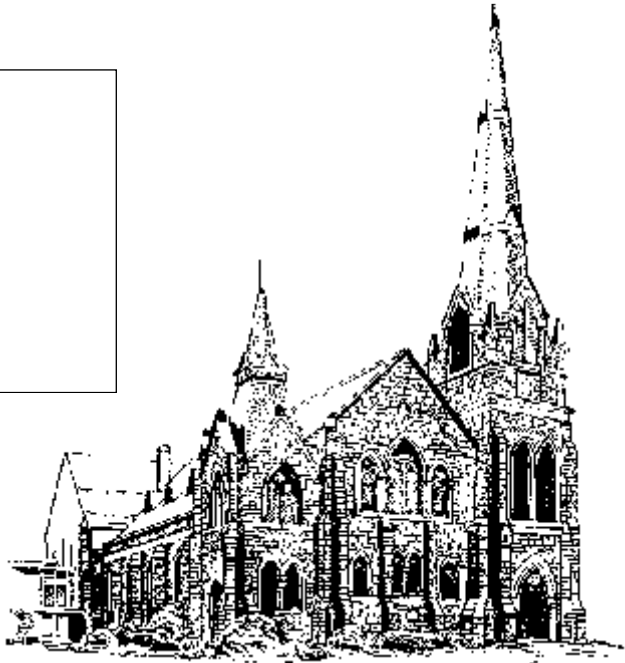


THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH AT CALDWELL

*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, March 12, 2023  
9:30 am  
Third Sunday In Lent

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REFLECTION

*Jesus, we thank you for turning toward us, God in human flesh. We thank you for the guidance, teaching and promised grace that helps us turn from all that hurts and warps lives, ours and others, away from how you would have us live. We gladly turned toward towards you with love and towards others with compassion. Amen.*

PRELUDE

*"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"*

Wilbur Held

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

How tempting this morning to lounge about the house and linger over breakfast.

**We come to worship with awakened faith and hungry spirit.**

How tempting it was this morning to continue perusing the news or chuckling through the comics.

**We come to worship seeking enjoyment of God's good news and joy in the community of the church.**

How tempting to be elsewhere.

**How grand to be here, O God! You give of your richness. Help us remember to store up treasures in heaven. Amen.**

\*HYMN NO. 544

*“Bless the Lord”*

BLESS THE LORD (Taizé)

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Lent is a journey of repentance – of turning away from evil and turning our lives God-ward. Knowing our ability to deflect and deny, God said, “I will lead you in the paths of truth.” Let us be truthful before our Lord.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, as we wander through the wilderness this Lent, we are more aware of our thirst for your presence, your love, your guidance on life’s journey. Forgive us for turning away from you. Forgive our doubt and uncertainty that led us to place our faith in worldly comforts that don’t run deep enough and don’t last. We come to your well today desperate and thirsty for Christ’s living water. Quench our thirst, we pray. Grant us your forgiveness and your grace. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God’s life turned towards humanity in Jesus, even before people repented and turned our lives toward God.

**Trust the Lord who reaches out to us in grace. In Jesus we are forgiven.**

\*HYMN NO. 698

*“Take, O Take Me As I Am”*

TAKE ME AS I AM

Take, O take me as I am;

summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

### CHILDREN’S SERMON

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*“And No Bird Sang”*

Douglas Wagner

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

### SERMON

Rev. Samuel Enders

\*HYMN NO. 703

*“Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me”*

ST. CATHERINE

1. Jesus, thy boundless love to me no thought can reach, no tongue declare;  
O knit my thankful heart to thee, and reign without a rival there!  
Thine wholly, thine alone, I’d live; myself to the entirely give.
2. O grant that nothing in my soul may dwell, but thy pure love alone;  
O may thy love possess me whole, my joy, my treasure, and my crown!  
All coldness from my heart remove; may every act, word thought be love.

3. O Love, how gracious is thy way! All fear before thy presence flies;  
care, anguish, sorrow melt away where're thy healing beams arise.  
O Jesus, nothing may I see nothing desire, or seek, but thee.

## ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

## 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

*"What Wondrous Love is This"*

Southern Harmony  
arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

## EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE

## INVITATION TO GIVING

### \*HYMN NO. 691

*"Lord When I Came Into This Life"*

LAND OF REST

1. Lord, when I came into this life you called me by my name;  
today I come, commit myself, responding to your claim.
2. Within the circle of the faith, as member of your cast,  
I take my place with all the saints of future, present, past.
3. In all the tensions of my life, between my faith and doubt,  
let your Spirit give me hope, sustain me, lead me out.
4. So help me in my unbelief and let my life be true:  
feet firmly planted on the earth, my sights set high on you.

### \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*"BWV 533 in e minor"*

J.S. Bach

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\* Please rise in body or spirit

### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram  
Valerie Shondel, Interim Music Director  
Sarah Solie, Flute  
Chancel Choir  
Chancel Bell Choir  
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers  
Michael Sperrazza, & Matthew Califf AV Team

## LENT & EASTER SERVICES

Seder Dinner - Wednesday, April 5th, 2023 – 6:00pm, Room 120

Maundy Thursday – April 7th, 2023 – 7:00pm, Sanctuary

Good Friday (Contemporary)– April 8th, 2023 - 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Easter Sunday, April 10th, 2023

8:00am Early Easter Worship. Acoustic instruments. , Old Burial Ground weather permitting.  
Fellowship Hall otherwise.

10:00am, Easter Celebration Service with Brass and Timpani Sanctuary

✚ 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](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org)**



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