



First Presbyterian Church
of Metuchen

Where God's Love Welcomes All



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN

February 8, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

5th Sunday after Epiphany

**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

GATHERING

ENTRANCE OF CHRIST'S LIGHT

Candles are lit to represent the presence of Christ, offering a moment to center ourselves to worship.

Taylor & BJ Welsh

PRELUDE

WELCOME & TIDINGS

The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 99 adapted

Leader: This is the house of the Lord.

All: **Here we are freed from fear;**
Here we lift our prayers;
Here we are called to compassion;
Here we become salt and light.

The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

Leader: This is the house of the Lord.

*HYMN 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

*OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION – Unison

Rev. Khayla J. Henry

God of steadfast love, hear our confession.
Forgive us for accepting a life without satisfaction-
For the times we have yielded our joy,
For the moments we have accepted defeat,
For the seasons we failed to find courage.
Give us a spirit of tenacity;
Give us a spirit of determination.
God of steadfast love, accept our confession. Amen.

*KYRIE

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Written for Third Presbyterian Church, Rochester, NY by Peter DuBois

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

*GLORIA

Glo - ry be to God, Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost. As it was in the be
gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be. World with - out end. A - men! A - men!

Written for Third Presbyterian Church, Rochester, NY by James Kealey

ANTHEM God Made Me

Carol Choir

CHILDREN'S TIME

Nursery care is available in Room 107. Children will proceed to the GLOW Room.

Presbyterian Puppeteers

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 8:1-6

Andrene Sinclair-Pennix

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

ANTHEM My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Junior & Westminster Choirs

arr. Helen Kemp

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 14:34-35

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

SERMON

"Salt Will Make You Better"

The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

SETTLING OF THE WORD

***HYMN 623** I've Got Peace Like a River

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

***CONFession OF FAITH** (*from the Brief Statement*) – **Unison**

Rev. Khayla J. Henry

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed, and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Khayla J. Henry

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

*RESPONSE

Choir: **All:**

When they build walls we will build bridge- es, o - pen up a dif-frent way, when they
close their eyes, we will sing, whe-ther you're a friend or a stran- ger, one
world we're travel - in' through, whe - ther you're
fear - ful or in dan - ger, peace be with you.

Written by Penny Stone (adapted)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER – Unison

Rev. Khayla J. Henry

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 307 God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION Till We Gather Again

Westminster Choir

Stephen F. Key

POSTLUDE

Throughout Black History Month, we share reflections on the composers of our choir anthems to honor the rich legacy of Black sacred music, highlighting the contributions of Black composers whose faith and artistry have shaped both the church and the wider musical world.

Stephen F. Key is an African American composer and church musician working in the DC Metro Area. His hymn “**Till We Gather Again**,” included in the African American Heritage Hymnal alongside many of Key’s compositions, is today’s Choral Benediction. It speaks to hope, perseverance, and the promise of reunion in God’s presence. This piece is an example of the gospel style.

Our greeter this morning is June Young, and the ushers are Heather Casey, Maggy Cook, and Andrene Sinclair-Pennix.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Dave West, from his wife Sue, and in loving memory of Carl & Marion Guthjahr from their children, Kenneth, Richard & Valerie.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 8:1-6

"The entire commandment that I command you today you must diligently observe, so that you may live and increase and go in and occupy the land that the Lord promised on oath to your ancestors. Remember the long way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that one does not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. The clothes on your back did not wear out, and your feet did not swell these forty years. Know, then, in your heart that, as a parent disciplines a child, so the Lord your God disciplines you. Therefore keep the commandments of the Lord your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him.

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 14:34-35

"Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is useful neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; they throw it away. If you have ears to hear, then hear!"

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.



623 I've Got Peace like a River

1 I've got peace like a riv - er; I've got peace like a
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain; I've got joy like a
 3 I've got love like an o - cean; I've got love like an

riv - er; I've got peace like a riv - er, in my
 foun-tain; I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my
 o - cean; I've got love like an o - cean, in my

1

2

soul. I've got riv - er, in my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain, in my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean, in my soul.

In the King James Version, the promise of "peace like a river" is twice mentioned in Isaiah (48:18; 66:12) as a blessing that comes from doing God's will. The water imagery of this African American spiritual also provides reminders of Christians' baptismal identity.

307 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo-ry, on thy peo-ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad-ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad-ness, rich in we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour-age, hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour-age, things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour-age, glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour-age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour. for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days. lest we miss thy king-dom's goal, lest we miss thy king-dom's goal. serv-ing thee whom we a - dore, serv-ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

OUR WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

To be added in the weekly Prayer List, individuals must give permission for their names to be included. 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, unless requested to keep for a longer period.

