
And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love, through Christ, into our hearts. Amen.

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you . . . *And also with you.*

<b>PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER</b>	Rev. Khayla Johnson
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**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and let us not fall into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

<b>*HYMN #274</b>	You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd	PICARDY
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### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**\*Please rise in body or spirit.**

*During Lent, worship will end with the benediction.*

*In keeping with the pensive nature of the season, the congregation will exit without music.*

*Our greeter this morning is Wendy Kukowski, and the ushers are Eli Duhme and Heather Koball,  
Beth Russian, and Nancy Regan.*

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Jerry Young from June, Christine, and Richard,  
and from Tracy Regan given with love in honor of her mom, Nancy Regan, for all her love and support.*

## FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

### Genesis 18:22-25

So the men turned from there, and went towards Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, 'Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?'

**SCRIPTURE READER:** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**PEOPLE:** *Thanks be to God.*

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

### Luke 10:13-16

'Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But at the judgement, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? No, you will be brought down to Hades.

'Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.'

**SCRIPTURE READER:** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**PEOPLE:** *Thanks be to God.*

## March 23, 2024 WORSHIP HYMNS

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### #215 WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

1- What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this,  
that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

2- When I was sinking down, sinking down,  
sinking down,  
when I was sinking down, O my soul!  
When I was sinking down  
beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

3- To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;  
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.  
To God and to the Lamb who is the great "I AM,"  
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,  
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

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### #577 LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.

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### #728 SOMEBODY'S KNOCKING AT YOUR DOOR

**Refrain:**

Somebody's knocking at your door;  
somebody's knocking at your door;  
O sinner, why don't you answer?  
Somebody's knocking at your door.

1- Knocks like Jesus.  
Somebody's knocking at your door.  
Knocks like Jesus.  
Somebody's knocking at your door.  
O sinner, why don't you answer?  
Somebody's knocking at your door. **Refrain.**

2- Can't you hear him?  
Somebody's knocking at your door.  
Can't you hear him?  
Somebody's knocking at your door.  
O sinner, why don't you answer?  
Somebody's knocking at your door. **Refrain.**

3- Answer Jesus.  
Somebody's knocking at your door.  
Answer Jesus.  
Somebody's knocking at your door.  
O sinner, why don't you answer?  
Somebody's knocking at your door. **Refrain.**

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### #274 YOU, LORD, ARE BOTH LAMB AND SHEPHERD

1- You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd.  
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.  
You, peacemaker and sword-bringer  
Of the way you took and gave.  
You the everlasting instant;  
You, whom we both scorn and crave.

2- Clothed in light upon the mountain,  
Stripped of might upon the cross,  
Shining in eternal glory,  
Beggared by a soldier's toss,  
You, the everlasting instant;  
You, who are both gift and cost.

3- You, who walk each day beside us,  
Sit in power at God's side.  
You, who preach a way that's narrow,  
Have a love that reaches wide.  
You, the everlasting instant;  
You, who are our pilgrim guide.

4- Worthy is our earthly Jesus!  
Worthy is our cosmic Christ!  
Worthy your defeat and victory.  
Worthy still your peace and strife.  
You, the everlasting instant;  
You, who are our death and life.

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## OUR WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

The First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen has adopted a policy that individuals listed must grant permission for their names to be included on the weekly prayer list. PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE – 732-491-2300 to add a person to the prayer list. Persons requested to be on the prayer list will remain for one month and then be removed unless requested to keep for a longer period.

