First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen



November 22, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

Christ the King

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 (732) 491-2300

GATHERING

ENTRANCE OF CHRIST'S LIGHT
Candles are lit to represent the presence of Christ, offering a moment to center ourselves to worship.

PRELUDE Fugue in E-flat Major "St. Anne" BWV 552 — J.S. Bach

WELCOME & TIDINGS — Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

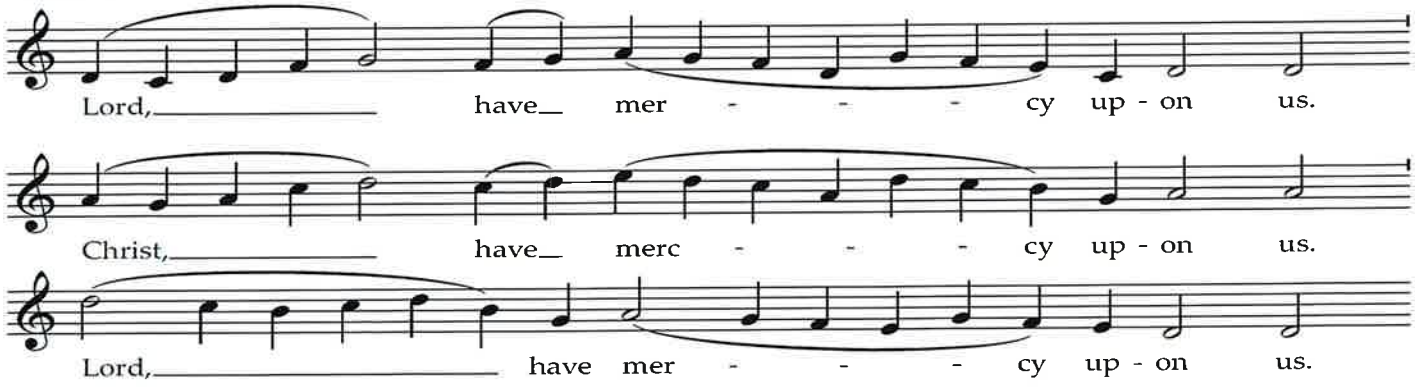
INTROIT The Call — Senior Choir — Brent Smith arr. Erik Routley

***CALL TO WORSHIP** — Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry
Leader: Rejoice! Rejoice and give thanks
All: For the King of kings comes this way.
Leader: Let the skies proclaim and the mountains extol
All: For the Lord who made heaven and earth is here.
Leader: Ready your hearts for the glory of God;
All: Our soul is the sanctuary of our God and King.

***HYMN 687** Our God, Our Help in Ages Past — ST. ANNE

***OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION** — Rev. Khayla J. Henry
God of mercy, give ear to our prayer.
The hope of years to come is what we seek to make.
The peace conquering fear, the resurrection of body and soul,
This is our plan and our purpose.
The hope of ages past is where we stand.
What we have received we offer anew;
What was given to us we provide for those to come.
Make our lives a living witness of grace, mercy, and truth.
God of love, hear our prayer. Amen.

***KYRIE**

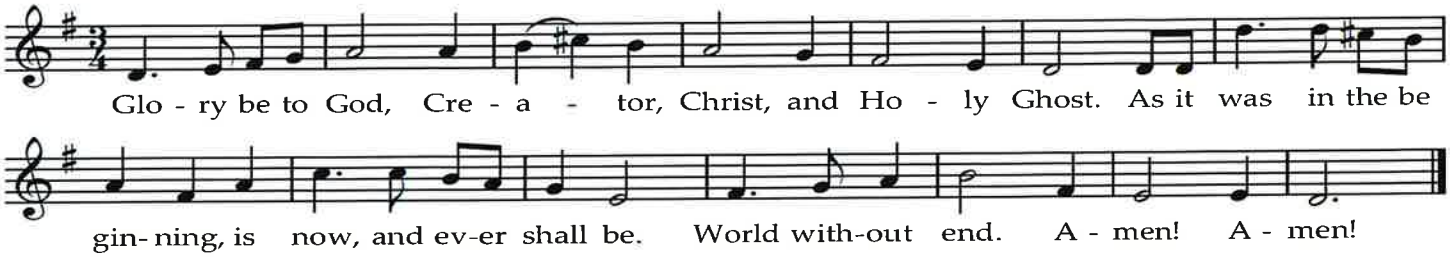


Written for Third Presbyterian Church, Rochester, NY by Peter DuBois

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** — Rev. Khayla J. Henry
Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
All: Thanks be to God.

