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, May 5, 2024 9:30 AM Sixth Sunday of Easter

GATHERING TOGETHER TO WORSHIP THE LORD

REFLECTION

"In the Christian sense, love is not primarily an emotion, but an act of the will. Jesus is telling us to love our neighbors in the sense of being willing to work for their well-being even if it means sacrificing our own well-being to that end." (Rev. Dr. Frederick Buechner, "Wishing Thinking")

PRELUDE

"Duo"

Louis-Nicolas Clerambault

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing to our God a new song. God has done marvelous things! Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Let the sea roar and all that fills it. Let the world and its people sing together for joy!

*HYMN NO. 15

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we have not loved you or each other with our whole hearts. Forgive us, we pray, and lead us toward wholeness, that we may be filled with your joy. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Christ loves us so much that he laid down his life for us and calls us his friends If we can forgive our friends, how much more does Christ forgive us! Hear the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

***RESPONSE AFTER ASSURANCE**

"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.

GLORIA PATRI

*WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

Since God has forgiven us in peace, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord and Savior be with you all. And also with you.

Please pass the peace by welcoming one another today.

HEARING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

CHILDREN'S PRAYER RESPONSE "The Lord is Risen" Taize The Lord is risen, alleluia! Sing out and praise the Lord! MINUTE FOR MISSION Golf PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 10:44-48 Page 122, NT "This is Love" SPECIAL MUSIC R. Kevin Boesiger John 15:9-17 GOSPEL READING Page 103 NT "So, What Now? Lessons of the Early Church: SERMON Listening for the Spirit, Responding in Love" **Rev.** Chris Houtz *HYMN NO. 693 "Though I May Speak" GIFT OF LOVE JOYS AND CONCERNS PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition will end by saying, "Pour out your blessing, O Lord; send us your Spirit of peace."

THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO OFFERING AND OFFERING

RESPONSE TO OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* OLD HUNDREDTH Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, in Christ you have chosen us to be your friends and to know your will in the world. Therefore, we pray in Jesus' name that these tithes and offerings spread your love near and far. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS "Holy, Holy, Holy" Haugen Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest. MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION "Christ Has Died: Christ Is Risen" Haugen Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again. Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. AMEN "Amen" Haugen THE LORD'S PRAYER As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray: 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,

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

forever. Amen.

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Hear at this table we celebrate resurrection as you feed us with bread and wine. And as much as we might prefer to stay here in this protected place, you send us back to our work only it is no longer the same work because we know you are with us and in us, shaping and transforming us to be your witnesses in the world. Nourished in body, mind, and spirit, may all that we say and do give you glory. Amen.

SENDING US INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN NO. 317	"In Christ There Is No East or West"	MC KEE
*BENEDICTION		
*BENEDICTION RESPONSE	<i>"Jubilate Coeli"</i> (Heavens Sing with Gladness)	Taize
POSTLUDE	"Basset Dessus de Trompette"	Louis-Nicolas Clerambault

* Please rise in body or in spirit

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Chris Houtz, Pastor, Head of Staff Valerie Shondel, Director of Music FPC Chancel Choir Ray Liptak, AV Engineer Dennis Velez, Assistant AV Engineer Matthew Califf & Michael Sperrazza, AV Team

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

