

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, July 9, 2023
10:00 am
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

REFLECTION

"We all need to wear the yoke of Jesus. We all need to wear the religion of Jesus. Love of God. Love of neighbor. Mercy, love, and kindness. A faith that moves mountains and carries momentous burdens."

Rev. Edward Markquart

PRELUDE

"Beautiful Savior"

Dale Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come to our God, all who hunger for life:

for it is God who nourishes us at the Table of Grace

Come to our God, all who are worn out by life:

for it is God who provides the rest we need.

Come to our God, all who are weighed down:

for it is our God who carries our burdens with us.

*HYMN NO. 465

“What a Friend We Have In Jesus”

CONVERSE

1. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!
2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
3. Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we confess to You we want the easy answers, the shortcuts, the quickest way to get what we want with minimal sacrifice. The ways of this world tempt us toward an easier life, in which we do not care about others, only our own desires. Forgive us for these desires that are not Yours. Call us into Your way of life, a way that seeks the well-being of our neighbor. Guide us into Your way of life, a way of deep listening, of seeking truth even when it painfully strips away our illusions. Keep us to the path of knowledge and insight, knowing that You are with us, always. In the name of Christ, who showed us this Way, this Truth, and this Life, we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

It sounds so simple, we think it is too simple. But which is the burden you would choose: hate or love; anger or forgiveness; pain or peace? God invites us to receive the gifts which make it possible to have lives of faithful obedience.

This is the good news: Jesus forgives us and takes our burdens from us. We would let go of them and welcome hope, joy, grace into our lives. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Oasis-A Haven for Women and Children

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 7:15-25a

Page 147, NT

SPECIAL MUSIC

“My Lord, What A Morning”

Traditional Spiritual arr. Mark Hayes

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 11:25-30

Page 11, NT

SERMON

“Christ’s Open Yoke”

Rev. William Schram

1. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.
2. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give the living water,
thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk till traveling days are done.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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

1. O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed:
***Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!***
2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:
Refrain
3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin:
Refrain
4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim,
"My God, how great thou art!"
Refrain

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken”

Gordon Young

* Please rise in body or spirit

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Valerie Shondel, Director of Music
Ray Liptak, AV Engineer
Michael Sperrazza, & Matthew Califf AV Team
Mackenzie Conaway, Cantor

‡ 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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