



**First Presbyterian Church
of Metuchen**

Where God's Love Welcomes All



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN

April 21, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

4th Sunday of Easter

Livestreamed on our website and Facebook/FPC Metuchen

270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840

www.fpcweb.org

(732) 491-2300



Senior Pastor and Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Robert A. Beringer
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Glory J. Thomas
Intern Pastor: Rev. Leksmana Leonard
Director of Music Ministries: Jordan Klotz
Minister of Music Emeritus: Brenda Arnold Day
Director of Christian Education: Nancy Leardi
Youth Director: Seminarian Hanna Halleck Richards

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 111 (Adapted)

Leader: Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**All: Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.
Full of honor and majesty is the Lord's work; righteousness endures forever.**

Leader: The Lord has gained renown with wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful;
provides food for those who fear God; The Lord is ever mindful of promise.
Redemption to the people is an eternal covenant.

**All: Holy and awesome is the name of the Lord. Fear of the Lord is the beginning of
wisdom: all those who practice it find the truth. Praise endures the Lord!**

*HYMN # 32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

*OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION – Unison The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

God of mercy hear our prayer. When we abide in darkness, we fear the light;
when we stay too long in silence, we fear your word. Left to our own desires, we are unable to
trust; left to our fears, we lose the strength to hope. Forgive us for our reluctance and
temerity, our wishes and worries and constant pleas that your grace would make all things
right, that you would undo what we have done wrong. Forgive our confusion: we commingle
mercy and magic, we look for change without confession. God of mercy hear our prayer.
Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*HYMN # 581 Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

MOMENT OF THANKSGIVING

Lori Kellner

CHILDREN'S TIME

Nancy Regan

Nursery care is available in Room 107. Following the message, all children in Pre-K to 7th grade are
invited to attend Lego Sunday in the library. Grades 8th and older remain in worship.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: 'If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die.' Then the Lord replied to me: 'They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die.'"

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 4:31-37

He went down to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and was teaching them on the sabbath. They were astounded at his teaching, because he spoke with authority. In the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, 'Let us alone! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' When the demon had thrown him down before them, he came out of him without having done him any harm. They were all amazed and kept saying to one another, 'What kind of utterance is this? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and out they come!' And a report about him began to reach every place in the region.

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

April 21, 2024 WORSHIP HYMNS

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#32 I SING THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD

1- I sing the mighty power of God
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God's command,
and all the stars obey.
2- I sing the goodness of the Lord
who filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures through the Word,
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky!
3- There's not a plant or flower below
but makes thy glories known.
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne,
while all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care,
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.

#581 GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

#343 WHERE CROSS THE CROWDED WAYS OF LIFE

1- Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife,
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
2- In haunts of wretchedness and need,
on shadowed thresholds fraught with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed,
we catch the vision of your tears.
3- From tender childhood's helplessness,
from human grief and burdened toil,
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress,
your heart has never known recoil.

4- The cup of water given for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view
the sweet compassion of your face.
5- O Master, from the mountainside,
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide;
O tread the city's streets again;
6- Till all the world shall learn your love,
and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heaven above
shall come the city of our God.

609 PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS

FLOW

Praise God, from whom all blessings, flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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#762 WHEN THE POOR ONES

1- When the poor ones who have nothing share with
strangers,
when the thirsty water give unto us all,
when the crippled in their weakness strengthen others,
Refrain:
Then we know that God still goes that road with us.
Then we know that God still goes that road with us.
2- When at last all those who suffer find their comfort,
when they hope though even hope seems
hopelessness,
when we love though hate at times seems all around
us, **Refrain**
3- When our joy fills up our cup to overflowing,
when our lips can speak no words other than true,
when we know that love for simple things is better,
Refrain
4- When our homes are filled with goodness in
abundance, when we learn how to peace instead of
war, when each stranger that we meet is called a
neighbor, **Refrain**

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OUR WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

The First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen, NJ has adopted a policy in compliance with the enactment of the Federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) agreeing that a member has the right to have their health and personal information kept private and secure. This means that an individual must give permission to have their name publicly shared with the congregation. 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. If you wish to have a loved one on the prayer list for a longer time, please contact Vicky Lacson (vlacson@fpcweb.org) in the Church Office.

