



**First Presbyterian Church
of Metuchen**

Where God's Love Welcomes All



THE MAZE AND THE LABYRINTH



**April 27, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.
Second Sunday of Easter**

**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



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.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME/TIDINGS

The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 28:6-9

Brian and Julia Hajjar

Leader: Blessed be the Lord hearing the voice of my supplications.

All: The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted, and I am helped.

Leader: Therefore, my heart greatly rejoices; and with my song will I praise my God.

The Lord is their strength, and the saving strength of the anointed.

All: Save your people, and bless your inheritance: feed them also, and lift them up for ever.

*HYMN #15 All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION – Unison

Rev. Khayla Johnson

God of mercy, hear our prayer. In worry we rush past those who need our care; in our pursuit of more and more we amass with no concern for the hungry. We press forward when we should wait; we tear down when we should build up. Slow our racing mind so we may hear our heart; let us hear your voice and follow. God of mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*HYMN #238 Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

A MOMENT OF GRATITUDE

Presbyterian Women

CHILDREN'S TIME

Sue West

Nursery care is available in Rm. 107. Children in Pre-K to 6th grade are invited to the GLOW Room for Sunday school. Older children remain in worship.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 25:1-9

Scott Bourne

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

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:38-42

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

SERMON

“The Maze and the Labyrinth”

The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

SETTLING OF THE WORD

*HYMN #488 I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

WATERLIFE

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Khayla Johnson

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts, Creator Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Khayla Johnson

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2025

THE PRESENTATION

Elder Mike Draper

Teacher: Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry and Rev. Khayla Johnson

**Group Leaders: Roland Staal, Melissa McCulley, Helen Burr-Cackowski, Charles Hedrick,
and Pete Bellisano**



**CONFIRMATION
CLASS OF 2025**

Eli Bourne
Collin Casey
Lexington Donahue
Phoebe Gathigia
William Hajjar

Ronnie Kaminski
Carl James Lewis
Anabella Messina
Jack Teti
Taylor Welsh

(Thank you for not taking "flash" photographs during the worship service.)

BLESSINGS AND WELCOME

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Khayla Johnson

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.

*HYMN #721 Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

*Our greeter is June Young, and the ushers are Tom Giordano, Beth Russian, and Sue West.
The Sanctuary flowers are given with love from her family to Susan Kozo as she celebrates her birthday.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 25:1-9

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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

PEOPLE: *Thanks be to God.*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:38-42

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

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

PEOPLE: *Thanks be to God.*

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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*)
Don Clausen
*Lois Crespy
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*)
Marc Gale (*Marie Gale's husband*)
*Marie Gale
Lane Gibson (*friend of Bill Nann*)
*Joey Hale (*Son of Matt and Laura Hale*)

Names highlighted in boldface were recently added

*Members of the church

*Margaret Hathaway
*Audrey Hausser
Marion Kovacs (*friend of June Keebler*)
*Susan Kozo
Elaine LeSter (*Lorraine LeSter's sister*)
Jetty Mailangkay (*wife of Rev. Herby Moningka*)
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*)
Carol Roberts (*friend of Jane & Ed Meyer*)
Jeff Rubin (*friend of June Keebler*)
*Dave Ryder
Angela Sampoli (*friend of Dawn Adam*)
Karen Scoglio (*Kristina Scoglio's mother*)
*Bradley and Kira Shaver
Mary and Michael Thompson (*family of Jim & Jen Thompson*)
Sarah Abed Van Pelt (*Chris Van Pelt's daughter-in-law*)
Terri and Lauren Wells (*friends of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)
Crystal Smith Williams (*friend of the Food Pantry*)
David Wong
*Lynn Hendricks Wong
Sylvia Zaroni (*Mother-in-law of Wendy Kukowski*)

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 1st Class Mason Weingarten, Coast Guard (*Bill & Susan Marquard's grandnephew*)

April 27, 2024 WORSHIP HYMNS

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#15 ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

1- All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2- O brother wind with clouds and rain,
you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear,
make music for your Lord to hear.
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3- O brother fire, so warm and bright,
chase off the shadows of the night.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfolds such blessings on our way,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4- All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain or sorrow grieve,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
so, even in the midst of tears,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5- And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6- O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

#238 THINE IS THE GLORY

1- Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.

Refrain:

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

2- Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.

[Refrain]

3- No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

[Refrain]

#488 I WAS THERE TO HEAR YOUR BORNING CRY

1- I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off to find where
demons dwell.

2- When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk 'till rising sun.

3- In the middle ages of your life, not too old,
no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in,
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.

4- I was there to hear your boding cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

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#721 LORD YOU HAVE COME TO THE LAKESHORE

1- Lord, you have come to the lakeshore
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
you only asked me to follow humbly.

Refrain:

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.

2- You know so well my possessions;
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;
you will find there my nets and labor. **Refrain.**

3- You need my hands, full of caring
through my labors to give others rest,
and constant love that keeps on loving. **Refrain.**

4- You, who have fished other oceans,
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,
my loving friend, as thus you call me. **Refrain.**

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THIS WEEK

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

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

And by appointment for other times

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

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

Confirmation Sunday

Per Capita Drawing After Worship

New Member Class – Chapel 10:30 a.m.

Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary Noon

MONDAY, APRIL 28

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

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

Personnel Commission – Office Conf. Room 7:30 p.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

Lunch and Games – Dining Room Noon – 3:00 p.m.

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, MAY 1

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.

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

Mission Volunteer Night – Auditorium 7:00 p.m.