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

***GLORIA**



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

CHILDREN'S TIME Rev. Khayla J. Henry

Nursery care is available in Room 107. Children in Pre-K through grade 6 are welcome to join Ms. Gertrude and Bridget in the GLOW Room.

***HYMN 712** As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought FOREST GREEN

As the hymn is sung, ushers will direct those bringing forward pledge cards for the Annual Stewardship Campaign or the Our Hope for Years to Come Capital Campaign to do so. Those who have already made a pledge are invited to participate by writing "I Pledged" on a blank card.

OUR HOPE FOR YEARS TO COME OFFERING

LISTENING

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 42:1-5 (Old Testament page 515) Tom Brown
This is the Word of the Lord . . . **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM O How Amiable Senior Choir Ralph Vaughn Williams

SECOND SCRIPTURE Luke 21:34-38 (New Testament page 86)
This is the Word of the Lord . . . **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON To Dissipate Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

SETTLING OF THE WORD

RESPONDING

***HYMN 761** Called as Partners in Christ's Service BEECHER

***CONFESSION OF FAITH** (*from the* Brief Statement of Faith) 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. Dr. Fred G. Garry

OFFERTORY Let All Things Now Living Wilbur Held

***DOXOLOGY** OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Rev. Khayla J. Henry

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**
The Peace of Christ be with you . . . **And also with you.**

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
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.

SENDING

***HYMN 719** Come, Labor On ORA LABORA

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Fugue on "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" Jan Bender

The flowers in the Sanctuary are from Mary Jane and Saxon Palmeter, Jr. given in loving memory of Jane and Saxon Palmeter, Sr. and Marguerite and Jack Turner.

Our greeters this morning are the Pellicano family and the ushers are Wendy Kukowski, Heather Koball, and Michelle O'Connor.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 42:1-5

As a deer longs for flowing streams,
so my soul longs for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When shall I come and behold the face of God? My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.
Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 21:34-38

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man."

Every day he was teaching in the temple, and at night he would go out and spend the night on the Mount of Olives, as it was called. And all the people would get up early in the morning to listen to him in the temple.

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

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687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)



