

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, April 23, 2023
9:30 am
Third Sunday of Easter**

REFLECTION

"And the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom."

Anaïs Nin

PRELUDE

"Miniature for Organ 55 No. 5"

Flor Peeters

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Safe in our cozy cocoons we wondered...

...does anything really need to change?

While the world rushed on around us, we wondered...

...what if I'm just not ready for whatever comes next?

When we fold our true selves down in order to fit inside the old container, we wonder...

...am I truly honoring myself by staying in this shape?

When our worldviews are painfully challenged by new information, we wonder...

...could this discomfort indicate an opportunity for growth?

Then the love of the Divine reminds us,

“You can emerge to renewed life. Again and again.” Amen.

*HYMN NO. 684

“Faith Begins By Letting Go”

LUX PRIMA

1. Faith begins by letting go, giving up what had seemed sure, taking risks and pressing on, though the way feels less secure: pilgrimage both right and odd, trusting all our life to God.
2. Faith endures by holding on, keeping memory’s roots alive so that hope may bear its fruit; promise fed, our souls will thrive, not through merit we possess but by God’s great faithfulness.
3. Faith matures by reaching out, stretching minds, enlarging hearts, sharing struggles, living prayer, binding up the broken parts; till we find the common place ripe with witness to God’s grace.

*LITANY OF AFFIRMATION

We must obey God rather than human authority.

To God be glory and dominion forever and ever.

The God of our fathers and mothers raised Jesus, who was killed by hanging on a tree.

To God be glory and dominion forever and ever.

God exalted him at God’s right hand as Leader and Savior.

To God be glory and dominion forever and ever.

And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey.

To God be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen

RESPONSE

“Behold, I Make All Things New”

Iona Community

Behold, behold. I make all things new
Beginning with you
And starting from today.
Behold, behold. I make all things new
My promise is true.
For I am Christ the Lord

CHILDREN’S SERMON

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 1:21-27

Page 593, OT

SPECIAL MUSIC

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Hebrews 11:1-16

Page 211, NT

SERMON

*“Emerge Into New Life:
Hope Helps”*

Rev. William Schram

*HYMN NO. 839

“Blessed Assurance”

ASSURANCE

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

***Refrain: This is my story; this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story; this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.***

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

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. 697 vs. 1-4

“Take My Life”

HENDON

1. Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
2. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.
3. Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee, filled with messages from thee.
4. Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect
and use every power as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Miniature for Organ 55 No. 5”

Flor Peeters

* Please rise in body or spirit

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram

Valerie Shondel, Interim Director of Music

Chancel Choir

Ray Liptak, AV Engineer

Michael Sperrazza, & Matthew Califf AV Team

Alan Smulen, Piano



The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God....
....in memory of David Wefferling by, Lewis Wefferling

✝ 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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