Jackson Alcantara (*grandson of Lori Nielsen*)
Peggy Anastos (*friend of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)
James Angley (*Lynne Angley's son*)
Marilyn Avery
The Bellini family (*friends of the Brennan's*)
Gemma Bertelsen (*Sister-in-law of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)
Abigail Bilworth (*Granddaughter of Marcia Archer*)
Alliyon Blair (*Marcia Archer's granddaughter*)
Anna Cackowski (*daughter of Al & Helen Burr-Cackowski*)
Natalie Charles (*cousin of Tom Messina*)
Giovanni Colon and his family (*family of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)
*Beverly Cummings
Bob Cushing (*friend of Cathy Wolpin*)
*Mary Kay Dangremond
Lisa De La Fuente (*friend of the Kozo/Mollison family*)
Robert Doeg (*friend of Niall Corbalis*)
*Tracy Donahue
*Ruth Endicott
Hank Frank, Jr. (*Deb Teall's partner*)
Carol Franklin (*friend of Kristina Scoglio*)
*Marie Freeman
Leah French (*Sue Harmon's cousin*)
Lane Gibson (*friend of Bill Nann*)
Garrett Glass (*Julie Bourne's brother*)

*Joey Hale (*Son of Matt and Laura Hale*)
*Margaret Hathaway
*Tara Jusinski (*Sue Harmon's daughter*)
Elizabeth Mack (*friend of Kristina Scoglio*)
Dennis Maiuro (*Colleen Walker's brother-in-law*)
Patricia Maktal (*friend of Messina Family*)
Michael
Elliot Miller (*Larrie Servino's brother*)
Ricardo Mollison (*Caitlin Mollison's brother*)
***Bill Nann**
Virginia Newton (*Virginia Shaw's mother*)
Jeff Rubin (*friend of June Keehbler*)
Angela Sampoli (*friend of Dawn Adam*)
Paula Schwalje (*Mark Haulenbeek's sister*)
Robert (*son of Karen Sorensen*)
Richard Watson (*Nancy Gurzo's friend*)
Ginny West (*related to June Keehbler*)
David Wong
*Lynn Hendricks Wong
Michael Zambri (*friend of Kristina Scoglio*)

Names highlighted in boldface were recently added

*Members of the church

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Codyann Archer with the 215 peacekeeping soldiers in the Middle East (*Marcia Archer's daughter*)
MSgt. David Hansen, USAF (*son of Elaine Hansen*)
EM3 Cody Harmon, U.S. Navy, Hawaii (*Sue Harmon's nephew*)
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, USAF – Lakenheath AFB, UK (*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, APRIL 21

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

2nd Hour: Composting – Chapel 10:30 a.m.

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

APNC – Room 204 10:45 a.m.

Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary Noon

MONDAY, APRIL 22

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

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

Habitat Planning- Office Conf. Room. 7:30 p.m.

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

Men’s Breakfast – Dining Room 7:30 a.m.

Bible Study (Pericopes of Luke) – PW Lounge . . . 10:30 a.m.

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

Westminster Choir – Choir Room 6:15 p.m.

Trinity Ringers – Bell Loft 6:45 p.m.

Youth Group – Room 201. 7:15 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

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

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

Senior Choir – Choir Room 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

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

COMING SOON

Apr 28 2nd Hour: FPC Cemetery – Chapel – 10:30 am

Apr 28 APNC – Room 204 – 10:30 am

Apr 28 Sunday Book Club – PW Lounge - 11:00 am

May 1 Scrubbies Making – PW Lounge – 1:00 p.m.

May 3 Presbyterian Queer Fel. – PW Lounge – 7:00 pm

May 4 Cemetery Clean-up – 9:00 am - Noon

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

May 6 Horizon Bible Study – PW Lounge – 7:00 pm

May 6 Youth Commission – Zoom – 7:00 pm

May 7 1st Tuesday – Room 109 – 4:30 pm

May 7 Deacons Meeting – Chapel – 7:30 pm

May 9 Local Mission Meeting – Auditorium – 11:45 am

May 9 Mission Commission – PW Lounge – 7:00 pm

May 11 Mother’s Day Car Wash – FPC Parking – 9:00 am

May 12 Youth Sunday / Lego Sunday

May 12 APNC – Room 204 – 10:30 am

May 13 Social Justice – Office Conf. Room – 7:30 pm

May 14 Unicameral Board Meeting – Chapel – 7:30 pm

May 19 Senior Choir Concert – Sanctuary – 4:00 pm

TREASURER’S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received April 14

Pledge	\$ 7,174
Non-pledge	\$ 605
Cash	\$ 63
OGHS	\$ 100
Per Capita	\$ 40
Special Funds	\$ 42

TOTAL: \$ 8,024

Other Receipts: \$345

(Flowers, Building Use & 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!