Dey Adam (*Dawn Adam's sister*)  
Jackson Alcantara (*grandson of Lori Nielsen*)  
James Angley (*Lynne Angley's son*)  
The Bellini family (*friends of the Brennan's*)  
John Bertelsen (*Brother of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)  
Pat Byrne (*Sue Harmon's brother-in-law*)  
Anna Cackowski (*daughter of Al & Helen Burr-Cackowski*)  
Dorothy Canary (*aunt of Sue Harmon*)  
Cassidy family (*Marty Brennan's relatives*)  
Natalie Charles (*cousin of Tom Messina*)  
Bruce Dangremond (*brother of Mary Kay Dangremond*)  
\*Mary Kay Dangremond  
\*Henry and Rita Dengah  
Lisa De La Fuente (*friend of the Kozo/Mollison family*)  
Darla Dimatteo  
Robert Doeg (*friend of Niall Corbalis*)  
\*Ruth Endicott  
Hank Frank, Jr. (*Deb Teall's partner*)  
\*Marie Gale  
Lane Gibson (*friend of Bill Nann*)  
\*Joey Hale (*Son of Matt and Laura Hale*)  
\*Margaret Hathaway  
\*Audrey Hausser  
Marion Kovacs (*friend of June Keehbler*)  
\*Susan Kozo  
Elaine LeSter (*Lorraine LeSter's sister*)

**Names highlighted in boldface were recently added**

\*Members of the church

Patricia Maktal (*friend of Messina Family*)  
\*Bill Marquard  
Elliot Miller (*Larrie Servino's brother*)  
Michael Murach (*Kristina Scoglio's cousin*)  
Joan Murray (*Allison Brennan's mother*)  
Virginia Newton (*Virginia Shaw's mother*)  
Marilyn Rautio (*Karen Keithler's mother*)  
Carol Roberts (*friend of Jane & Ed Meyer*)  
Jeff Rubin (*friend of June Keehbler*)  
\*Dave Ryder  
Angela Sampoli (*friend of Dawn Adam*)  
Karen Scoglio (*Kristina Scoglio's mother*)  
\*Bradley and Kira Shaver  
Sarah Abed Van Pelt (*Chris Van Pelt's daughter-in-law*)  
Crystal Smith Williams (*friend of the Food Pantry*)  
David Wong  
\*Lynn Hendricks Wong  
Sylvia Zaroni (*Mother-in-law of Wendy Kukowski*)

### OUR CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS OF COMFORT

- for Karen Keithler and her family on the passing of their mother.
- for the family of Helen Elisabeth Edwards who passed away on March 5<sup>th</sup>. She was a former deacon and has since moved to Florida.
- for the family of Deena Mikkelson who passed away March 19.

### PASTORAL CARE:

If you or a family member is in the hospital, please contact the pastors: Rev. Fred Garry at (315) 771-3590 or Rev. Khayla Johnson at (843) 312-7288. **The hospitals no longer contact clergy when a parishioner is admitted, nor do they keep a list of patients by denomination.** The only way the pastors will know if you or a loved one are in the hospital is if you contact us. We are more than ready and glad to visit. Please contact us even if it is to pray for you. You can also call the church office (732) 491-2300 during office hours.

### FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

David Garry, Coast Guard Cutter Bear, Philadelphia, PA (*Son of Fred & Kathy Garry*)  
MSgt. David Hansen, USAF (*Son of Elaine Hansen*)  
MC1 Kevin Leitner, U.S. Navy, San Diego, CA (*Sue Harmon's cousin*)  
Lt. Cmdr. Krista Marquard, U.S. Public Health Service, Lawrence, KS (*Bill & Susan Marquard's daughter-in-law*)  
Major Matthew McQueeney, Pilot & DO, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho (*Son/Stepson of Amy & Pete Bellisano*)  
LT John Alexander Petr, U. S. Navy, San Diego, CA (*Pennix Family friend*)  
\*CPT Bradley Shaver, U. S. Army – Ft. Carson, CO (*Brother/Son of Greg and Julie Walton Shaver*)  
CPT Julia Harris Switzer, MD USAF (*Granddaughter of Grace Hammesfahr*)  
Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Mason Weingarten, Coast Guard (*Bill & Susan Marquard's grandnephew*)

## THIS WEEK

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

And by appointment for other times

### SUNDAY, MARCH 23

Worship Service – Sanctuary and Virtual . . . . . 9:30 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> Hour: Importance of Pre-K – Chapel . . . . . 10:30 a.m.

