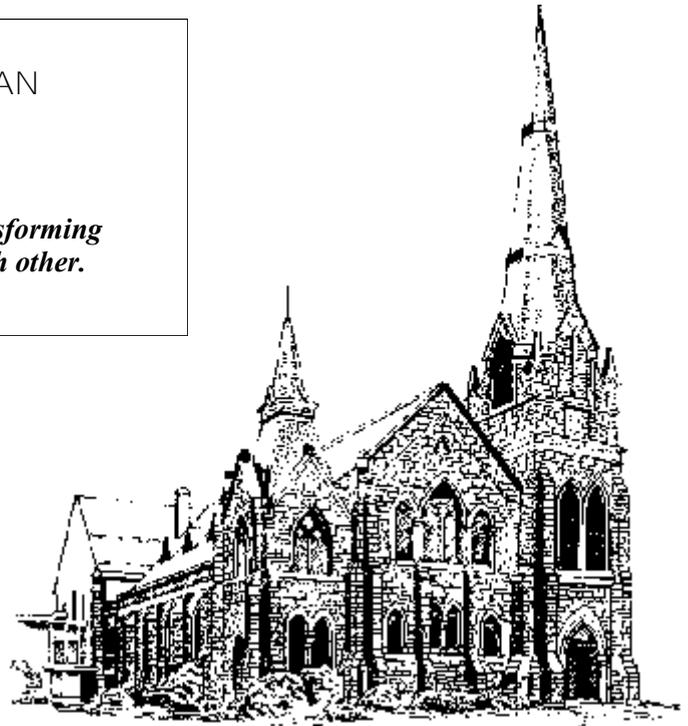


THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
AT CALDWELL

***Our Purpose:
To help all people build life-transforming
relationships with God and each other.***



***The members and friends of FPC welcome people from all backgrounds - -
people of faith from throughout the world, people who profess no faith,
Christians of all denominations and those who are searching
for religious and spiritual meaning.
Welcome!***

**October 16, 2016
Ten o'clock
22nd Sunday after Pentecost**

GATHERING

NEW BEGINNINGS REFLECTION

"We do not think ourselves into new ways of living, we live ourselves into new ways of thinking."
- Richard Rohr

PRELUDE

Adagio

Alessandro Marcello
Arr. Scott M. Hyslop

CALL TO WORSHIP

We arrange our lives as best we can to keep the holiness of God at bay –
with our pieties, our doctrines, our liturgies, our moralities, and our ideologies, safe and settled.

And then ... God happens –

in dreams and visions; in life's interruptions; in our neighbors.

God demonstrates to us that God's holiness is not held back and hiding –

but probing, pervading, insisting, demanding.

And we yield – sometimes gladly, sometimes resentfully, sometimes late... and sometimes sooner than we imagined.

We yield because God, with us and beyond us, is our God.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN NO. 610

*“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
Lighting the candles today is Acolyte Matthew Califf.*

Azmon

RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW PEREIRA

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

The Lord is not mean-spirited or vengeful. God is gracious and merciful, always willing to listen to our prayers, and to hear our hearts. Let us join in the prayer for forgiveness, saying....

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, we say that we wait for you to move in our midst, but we can't help feeling fear at the thought. What if we call upon your name and you actually arrive? Will we be ready to receive you? Will we be ready, if it is your will, to wrestle with your plan for our lives? Now is never the right time, Faithful God. We pray boldly that you will speak to us now, as we confess our fear at the possibility. Meanwhile, we worship you. We wait with expectation for the world – and ourselves – to be renamed, transformed, and sent on our covenant journey.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Scripture tells us that there is nothing we can do that will separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ ... but we do not believe. And yet, God loves us anyway. Let go your guilt!

Eschew your shame! All the Love there is in the world is in love with YOU! Know this, and be at peace.

We are forgiven, loved, and freed! Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 606 *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow”*

**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.**

PROCLAIMING AND RESPONDING

ANTHEM

“Praise To The Living God”
Chancel Choir

Allen Pote

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN AND AFRICAN DREAM ACADEMY DEDICATION

Please note: *Children through 7th grade may leave the sanctuary for Sunday School following the Time with the Children. Please exit through the doors on either side of the Choir loft.*

PARISH LIFE

Members, friends and visitors, please sign the Friendship Pad in each pew and pass it to the person next to you. The last person will pass the pad back to the first person, who will then please place the sheet in the offering plate. **Worshipers are invited to use the cards in the pew racks for prayer requests so we may share one another’s joys and concerns.** *The ushers will collect the cards during the hymn following the sermon and they will be offered during the Prayers of the People.*

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*We welcome into the family of God through baptism Christian Stephen Panella,
Son of Caroline and Joseph, born on July 14, 2016.
Assisting in the baptism today is Elder Marcia Fricke.*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 482

“Baptized in Water”

Bunessan

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 32:22-31

Page 29, OT

SERMON

“Wrestling God”

Rev. Todd Shumpert

*HYMN NO. 833

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

St. Margaret

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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Bless This House”
Jill Colavita, Solo

John McCormack

*RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING NO. 581 “*Glory Be to the Father*”

Gloria Patri

**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.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING FORTH

*HYMN NO. 291

“*Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*”

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 175 “*Seek Ye First*”

Lafferty

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God And its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you, Allelu, alleluia!**

*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please exchange greetings of welcome and peace with your neighbor.

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

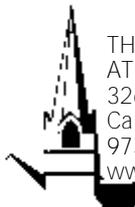
†If you are new to the church... **Welcome!** We're glad to have you here. Please ask an usher to direct you to *Visitor packets* at the rear of the church. They can be found on the table near the usher's closet under the balcony stairs. After the 10:00am service today, we hope you will join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall.

†The flowers this morning, are given to the glory of God in memory of...
... our granddaughter, Caitlyn Holda, by Liz and John Holda.

† Your prayers of intercession are requested for those members and friends known to be *currently or recently hospitalized or who continue to need our prayers and support:*

... Harry Coppens, The Dennison Family, Bill Hayden, Bob Hicock, Don Hults, Edith Jipp, Diana Linfante, The Marr Family, Barbara Piggery, Louise Ritscher, The Collin Williams Family, Laura Winter and Clarence and Helena Wispelwey. The church office will be happy to verify their home addresses for you should you wish to send them words of encouragement or get well wishes

†It is easy to join our mailing list! Just text FPC to 42828 and follow the prompt to send your e-mail address by text message.



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AT CALDWELL
326 Bloomfield Avenue
Caldwell, NJ 07006
973-228-0310
www.firstprescaldwell.org