PASTORAL CARE:

If you or someone you know needs our support, or is in the hospital, please feel free to contact Rev. Fred Garry at (315) 771-3590. You can also call the church office (732) 491-2300 during office hours: Monday to Thursday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, or by appointment.



THANK YOU

The Mission Commission extends their heartfelt thanks for your generous giving. From the recent One Great Hour of Sharing and fish banks, a total of \$2,666 was received that will allow PC USA to continue their work to improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable through their life-saving programs.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 23 – 28, 2024

Mon—Thurs 9:00-11:45,
Fri 9:00-10:30 am

This summer, come for a week of fun, faith, and more in a cosmic space adventure. Invite friends to double the fun!



If you have a child entering K – 6th grade in the Fall, you may register them for VBS.

Registration forms are available from FPC's website, the church office, and CE office. Only one form is needed per family. Submit the completed forms with your payment to the Church office. It's that simple!

Cost: FPC members \$25/ child, maximum \$50/family

Non-members \$25/child

Checks should be made to FPC-Metuchen.



Volunteers are the heart of VBS. Make a difference by sharing your time – before, during, and after camp. Use the QR codes for the forms to register your child or to sign up as a volunteer.

Campers Form:



Volunteers Form:



Questions? Contact Nancy Leardi
nleardi@fpcweb.org or call (732) 491-2264

COMMUNITY DINNER

MAY 5, SUNDAY

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Social Center Dining Room

We have a place for EVERYONE!

Join us in community and fellowship as we enjoy crispy beef or chicken tacos with all the toppings including guacamole, Mexican rice and beans, and a delicious homemade strawberry dessert.

2ND Hour: Waste Erased

TODAY, April 21st

10:30 am, in the Chapel

Food scraps are valuable materials that if properly collected and composted can help reduce pollution and improve overall quality of life. Come to learn about food waste and composting. Learn what our church is doing, and how you can participate.

There will be three prizes raffled off including a home composter for those attending the forum.



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. Names of donors 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 MAY 1st.



**Mother's Day
May 12**

SECOND HOUR FORUM
The FPC Cemetery
April 28th, 10:30 am
Chapel

Join Pete Bellisano, Laura Draper, and Karen Keithler.

- Discover a little history of the cemetery and about some of the interesting persons who are interred in this beautiful space.
- Learn about tombstone cleaning in preparation for our cemetery Spruce-up Day on May 4th.
- Be the first to hear about *Graveyard Tales*, a new book about our cemetery by Pete Bellisano.



FPC CEMETERY SPRUCE-UP DAY
MAY 4TH, 9:00 AM - NOON
CEMETERY GROUNDS

We have a historic cemetery that we want to preserve with honor. Come at your convenience, stay for an hour or for the whole time. Bring your garden gloves, rakes, clippers, etc. Learn more about cleaning tombstones by attending the 2nd Hour on April 28th.



The red Pew Pads are back! Whether you are here to worship with us for the first time, visiting or have been with us for years, we want to stay connected. Please fill out the pads as it is passed along the pews. The ushers will be collecting these at the end of the service.



Email: foodpantry@fpcweb.org

With spring now on us, Mission Volunteer Night is all about packing supplies for spring cleaning buckets to be given to the Pantry clients. We'd love for you to help, or donate needed supplies.

NEW MEMBER CLASS
May 5 and 12
10:30 a.m.
Library



Here's an opportunity to know more about your faith, explore what it means to be Presbyterian, and be a church member. The hour-long class will be with Rev. Garry and members of Session, giving you also a chance to have your questions answered. A reception will follow at a set date to allow the church to meet and welcome the new members. Call us in the church office to sign up: (732) 4912300.



Enjoy a preview of the Senior Choir's repertoire on their upcoming tour in the summer. Tickets are \$15 each and will be available at the door or after worship on Sundays in May.