5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

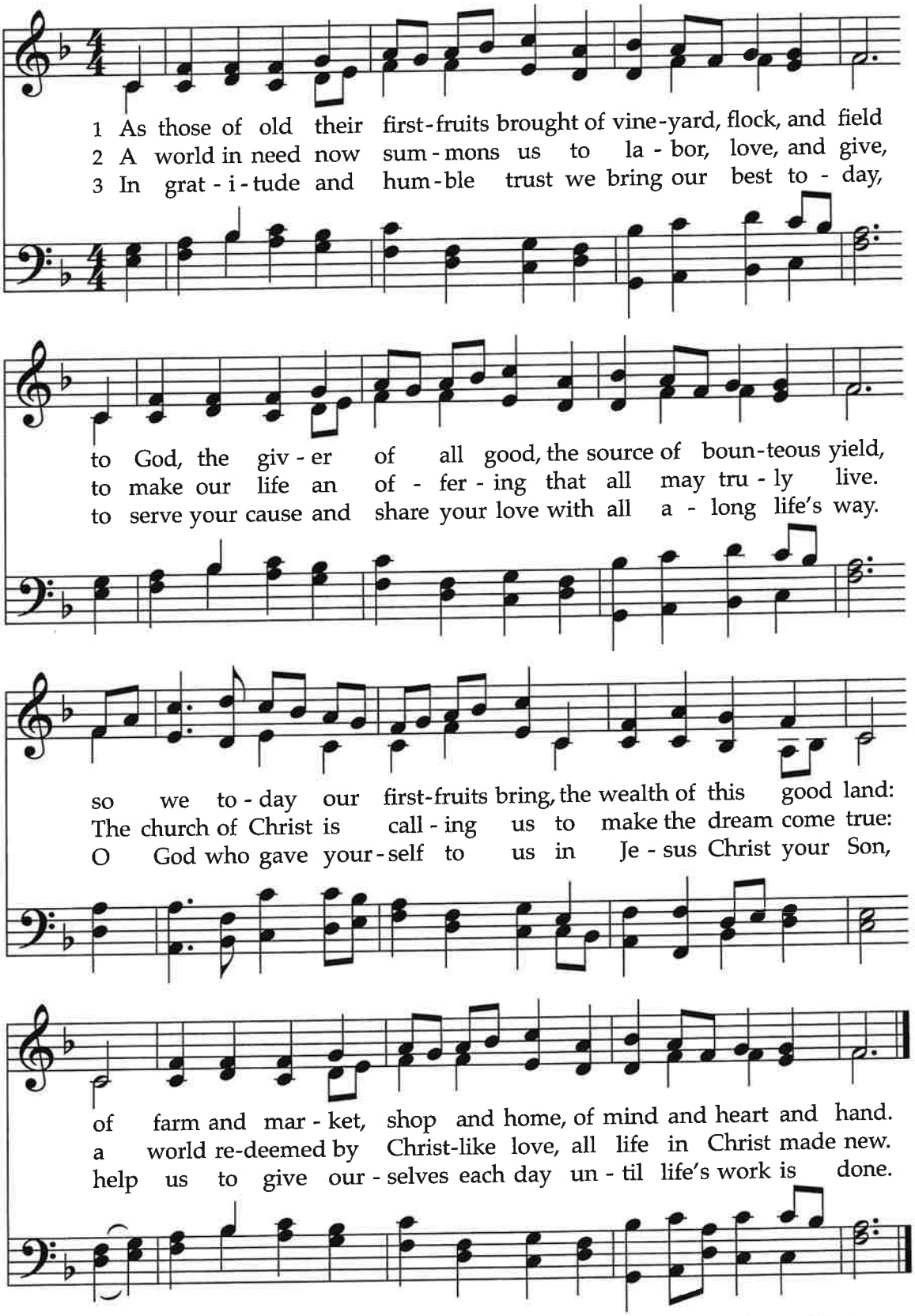
6 Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.
MUSIC: Attr. William Croft, 1708