Jackson Alcantara (<i>grandson of Lori Nielsen</i>)	*Susan Kozo
*Lynne Angley	*Patricia Lagay
John Bertelsen and family (<i>Brother of Amy Bertelsen-Robles</i>)	Jetty Mailangkay (<i>wife of Rev. Herby Moningka</i>)
Brad (<i>friend of Ingrid Hammond</i>)	Dennis Maiuro (<i>Colleen Walker's brother-in-law</i>)
Linda Burr (June Young's sister)	Patricia Maktal (<i>friend of Messina Family</i>)
Pat Byrne (<i>Sue Harmon's brother-in-law</i>)	*Ed Meyer
Dorothy Canary (<i>aunt of Sue Harmon</i>)	Elliot Miller (<i>Larrie Servino's brother</i>)
Luis Canton (<i>Laurie Toth's father</i>)	Michael Murach (<i>Kristina Scoglio's cousin</i>)
Art Cubbage (<i>father of Laura Draper</i>)	Virginia Newton (<i>Virginia Shaw's mother</i>)
*Mary Kay Dangremond	Jeff Rubin (<i>friend of June Keehbler</i>)
*Henry and Rita Dengah	*Dave Ryder
Darla Dimateo	Angela Sampoli (<i>friend of Dawn Adam</i>)
George Doerbecker (<i>friend of Kristina Scoglio</i>)	Cara Moskal Scacco (<i>niece of June Young</i>)
*Ruth Endicott	Karen Scoglio (<i>Kristina Scoglio's mother</i>)
Hank Frank, Jr. (<i>Deb Teall's partner</i>)	*Lorraine Sheaffer
*Marie Freeman	*Deb Sorensen
*Judy Fuller	Katie Strittmatter (<i>friend of Kozo-Mollison family</i>)
Marc Gale (<i>Marie Gale's husband</i>)	Bud Wilson (<i>friend of Niall Corbalis</i>)
*Marie Gale	David Wong
*Doris Gulotta	*Lynn Hendricks Wong
*Joey Hale (<i>Son of Matt and Laura Hale</i>)	
*Margaret Hathaway	
Jay and family (<i>friend of Ingrid Hammond</i>)	Names highlighted in boldface were recently added
Kalkan/Pondl family	
Teresa Prete-Kaltenbach (<i>friend of the Hajjar family</i>)	*Members of the church

PASTORAL CARE:

If you or a family member is in the hospital, please contact Rev. Dr. Fred Garry at (315) 771-3590 or Rev. Khayla J. Henry at (843) 312-7288. **Hospitals no longer contact clergy when a parishioner is admitted.** 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*)

THIS WEEK

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

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

And by appointment for other times

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Worship Service - Sanctuary and Virtual 9:30 a.m.
2nd Hour: Book of Psalms – Chapel 10:30 a.m.
After Worship Refreshments – Deacons Room .. 10:30 a.m.
Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary Noon
Community Dinner – Dining Room 4:00 p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

PW Coordinating Team – PW Lounge 11:00 a.m.
Carol Choir – Choir Room 4:00 p.m.
Unicameral Board Meeting – Chapel/Zoom..... 7:30 p.m.
AA Support Group – Deacons Room 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Men's Breakfast – Dining Room 7:30 a.m.
Pastoral Bible Study – PW Lounge 10:30 a.m.
Westminster Choir – Choir Room 6:30 p.m.
Trinity Ringers – Bell Loft 7:00 p.m.
Finance Comm. – Office Conf. Room/Zoom 7:00 p.m.
Youth Group – Room 201 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Concord Ringers – Bell Loft 9:30 -10:15 a.m.
Local Mission – Auditorium 11:45 a.m.
Junior Choir – Choir Room 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.
Joy Ringers – Bell Loft 5:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Covenant Ringers – Bell Loft 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Mission Commission – PW Lounge 7:00 p.m.
Senior Choir – Choir Room 8:00 - 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Women's AA Support Grp – Deacons Rm... 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

FULL CHURCH CALENDAR ONLINE:

Scan the QR code or visit our website

<https://bit.ly/4emWby6>



COMING SOON

Feb 15 Youth Commission – PW Lounge – 10:30 am
Feb 16 Puppeteers' Retreat – GLOW Room – 10:00 am
Feb 16 Habitat Meeting – Office Conf. Room – 7:00 pm
Feb 17 Social Justice – PW Lounge – 7:30 pm
Feb 18 B & G Meeting – PW Lounge – 8:00 am
Feb 18 Ash Wednesday Service – Sanctuary – 7:30 pm
Feb 19 Mom's Night Out – Dining Room – 6:00-8:00 pm
Feb 19 Mission Volunteer Night – Auditorium – 7:00 pm
Feb 22 Congregation & Corporation Meeting - Sanctuary
Feb 25 Lenten Concert – Sanctuary – Noon - 12:30 pm
Feb 25 Lunch and Games – Dining Room – 12:30-3:00 pm

TREASURER'S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received February 1

Pledge	\$ 14,951
Non-pledge	\$ 285
Initial	\$ 100
Per Capita	\$ 213
Deacons	\$ 228
Food Pantry	\$ 200
Other funds	\$ 361

TOTAL: \$ 16,338

OTHER RECEIPTS \$470

(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.

