

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, August 20, 2023  
10:00 am  
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

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REFLECTION

*"Prayer and solidarity, ongoing connectedness with God and mutual support, belong to the kind of spirituality we need to sustain courageous and authentic Christianity."* William Loader

PRELUDE

*"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*

Dale Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 78)

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

**We will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord and the wonders that God has done.**

How in the daytime the Lord led them with a cloud, and all night long with a fiery light.

**He split rocks open in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.**

Let us drink deeply of the Lord's goodness as we come into God's courts with praise!

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
 All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
 I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
 Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

***Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?***

***I have heard you calling in the night.***

***I will go, Lord, if you lead me.***

***I will hold your people in my heart.***

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain,  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

***Refrain***

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
 Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

***Refrain***

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God, our sun and shield: we may long to be in your house, but our deeds show how tough it is for us to live there. Called to follow, we search for paths to take us back to our old ways; given the words of eternal life, we weakly proclaim the gospel to others; offered the path of salvation to walk upon, we stumble down the rocky roads of our world.**

**Forgive us, Guardian of our lives. Strengthen us with your Spirit, so we may serve your people with all that brings them life. Let your Word, Jesus Christ, the One we have come to believe and know is our Lord and Savior, be confirmed in us in every word, every deed, every thought, every moment in the days to come. In Jesus’ name. Amen**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Again, hear the words of Paul when he writes that God has bestowed on Christ “the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend . . . and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

**As we make our confession we have the assurance that the exalted Christ intercedes on our behalf.**

**\*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.

## SERMON

*“Bible’s Bad Examples: Eutychus Lucky to Be Here”*

Rev. William Schram

\*HYMN NO. 804

*“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”*

MARION

1. Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice give thanks, and sing!  
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.  
***Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice!***  
***Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!***
2. With voice as full and strong as ocean’s surging praise,  
send forth the sturdy hymns of old, the psalms of ancient days.  
***Refrain***
3. Yes, on through life’s long path, still chanting as ye go,  
from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe:  
***Refrain***
4. At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest;  
the pilgrims find their home at last, Jerusalem the blest.  
***Refrain***
5. Then on, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!  
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.  
***Refrain***

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

## PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

## INVITATION TO GIVING

\*HYMN NO. 834

*“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”*

PRECIOUS LORD

1. Precious Lord, take my hand;  
lead me on, help me stand;  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
Through the storm, through the night,  
lead me on to the light;  
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.
2. When my way grows drear,  
precious Lord, linger near;  
when my life is almost gone,  
hear my cry, hear my call,  
hold my hand lest I fall;  
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Toccata on "Leoni"*

Gordon Young

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\* Please rise in body or spirit

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Rev. William Schram  
Valerie Shondel, Director of Music  
Justin McBurney, Cantor  
Sarah Solie, Soloist  
Participants of the CBA Summer Camp  
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:

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



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