Confirmation Class – Room 203 . . . . . 10:30 a.m.

After Worship Refreshments – Room 109 . . . . . 10:30 a.m.

Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary . . . . . Noon

### MONDAY, MARCH 24

DBSA Support Group – Room 109. . . . . 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 25

Jubilee Choir – Choir Room . . . . . 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

AA Support Group – Room 109 . . . . . 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

Pastoral Study: Pericopes of Luke – PW Lounge. . 10:30 a.m.

Lenten Concert – Sanctuary . . . . . Noon

Westminster Choir – Choir Room . . . . . 6:30 p.m.

Trinity Ringers – Bell Loft . . . . . 7:00 p.m.

Youth Group – Youth Room . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 27

Concord Ringers – Bell Loft . . . . . 9:30 a.m.

Junior Choir – Choir Room. . . . . 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Joy Ringers – Sanctuary . . . . . 5:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Junior club – Social Center . . . . . 5:30 p.m.

Covenant Ringers – Bell Loft . . . . . 7:00 p.m.

Senior Choir – Choir Room . . . . . 8:00 p.m.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 28

Women’s AA Support Group – Room 109. . . 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 29

Elijah’s Promise Sandwich Making – Auditorium . . . 9:00 a.m.

### ONLINE CHURCH CALENDAR:

Scan the QR code or click <https://bit.ly/4emWby6>

to access the FPC’s website calendar for more details of what’s happening in the coming weeks.



## COMING SOON

- Mar 30 Installation and Reception of Rev. Khayla Johnson  
Sanctuary/Chapel – 3:00 pm
- Apr 1 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday – GLOW Room – 4:30 pm
- Apr 1 Deacons Meeting – Chapel – 7:30 pm
- Apr 3 Junior Club – Social Center – 5:30 pm
- Apr 4 Presbyterian Queer Fel. – Hailey’s Pub – 7:00 pm
- Apr 6 New Member Class – Chapel – 10:30 am
- Apr 6 Community Dinner – Dining Room – 5:00 pm
- Apr 7 Horizon Bible Study – P{W Lounge/Zoom – 6:00 pm
- Apr 7 Social Justice Com. – Office Conf. Room – 7:30 pm
- Apr 8 Unicameral Board Meeting – Chapel – 7:30 pm

## TREASURER’S TWO CENTS

### Offerings & Gifts Received March 16

Pledge	\$ 5,286
Non-pledge	\$ 9,500
Cash	\$ 92
Per Capita	\$ 1,280
Deacons	\$ 20
CWS Blankets	\$ 45
Special Funds	\$ 60

**TOTAL: \$ 16,283**

**OTHER RECEIPTS \$600 (Building Use)**

### HERE ARE WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:

- Direct** Cash or check in the plate are always welcome!
- Online** From our website [fpcweb.org/give](https://fpcweb.org/give), click on the **Give Online** button. This will redirect you to the Vanco app to set up your donation.
- Text** Text to give using this number: (855) 964-5393, and follow the prompts.

**Thank you for your generous support!**



## SECOND HOUR FORUM

### Importance of Preschool Instruction Today, March 23

**10:30 am in the Chapel**

Community Nursery School is wrapping up its 75th year of instruction! Do you want to know what a current Pre-K classroom looks like? Have you wondered how COVID impacted our youngest learners? To learn more about this important mission of the church, and how quality Pre-K instruction benefits the community at large, please join current teacher Allison Brennan at today's 2nd Hour Forum in the chapel after coffee. Hope to see you there!



## EASTER PLANT ORDERS

Help us decorate our church as we celebrate the glory of Easter on April 20. Honor your loved ones with your order of pink and yellow tulips, or white easter lilies. A listing of donors and those honored will be published in the Easter worship bulletin.