Thank you for your generous support!

CHURCH STAFF:

Senior Pastor/Head of Staff Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

Associate Pastor Rev. Khayla J. Henry

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



Come Join The Team!

The Mission Commission is looking for more people to join our creative team to further our church's mission outreach. We will explore ways and means of generating projects, partnerships, and donations for local, statewide, national, and global organizations that could use our help.

We meet the 2nd Thursday of the month from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, in the Social Center.

Learn more about the ways we expand our reach - check out our display in the bulletin board in room 109 during fellowship time. We hope you will rise up to the challenge and find fulfillment working with the Mission Commission.

All interested should call or see Russ Dickow. Email him at: mdickow12@aol.com

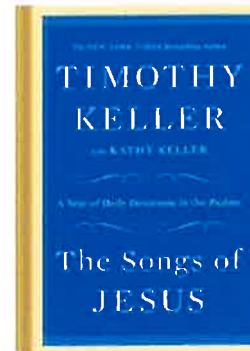


PRESBYTERIAN PUPPETEERS

Calling on all our
puppeteers!

Save the date for
puppeteers retreat on:

February 16
10:00 a.m. in the
GLOW Room
Questions? See Mrs.
Leardi or Ms. Kat.



2nd HOUR STUDY

The Psalms

TODAY, February 8

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
in the Chapel

New Year's resolutions rarely turn into healthy habits. Let's talk about a creating a lasting, fulfilling devotional practice. We will highlight Timothy Keller's collection based on the Psalms, which includes a year's worth of meditations, excerpts from Keller's bestselling books, fresh biblical insights, and more.

Join Helen Burr-Cackowski to begin your journey, or to enjoy lively discussion while adding to your current practice. There is an optional \$5.00 donation for the book.

All are very welcome!



See any of our choir members to support this fundraiser. There are many payment options available to make it easy for you - Cash, credit card, check and PayPal will be accepted.



- NOTICE -

Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation

First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen
22 February 2026
Immediately following Sunday morning
Worship Service

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Receive the Annual Financial and Calendar Year Reports for 2025.
- Receive the 2026 FPC-M Operating Budget.
- Approve the Annual Terms of Call for the Senior Pastor and the Associate Pastor
- Act on any other business that may properly come before such a meeting.

MOMS NIGHT OUT:

Pour and Paint

February 19, Thursday

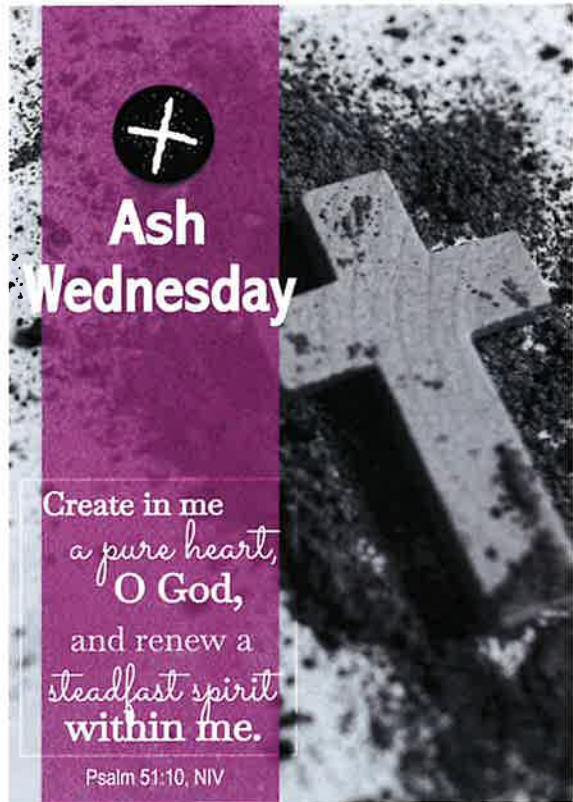
6:00 – 8:00 pm

Social Center Dining Room

A fun evening to fellowship, paint, and enjoy some wine and cheese. (Following FPC policy, this will be a BYOB event.) Anyone interested is asked to RSVP so we can plan on enough materials. To RSVP, email nleardi@fpcweb.org



FPC moms who came to last year's Pour and Paint.



As we usher in the season of Lent, join us in worship and communion.

The Lenten Concert series will again be offered starting February 25. We hope to see you there!

LENTEN CONCERT SERIES

First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen
invites you to
A 30-minute concert of beautiful music for quiet reflection

Wednesdays at Noon

Sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church
270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840
Livestreamed on FPC website & FPC Facebook Page

February 25	Diane Bruce, violin Brenda Day, piano
March 4	Ethan Draper, organ
March 11	Eleanor Rees, soprano
March 18	Lyndon Ji, piano
March 25	Jordan Klotz, organ

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

ADMISSION IS FREE.