ST. ANNE
CM

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought 712

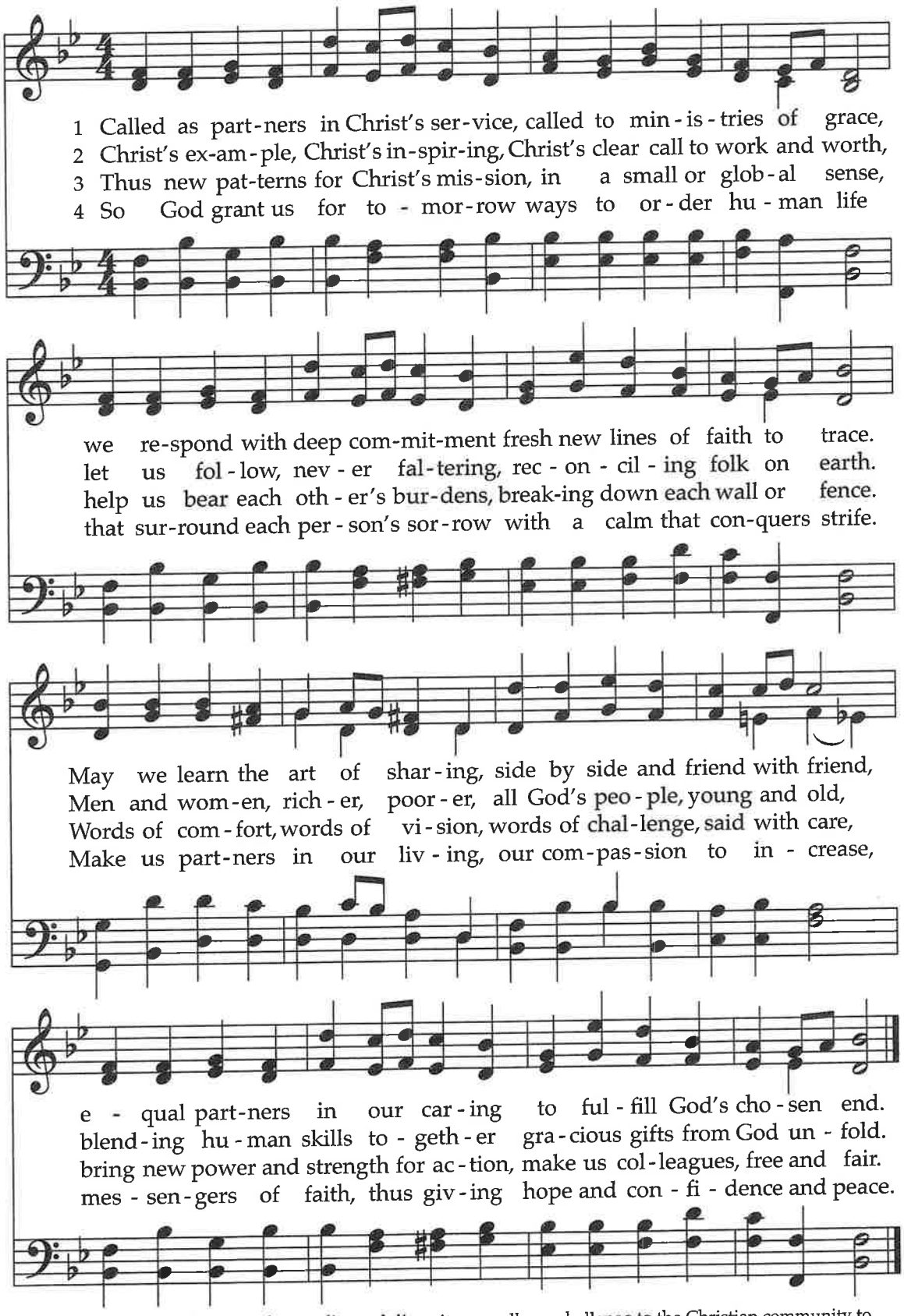


This text by a Presbyterian pastor in California expresses the conviction that being a good steward is an essential part of the Christian life, for self-giving is God's own nature. The tune is named for the village in Surrey where the arranger collected this tune in 1903.

TEXT: Frank von Christierson, 1960, alt.
MUSIC: English folk melody; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
Text © 1961, ren.1989 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