**Get your order forms now from the Narthex, the church office, or our website: <https://fpcweb.org/resources/forms>**



**Orders are due:  
Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**



**Save the dates!**

**April 6 & 27  
In the Chapel  
After worship**

Join us for this opportunity to have your questions on church membership answered, or to explore what it means to be Presbyterian. These classes will be led by Rev. Garry, and Rev. Johnson. A reception to receive and welcome the new members will follow and the date will be shared once it is finalized. **Call us in the church for questions, or if you are able to join: (732) 491-2300**

## COMMUNITY CLEANUP

Please join members of the Mission Commission on **Saturday, April 12 Noon at the Middlesex Greenway** for fun and fellowship as we hunt for and remove litter! We will gather at the Greenway Park (691 Middlesex Ave., Metuchen) at the entrance behind the Whole Foods shopping center.

Gloves and trash bags will be provided.

**For more information, contact:  
Dave Kozo at (201) 259-1848**



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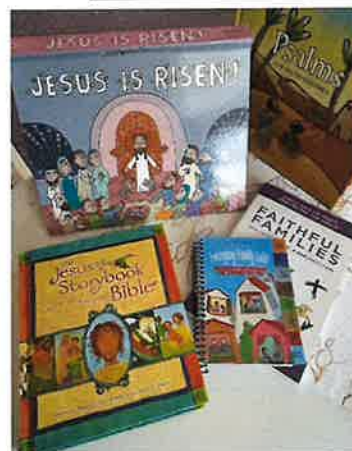
**Come visit the Seeing Eye on May 17th for a tour.**

You will learn about the History of the Seeing Eye and its mission "to enhance the independence, dignity, and self-confidence of blind people through the use of Seeing Eye dogs."

Enjoy a walk through their beautiful campus in Morristown. **The tour starts at 10:00 a.m. and will end at Noon.**

If you are interested in carpooling, we can meet at the Social Center parking lot at 8:45 am on May 17, Saturday.

Please contact Tom Giordano at (732) 609-0127 or [togio227@aol.com](mailto:togio227@aol.com) for more information or if you are interested in going!



Lenten books are available to borrow from Mrs. Leardi's office or outside the GLOW room.





## LENTEN CONCERT SERIES

WEDNESDAYS AT NOON  
IN THE SANCTUARY

- March 26 Convoco Vocal Ensemble
- April 2 Midnight on the Water  
violin & cello
- April 9 Jordan Klotz, organ

Refresh yourself with the music of these artists.  
Join us for some peace and calm in your day.

Admission is FREE!

**MUSIC  
of the  
PASSION**

Sunday, April 13 | 7:00 PM  
First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen  
270 Woodbridge Ave, Metuchen, NJ

Join Jordan Klotz, the FPC Choral Scholars, and Victoria Borrelli, Director of Music at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, for the final installment of the 2024-2025 Candlelight Concert Series: Music of the Passion. This concert will draw connections between the Passion of Christ and stories of contemporary hardship, suffering, and oppression. Following the events of Holy Week chronologically through the music of diverse genres, complete your Lenten journey with this stirring performance.

A pre-concert talk, explaining the repertoire in depth, will precede the concert at 6:30 PM. A light reception will follow in Room 109.

Tickets: \$22/adult \$18/senior 17 & under: Free

# INSTALLATION & RECEPTION



**Rev. Khayla Johnson**  
Associate Pastor

*Sunday, March 30*

*3:00 pm*

*Sanctuary & Chapel*

*First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen*

Join us in celebration as our Rev. Khayla Johnson is officially installed as our Associate Pastor. The ceremony begins in the Sanctuary at 3:00 pm and is followed by a reception in the Chapel.

## FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

**Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m.**

Social Center Dining Room



**We have a place at the table for you.**

Join us in community and fellowship as we enjoy ham, mac & cheese, roasted sweet potatoes, green salad, rolls and butter, and a delicious dessert. For more information, and if you are interested to help, contact us in the church office: (732) 491-2300

