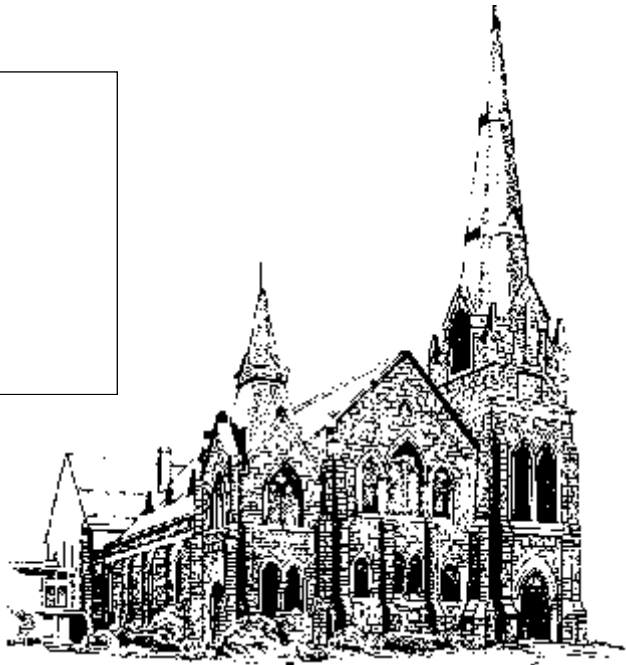


THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH AT CALDWELL

*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, January 22, 2023
9:30 am
Third Sunday After Epiphany

REFLECTION

“The Beatitudes in this week's gospel describe a genuinely counter-cultural style of life. In a world of wealth and war, says Jesus, blessed are the poor and the peacemakers. Instead of violence and vengeance, blessed are the mournful, the meek, and the merciful.”

-Dr. Daniel Clendenin

PRELUDE

arr. Dale Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

When we seek justice for the other,
when we love kindness more than ever,
we live as God asks us to live.

When we walk humbly through life,
when we offer mercy to those who hurt us,
we are the blessing God hopes we will be.

When we are willing to look foolish by following Jesus,
when we choose weakness rather than power,
we reflect the One who is in our midst.

*HYMN NO. 619

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

1. Praise, my soul, the God of heaven; glad of heart your carols raise;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, shall sing God's praise?
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!
2. Praise God for the grace and favor shown our forebears in distress;
God is still the same forgiver, slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing our Maker's faithfulness!
3. Like a loving parent caring, God knows well our feeble frame,
gladly all our burdens bearing, still to countless years the same.
Alleluia! Alleluia! All within me, praise God's name!
4. Angels, teach us adoration; you behold God face to face.
Sun and moon and all creation, dwellers all in time and space:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*IN UNISON*)

Holy Spirit, we confess our emptiness. We confess that the ways of the world drain us. We confess that the rushing around and busyness of our lives have filled us with things that are often meaningless. The worldly measures of success slip through our fingers. Fill us, Holy Spirit, with Your breath. Fill us, Holy Spirit, with Your energy. Fill us, Holy Spirit, with Your love. Guide us into the ways we have been taught by the prophets: to do justice, to practice loving-kindness, and to journey humbly with our God. Guide us into the way that leads to life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

What has God done to us - shown mercy! What has God done for us - forgiven us! This is the good news for us.

We will not boast, for it is not our doing. We will give thanks to God for such grace and hope. Amen.

**HYMN No. 447

"We Are Forgiven"

WE ARE FORGIVEN

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST LESSON

Matthew 5:1-16

Page 4, NT

SPECIAL MUSIC

⌘ *"Come Worship the Lord"*

Earlene Rentz

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 12:46-50

Page 13, NT

SERMON

"Matthew. Households of Justice"

Rev. William Schram

*HYMN NO. 172 vs. 1, 2, 3

“Blest Are They”

BLEST ARE THEY

1. Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.

***Refrain: Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!***

2. Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill.

Refrain

3. Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God.

Refrain

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.

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE

INVITATION TO GIVING

*HYMN NO. 172 VS. 4, 5

“Blest Are They”

BLEST ARE THEY

4. Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.
Blest are they, who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs.

***Refrain: Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!***

5. Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me.
Rejoice, be glad; yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see.

Refrain

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

We are seek to be

Shining God’s light by...

- Knowing Christ, Growing in His love, Going where He leads

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE (sing)

I am the Light of the World

You people come and follow me.

If you follow and love, You’ll learn the mystery

Of what you were meant to do and be.

POSTLUDE

*“Toccata on Kirken”
Built on the Rock*

arr. Gordon Young

* Please rise in body or spirit

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram

Valerie Shondel, Interim Music Director

Chancel Choir

Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers

Michael Sperrazza, & Matthew Califf 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:

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