FOREST GREEN
CMD

Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761

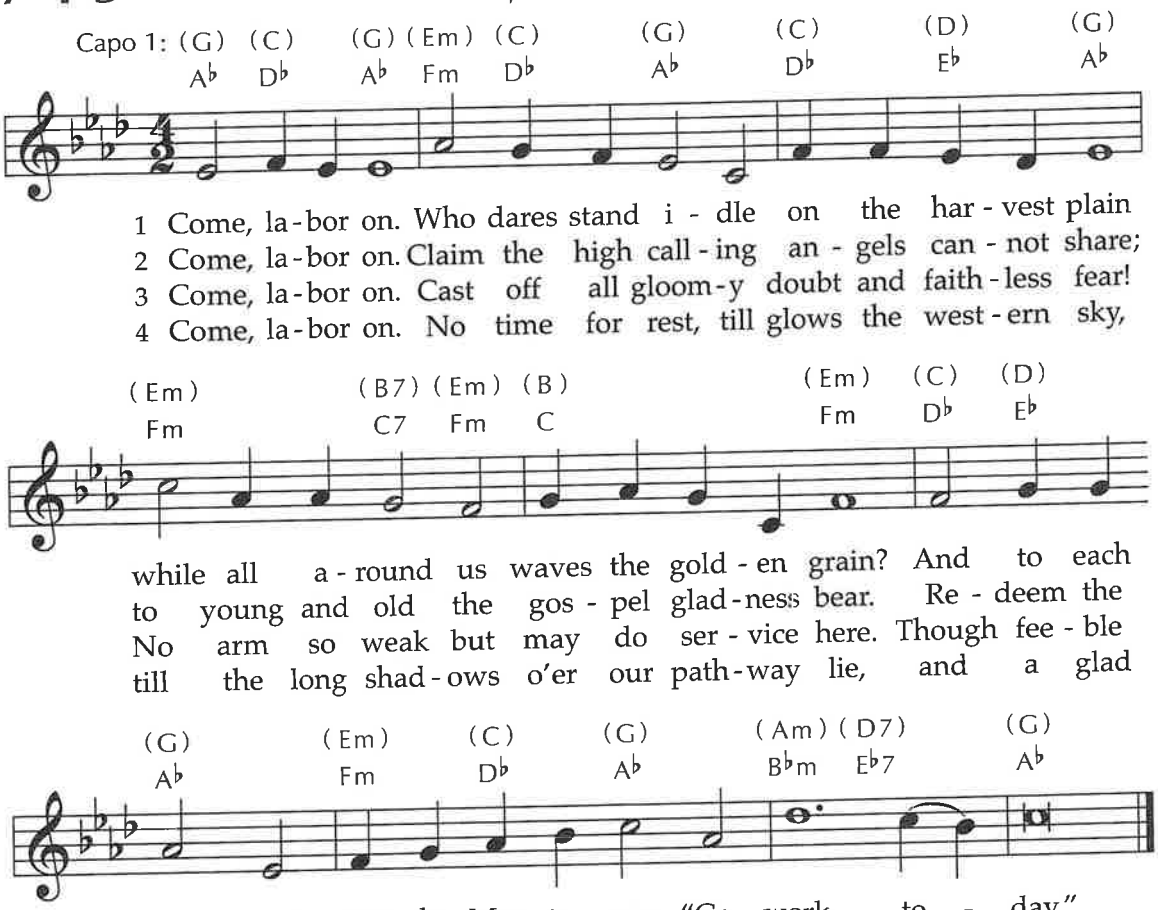


This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

TEXT: Jane Parker Huber, 1981
MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870
Text © 1981 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

BEECHER
8.7.8.7.D
(alternate tune: EBENEZER)

719 Come, Labor On



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Using Jesus' harvest imagery in John 4:35–38 and Matthew 9:37–38/Luke 10:2, this urgent text sounds a compelling call to Christian service. The words gain energy from the strong unison tune in the English cathedral style, whose name echoes the Benedictine motto "Prayer is work."

TEXT: Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1859; rev. 1863, alt.
MUSIC: Thomas Tertius Noble, 1918

ORA LABORA
4.10.10.10.4

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 *(grandson of Lori Nielsen)*
*Lynne Angley
Christine Whalen Bender *(friend of Allison Brennan)*
John Bertelsen and family *(Brother of Amy Bertelsen-Robles)*
Linda Burr *(June Young's sister)*
Pat Byrne *(Sue Harmon's brother-in-law)*
Dorothy Canary *(aunt of Sue Harmon)*
Luis Canton *(Laurie Toth's father)*
Diane Cassidy *(Susan Kozo's cousin)*
Sophie Culton *(friend of the Reed family)*
*Mary Kay Dangremond
George Doerbecker *(friend of Kristina Scoglio)*
Hank Frank, Jr. *(Deb Teall's partner)*
Timothy Freeman *(Marie Freeman's son)*
*Judy Fuller
*Doris Gulotta
*Joey Hale *(Son of Matt and Laura Hale)*
*Margaret Hathaway
*Noah Haulenbeek
Ed Kopetz *(Betty Kopetz's brother)*
*Susan Kozo
Jetty Mailangkay *(wife of Rev. Herby Moningka)*
Dennis Maiuro (*Colleen Walker's brother-in-law)*
*Jan Margolis
Elliot Miller *(Larrie Servino's brother)*
Jean Miller *(Allison Brennan's aunt)*
Joseph Neupauer *(Marie Hoffsommer's brother)*
Alvin Newton *(Virginia Shaw's brother)*
Virginia Newton *(Virginia Shaw's mother)*
Joan Niederer *(friend of the Gunsser's)*
Jeff Rubin *(friend of June Keehbler)*
*Dave Ryder
Angela Sampoli *(friend of Dawn Adam)*
*Sanger Family
***Lorraine Sheaffer**
Katie Strittmatter *(friend of Kozo-Mollison family)*
Art Wegg
Bud Wilson *(friend of Niall Corbalis)*
Janice Wojcik *(sister of Karen Keithler)*
David Wong
*Lynn Hendricks Wong

