THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT CALDWELL

326 Bloomfield Avenue Caldwell, NJ 07006 973-228-0310 www.firstprescaldwell.org



Our Mission: Shining God's light by ... Knowing Christ, Growing in His love, Going where He leads.

> Sunday, October 23, 2022 9:30 am 20th Sunday after Pentecost

REFLECTION

"The problem of worry is not reserved for the first-century hearers of Matthew's Gospel. In fact, if you look around your world today (from the very personal to the very global), you may find that anxiety is the new bass line in the symphony of life. - Rev. Mark Suriano

PRELUDE Prelude on "St. Anne" Gordon Young

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

We glorify our God with songs of thanksgiving and joy.

God has done great things for us, filling us with grace.

God fed our ancestors in the wilderness, God clothes us with hope.

We will offer our hearts to God, always saying,

'Thank you!' to the One who loves us.

We will sing our praises, shouting of God's presence in our lives.

- 1. Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing; help us to praise; Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.
- 2. Come, thou incarnate Word, merciful, mighty Lord, our prayer attend.

 Come, and thy people bless, and give thy word success; Spirit of holiness, on us descend.
- 3. Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour.

 Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.
- 4. To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be, hence ever more! Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (IN UNISON)

God of Wisdom, we come before You to confess that we have sought the world's wisdom over Yours. We have pursued worldly measures of success: possessions, wealth, and notoriety. Call us out from the noise of the world to hear Your voice. Guide us away from the false wisdom of the world and into true wisdom: to seek peace and pursue it, to work for justice and restoration, to love our neighbor as ourselves. Keep us to Your path, where Your voice guides us, and bring us into the true life You have promised us: a life of abundance, of hope, of mercy. In the name of Christ Jesus, who laid down his life for us and lives again, so that we might live abundantly, we pray. Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

This is the good news: as God dresses creation in wonder, so you will be clothed in grace. We don't say it often enough, but thanks be to Jesus Christ for healing, for life, for wonder, for mercy. We are blessed, for we are forgiven. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 437

"You Are The Lord, Giver of Mercy!"
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Proverbs 3:1-6

Page 553, OT

TOPLADY

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Seek Ye First"

Karen Lafferty and Johann Pachelbel

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 6:25-34

Page 6, NT

SERMON

"JITQ: Why Do You Worry About Clothing?"

Rev. William Schram

- 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're I turn my eye,

 if I survey the ground I tread, or gave 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, are present there.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Teach Me O Lord"

Thomas Attwood

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE

*HYMN NO. 837

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"

SHOWALTER

- 1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms; what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.
 - Refrain: Leaning, leaning safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.
- 2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the ever lasting arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on everlasting arms.

Refrain

3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the ever lasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on everlasting arms. *Refrain*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"The God of Abraham Praise"

Hal H. Hopson

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Valerie Shondel, Music Director
Chancel Choir
Handbell Choir
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers

We are glad you have chosen to worship here today! Please come again!

For more information about our church, please visit our website:

www.firstprescaldwell.org

Current and Upcoming Events and Mission Projects:

African Dream Academy Red Bag Project—currently accepting donations

Sandwich Night—October 26th

Annual Turkey Drive—November 19th

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at Notre Dame Church—November 22nd

Oasis Giving Tree—To Be Announced

Cookie Walk in Fellowship Hall—December 10th

SOUP KITCHEN—Opportunities through November are posted. Thank you to everyone who has signed up to participate.