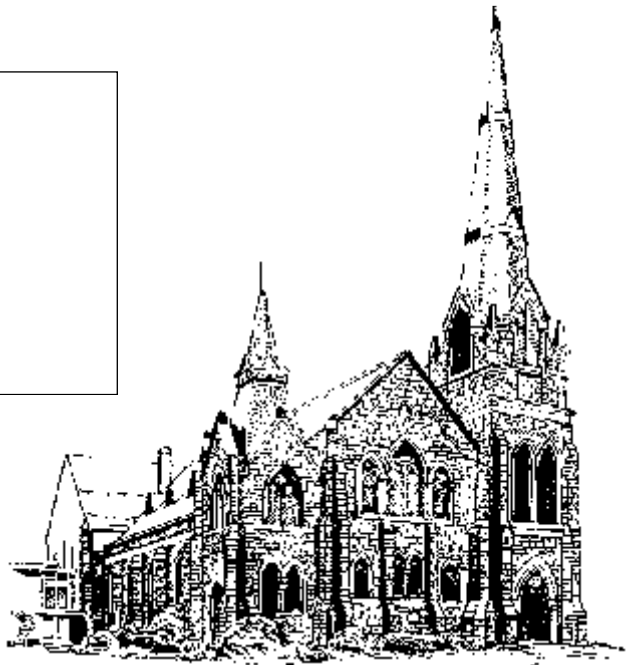


THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH AT CALDWELL

*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 7, 2023
9:30 am
Fifth Sunday of Easter**

REFLECTION

"...I don't think Jesus asks us to confess who we believe he is for his sake, but rather for ours, that we might be caught up in the power of his love and life."

David Lose

PRELUDE

"The Fairy Queen"

Henry Purcell

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

...from where will I get my sustenance and care?

When we were children, we wondered...

...who will I become on this adventure called life?

Change can make us feel awkward and fragile, and we wonder...

...how can I move through this change with grace?

When we give ourselves permission to dream big dreams, we wonder...

...how can I realize that vision?

Then the love of the Divine reminds us,

“You too are my child. You can emerge to renewed life.

Again and again.” Amen.

*HYMN NO. 401

“Here In This Place”

GATHER US IN

1. Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame, call us now,
and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be the light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart,
so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.
3. Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well,
and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away:
here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

*LITANY OF AFFIRMATION

(from the PCUSA “Brief Statement of Faith”)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,

teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,

healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified,

suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,

breaking the power of sin and evil,

And delivering us from death to life eternal. 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 way.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

MINUTE FOR MISSION

“Vacation Bible School”

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 12:1-8

Page 151, NT

SPECIAL MUSIC

"In Remembrance"

Beryl Red

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 16:13-20

Page 17, NT

SERMON

*"Emerge Into New Life:
Claiming New Possibilities"*

Rev. William Schram

*HYMN NO. 503

"Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation"

O QUANTA QUALIA

1. Lord, we have come at your own invitation, chosen by you, to be counted your friends yours is the strength that sustains dedication; ours, a commitment we know never ends.
2. Here, at your table, confirm our intention; give it your seal of forgiveness and grace; teach us to serve without pride or pretension, Lord, in your kingdom, whatever our place.
3. When, at your table, each time of returning, vows are renewed and our courage restored, may we increasingly glory in learning all that it means to accept you as Lord.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CONSECRATION 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.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of Life, you offered us the bread and the cup blessed with your Spirit of life. Having eaten of the bread, may we seek to bring healing to all the broken places of our world. Having drunk from the cup, may we go to all the barren places, bringing water to the thirsty, food to the hungry, and community for the lonely. Thank you for gathering us around your table. Amen

INVITATION TO GIVING

*HYMN NO. 295

"Go To The World"

SINE NOMINE

1. Go to the world! Go into all the earth. Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth, baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.
2. Go to the world! Go into every place. Go live the word of God's redeeming grace. Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
3. Go the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray; the nights of tears give way to joyous day. As servant church, you follow Christ's own way.
4. Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for I am with you till the age shall end, when all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!"

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Rondeau”

Henry Purcell

* 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

✠ 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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