Senior Choir – Choir Room 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 2

Presby. Queer Fellowship – Hailey’s Pub 7:00 p.m.

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

SATURDAY, MAY 3

Mother’s Day Car Wash – Church Parking Lot

. 9:00 a.m. - Noon

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

May 4 2nd Hour: Special Indonesian Program – Tent 10:30 am

May 4 Community Dinner – Dining Room – 5:00 pm

May 5 Horizon Bible Study – PW Lounge – 6:00 pm

May 6 Deacons Meeting – Chapel – 7:30 pm

May 8 Local Mission Meeting – Auditorium – 11:45 am

May 13 PW Coordinating Team – PW Lounge – 11:00 am

May 13 Unicameral Board Meeting – Chapel – 7:30 pm

May 14 Men’s Breakfast – Dining Room – 7:30 am

May 15 Mission Volunteer Night – Auditorium

May 16 CARE Ministry Social Hour – Dining Room – 12:30 pm

May 17 Tour of Seeing Eye (See details next page)

May 31 Elijah’s Promise Sandwich Making – Auditorium 9:00 am – 11:00 am

TREASURER’S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received April 20

Pledge	\$ 5,580
Non-pledge	\$ 963
Cash	\$ 949
Easter	\$ 2,160
Per Capita	\$ 200
Special Offering	\$ 420

TOTAL: \$10,272

OTHER RECEIPTS \$450 (Parking)

HERE ARE WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:

Direct Cash or check in the plate are always welcome!

Online From our website 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!

MAY COMMUNITY DINNER



Enjoy a home-cooked meal on us!

MAY 4, SUNDAY

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Social Center Dining Room

We have a place for EVERYONE!

Join us in community and fellowship and enjoy ground beef or pulled chicken tacos with rice, beans, corn salad, cheese, guacamole, sour cream, and salsa, and finish with a homemade dessert.

Interested in helping at the dinner?

We welcome volunteers! Many opportunities are waiting to be filled. Please feel free to contact Deacon Gilly McKie, email her at gilly@mckie.com or call (908) 405 2299. You may also call the church office, (732) 491-2300.



MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 11th

Honor your loved ones this Mother's Day with a donation to Church World Service. The CWS Blankets program is all about sharing love through this simple act of kindness. Those being honored will receive an acknowledgment card. Donors' names and the people they are honoring and remembering will be in the Mother's Day bulletin. Forms are available in the Narthex and from our website - <https://fpcweb.org/resources/forms/>

FORMS AND PAYMENT ARE DUE APRIL 28th!

**Time to get your rides sparkling clean!
May 3rd in the Church Parking Lot**



**Mother's Day's
Car Wash Fundraiser
9 AM to Noon
Proceeds go
towards
Youth Group
Mission Trip**

1st QUARTER PER CAPITA DRAWING

TODAY, April 27, after worship, Room 109

This could be you! Join us in Room 109 after worship as the Stewardship Commission picks the winner for our 1st Quarter Per Capita draw.

Thank you for responding to our fun initiative – many of you have turned in your per capita. You can still participate by turning in your per capita share to qualify for the rest of the quarterly draws.



**Sunday, April 27
In the Chapel
After worship**

The 2nd installment of the New Member class will be right after worship. Grab your coffee and meet, and hear from some of our current Elders and Deacons. Even if you missed the first session, we encourage you to come. Join Rev. Garry and Rev. Johnson along members of Session.

A reception to receive and welcome FPC's new members is scheduled for May 18th, and we hope you can make it.



Independence & Dignity Since 1929

Visit the Seeing Eye on May 17th for a tour!

Enjoy a walk through their beautiful campus as you 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."

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 for more information or if you are interested in going! **Anyone interested to join this tour is requested to RSVP so Seeing Eye can be notified of our group.**



CONFIRMATION CLASS of 2025

We are proud to present the 2025 Confirmation Class, composed of 10 youth. They have worked hard and stayed the course, having completed all the requirements. Join us in celebration as they are presented and received during the worship service, and followed by a reception in Room 109 after worship.



THE MISSION COMMISSION in partnership with the American Legion Post No. 65

The Mission Commission is still collecting personal care items to provide to service men and women overseas to thank them as we approach Memorial Day. Donations may be dropped off in marked boxes in the Narthex and Room 109 **by later than April 30.**

Personal Care items needed:

Bar soaps	Deodorant
Shampoo & conditioner in small containers	Pocket tissues
Small body wash	OTHER ACCEPTED ITEMS:
Toothbrush & toothpaste	Pens/ pencils
Hand & body lotion	Small notepad
Chapstick	Stress balls
Emery boards	Slippers
Combs/ hairbrushes	Handwritten notes of encouragement

Thank you in advance for extending gratitude to our service men and women with your donations.

Questions? Contact Russ Dickow, Tracy Regan, or Heather Koball (hkoball@fpcweb.org)

A SPECIAL SECOND HOUR

INDONESIA: Culture and Faith

May 4th 10:30 am, Social Center Tent

We are in for a treat as our Indonesian Fellowship members bring their culture and faith in this Second Hour.

- Learn about the history of Christianity in Indonesia
- The ministry of the Indonesian Fellowship here in FPC
- Enjoy a cultural dance
- Hear from second-generation Indonesian members, and
- Enjoy some savory traditional snacks!

The members of the Indonesian fellowship have been working hard to bring a special presentation. This 2nd hour is for the whole family to enjoy. You do not want to miss this special treat.

Selamat Datang!