Names highlighted in boldface were recently added
* Members of the church

PASTORAL CARE: If you or a family member is in the hospital, please contact Dr. Rev. 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:
Jeremy B., US Air Force, Stationed in Arkansas *(Son of Andrene Pennix's co-worker)*
PFC Daniel Eide, stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona *(grandson of Mary Ann Eide)*
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, On deployment from 6 to 9 months *(Sue Harmon's cousin)*
Lt. Cmdr. Krista Marquard, U.S. Public Health Service, Chicago, IL *(Bill & Susan Marquard's daughter-in-law)*
Lt. Col. Matthew McQueeney, USAF, Commander, Kadena AFB, Okinawa *(Son/Stepson of Amy & Pete Bellisano)*
LT John Alexander Petr, U. S. Navy, San Diego, CA *(Pennix Family friend)*
Mark Robinson, 82nd Airborne Division, deployed *(son of Steve and Moggie Davis's 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 Wednesday, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
And by appointment for other times

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22
Worship Service - Sanctuary and Virtual . . . . . 9:30 a.m.
Confirmation Class – Senior High Room . . . . . 10:30 a.m.
Advent Family Workshop – GLOW Room . . . . . .10:30 a.m.
Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary . . . . . Noon

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23
Thanksgiving Packing – Auditorium . . . . . 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
DBSA Support Group – Chapel . . . . . 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24
Thanksgiving Basket Distribution . . . . . 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Carol Choir – Choir Room . . . . . .4:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Support Group – Chapel. . . . . 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF THE HOLIDAY.
Support Group – Chapel . . . . . .6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Women's AA Support Grp – Chapel . . . . . 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

COMING SOON

Nov 29	Candlelight Concert – Sanctuary – 7:00 pm
Nov 30	CARE Team – Office Conference Room – 3:00 pm
Dec 1	1st Tuesday – GLOW Room – 4:30 – 5:00 pm
Dec 1	Deacons Meeting – Dining Room – 7:30 pm
Dec 3	Local Mission Meeting – Food Pantry – Noon-1:00 pm
Dec 3	Junior Club – TBA – 5:30 – 6:15 pm
Dec 5	Holly Fair - Social Center – 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Dec 6	Pageant Rehearsal – Sanctuary – After worship
Dec 6	Community Dinner – Social Center – 5:00 pm
Dec 7	Horizon Bible Study – PW Lounge – 6:00 pm
Dec 8	Unicameral Board – Dining Room/Zoom – 7:30 pm
Dec 10	Food Pantry Holiday Bazaar – Auditorium – 7:00 pm
Dec 13	Pageant Rehearsal – Sanctuary – After worship

TREASURER'S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received November 15

Pledge	$ 6,383
Non-pledge	$ 745
Cash	$ 138
Other funds	$ 100
TOTAL:	**$ 7,366**

OTHER RECEIPTS $1,140
(Parking & Building Rental)

NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER:

As we approach the last month of the year, please check and make sure you are current on your 2026 pledge. If you have any questions, please feel free to email or call: ktrolaro@fpcweb.org or (732)491-2303. Thank you for your continued support and I hope you have a Happy Thanksgiving!

FULL CHURCH CALENDAR ONLINE:
Scan the QR code or visit our website
https://bit.ly/4emWby6

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:

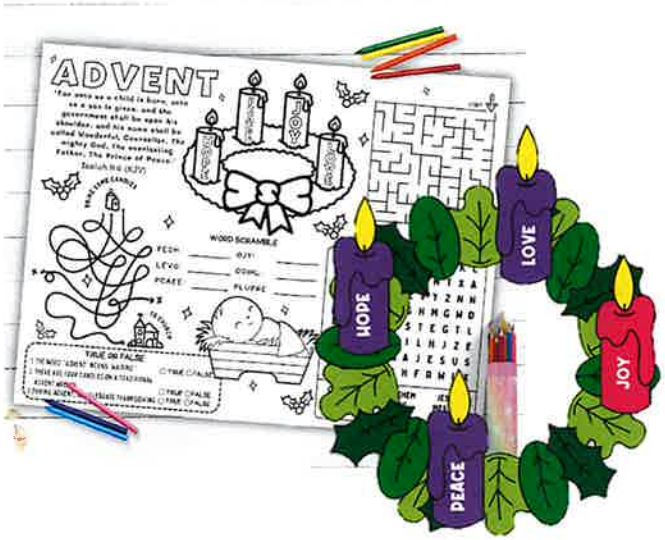
Senior Pastor/Head of Staff Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry
Associate Pastor Rev. Khayla J. Henry
Pastor Emeritus Rev. Robert A. Beringer
Parish Associate Rev. Dr. Glory J. Thomas
Indonesian Pastoral Supply Rev. Leksmana Leonard
Director of Music Ministries Jordan Klotz
Minister of Music Emeritus Brenda Arnold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

