



**First Presbyterian Church
of Metuchen**

Where God's Love Welcomes All



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN

April 28, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

5th 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 Joyful Praise Trinity Ringers Susan E. Geschke

WELCOME/ TIDINGS The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 72 (Adapted)

Leader: May we call to God while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations. May we wait for the Lord like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth. By God's grace may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

All: May we see God's dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Leader: The Lord delivers the needy when they call, the poor, and those who have no helper. The Holy One has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. From oppression and violence, God redeems their life; precious is their blood in the eyes of God.

All: May we see God's dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

***HYMN # 265** Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun DUKE STREET

***OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION – Unison** The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry
God of mercy hear our prayer. Show us what it means for power to be righteous; let us hear works of authority that are spoke with justice. May our deeds be done with compassion and courage; may our words be offered with kindness and daring. Remove the power of resignation and fear; forgive our claims made falsely. God of mercy hear our prayer. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***HYMN # 581** Glory Be to the Father GLORIA PATRI

CHILDREN'S TIME Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry
Nursery care is available in Room 107 with Erika Knehans. Children in Pre-K to 5th grade will hold lessons in their classrooms. Grades 6-7th will depart after the sermon to Room 105 with Mr. Hedricks.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 43:1-7 Wally Cook
This is the Word of the Lord . . . Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM My Shepherd Will Supply My Need Senior Choir Virgil Thomson

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 4:38-41
This is the Word of the Lord . . . Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Enchantment Part 2" The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

SETTLING OF THE WORD

*HYMN # 724 O Jesus, I Have Promised ANGEL'S STORY

CALL TO OFFERING The Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry

OFFERTORY Meditation on "Munich"

*DOXOLOGY # 609 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*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.

*HYMN # 769 For Everyone Born FOR EVERYONE BORN

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE Awake, My Heart, with Gladness Paul Manz

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

*Today's greeter is Wendy Kukowski, and the ushers are Tom Giordano and Garth,
Yunus Ruhukay and Nikki Walter.*

*The flowers in the Sanctuary are given with love from her family
to Susan Kozo as she celebrates her birthday.*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, 'Give them up', and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 4:38-41

After leaving the synagogue he entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked him about her. Then he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and began to serve them.

As the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various kinds of diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on each of them and cured them. Demons also came out of many, shouting, 'You are the Son of God!' But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Messiah.

SCRIPTURE READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

April 28, 2024 WORSHIP HYMNS

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#265 JESUS SHALL REIGN WHERE'ER THE SUN

1- Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2- To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.

3- People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

4- Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

5- Let every creature rise and bring
honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen!

#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.

#724 O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED

1- O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

2- O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle; the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer
and shield my soul from sin.

3- O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;

O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

4- O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be.
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.

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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#769 FOR EVERYONE BORN

1- For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,
Refrain: And God will delight when we are creators
Of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
Yes, God will delight when we are creators
Of justice, justice and joy!

2- For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair, **Refrain**

3- For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong, **Refrain**

4- For just and unjust, a place at the table,
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live, **Refrain**

5- For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free, **Refrain**

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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.

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*)
Gerrie Bishop (***Cathy Ostermueller's mother***)
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*)
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*)
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 28

Worship Service – Sanctuary and Virtual 9:30 a.m.
 After Worship Refreshment – Room 109 10:30 a.m.
 2nd Hour: FPC Cemetery - Chapel 10:30 a.m.
 APNC – Room 204 10:45 a.m.
 Sunday Book Club – PW Lounge 11:00 a.m.
 Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary Noon

MONDAY, APRIL 29

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

Jubilee Choir – Choir Room. 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.
 AA Support Group – Room 109 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

Bible Study (Pericopes of Luke) – PW Lounge . . . 10:30 a.m.
 Scrubbies Making – PW Lounge 1:00 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, MAY 2

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

FRIDAY, MAY 3

Presbyterian Queer Fellowship – PW Lounge . . . 7:00 p.m.
 Women’s AA Support Group – Room 109. . 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 4

Cemetery Spruce-Up 9:00 a.m. – Noon

COMING SOON

May 5 New Member Class – Library – 10:30 am
 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
 May 12 New Member Class – Library – 10:30 am
 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 15 B & G Meeting – PW Lounge – 8:30 am
 May 15 Prayer Shawl Knitting Circle – Session Rm – 7:00 pm
 May 18 Elder Care Team – PW Lounge – 11:00 am
 May 19 Youth Commission – Office Conf. Room – 11:45 am
 May 19 Senior Choir Concert – Sanctuary – 4:00 pm
 May 22 Finance Meeting – Office Conf. Rm. – 7:00 pm

TREASURER’S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received April 21

Pledge	\$ 5,638
Non-pledge	\$ 500
Cash	\$ 443
Per Capita	\$ 200
Special Offering	\$ 270
Special Funds	\$ 10

TOTAL: \$ 7,061

Other Receipts: \$425

(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.



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

FPC WALK AROUND

For Facilities Master Plan

May 5th, After Worship

May 8th, 6:00 pm, Social Center

Help us formulate a three-year Facilities Master Plan by joining us in a Walk-around of our buildings and grounds. We have been blessed with a very generous contribution to our Preservation Fund and we are seeking to score the projects that we have identified. Your participation will be most helpful. **Choose the date that is convenient for you.** We hope to see many join us.

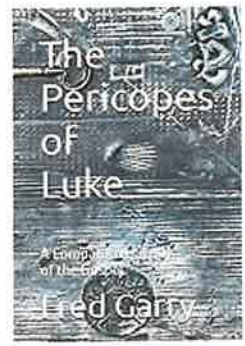
PASTORAL BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays

10:30 am

PW Lounge

with Rev. Garry



Rev. Garry's weekly Bible study is back. You can still join and therein gain a devotion to the teachings of Jesus. Get a free copy of the book from the foyer of the church office.

SECOND HOUR FORUM

The FPC Cemetery

TODAY, 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 today, April 28th.



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. New members will be recognized on May 19th followed by a reception to allow the church to meet and welcome the new members.

Call us in the church office if you are interested: (732) 4912300.



MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 12TH

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 acknowledgement card. 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.



Let us know you are here! Please fill out the red pew pads as it is passed along the pews. The ushers will be collecting these at the end of the service.

MAY COMMUNITY DINNER



Enjoy a home-cooked meal on us!

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 and enjoy crispy tacos with beef, chicken, or vegetarian options and all the toppings including guacamole, Mexican rice and beans, and a sweet ending of homemade strawberry dessert.

Interested in helping with the dinners?

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.



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.