Advent
Family Workshop

TODAY, 10:30 am in the GLOW Room

As we look forward to Advent, join your church family in the GLOW Room to paint and make ornaments, and create an advent craft to bring home. All are welcome!

Take home kits are available as well. See Nancy Leardi.





The Advent Angel Trees are here!
Look for them in the Chapel or Social Center lobby. The instructions are simple:

- Choose an angel(s). Please note of the gender of the recipient (F for female; M for male).
- Dolls and cars/trucks are for children 4 years old.
- Wrap gifts or place in gift bags, and return with the Advent Angel SECURELY attached to the wrapped gift or gift bag.
- **Return your gift(s) to the Angel Tree no later than 9:30 am, Sunday, December 13.**

Our Deacons will deliver the gifts to arrive in time for Christmas!



This year's Holly Fair has been re-imagined giving everyone, including families, an enjoyable time to shop for yourself and others, or simply get into the holiday spirit. Take a picture with Santa, enjoy Christmas crafts, or warm up to some hot chocolate!



Calling All Bakers!

We invite you to donate your baked sweets for the PW Holly Fair on Saturday, December 5! Sign up during Coffee Hour and pick up your FREE baker's boxes. You may drop off your baked goods between December 1-3 to the Social Center kitchen marked "PW."

Questions? Contact Cindy O'Neill or Deb Teall.

First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6
5:00 P.M.
SOCIAL CENTER
270 Woodbridge Ave.
Metuchen, NJ 08840

Join us in fellowship for homemade lasagna, garlic bread, green salad, and delicious dessert.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Interested in volunteering?
Contact Gilly McKie or the church office.

Hope Will Not Fail

CAROLS OF THE ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON

featuring choir, organ, handbells, & more!

TICKETS:

Suggested Donation:
$22/Adult $15/Senior

Sunday, November 29 | 7:00 PM
This concert directly follows the Metuchen Winter Festival Parade and tree-lighting.
CANDLELIGHT CONCERT SERIES

Our Hope for Years to Come

Commitment Sunday

Together, we have paused, we have considered, and we have prayed. **Today, we step forward together in faith, gratitude, and humility.**

This campaign has seen a fantastic beginning; now is the time for a fantastic conclusion. Although we are more than 75% of the way there, we have not yet realized our goal of $1,300,000. **We are are excited to see all that God can do when every congregant has a chance to respond to this bold call.**

Our commitment to the future is about more than ourselves. Just as the faithful leaders of our congregation's past, we are preparing for the church of the next hundred years.

Scan the QR Code for more:

Questions? Please reach out to our campaign chairs or the church office. Our goal is that every member feels fully informed.



Christmas Pageant Sign-Up

- Children must be 4 years old or older by Oct. 1, 2026.
- Adult volunteers are needed as well! Please sign up to help.
- Participants must attend rehearsals.

Rehearsal Dates:
- After worship on 12/6, 12/13, and 12/20
- Dress rehearsal: 4 PM, 12/22

Pageant Date: 5 PM, 12/24/26

Scan here to register TODAY!
Questions? Email fpcpageant@gmail.com

Poinsettia orders. Honor your loved ones as we prepare the sanctuary for Lessons and Carols with poinsettias.

Luminary orders. Support our Deacons and illumine our walkways through the night on Christmas Eve. Loved ones will also be honored with your orders.

Look for the order forms for the poinsettias and luminaries in the Narthex.