

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH AT CALDWELL
326 Bloomfield Avenue
Caldwell, NJ 07006
973-228-0310
www.firstprescaldwell.org



Sunday, September 10, 2023
10:00 am
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Our Mission: Shining God's light by ...
Knowing Christ, Growing in His love, Going where He leads.

REFLECTION

"God does not demand that I step out of airplanes...But, like Peter, I can step forward, even if the ground beneath me is no more substantial than water."

Rev. Amy Hunter

PRELUDE

"Jesus Loves Me" & "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to worship our God,
who speaks the words of peace we need in chaotic times.
We gather to follow Jesus,
who encourages to never fear, for he is near.
We gather to be filled with the Spirit,
who anoints us so we can go to serve our world.

*OPENING HYMN

"This Little Light of Mine"

African-American spiritual

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.
2. Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.
3. Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Faithful God, we confess that our faith sometimes wavers or falls away. We are tempted by the ways of this world, to put our trust in wealth and security. We are challenged by the injustice we experience, wondering where You are when there is so much suffering. We are tried by the struggles we have faced, of Covid-19 isolation, of racism, of state violence. There is so much that is uncertain, perhaps more than we've ever experienced before. Restore our hearts, O God, to place our trust in You. Renew our hope, O God, to do what we can to bring hope to others. Revive our faith, O God, to live into Your ways and know that there is resurrection, new life, in the face of despair and death. In the name of Christ, who is our living hope, our Resurrection and Life. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. The LORD will give what is good.

God works all things together for good. Through Christ's grace, God is working good in us, right now. We are forgiven, loved, and restored. Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 469 *"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"*

CHILDREN PRAYING

Lord, listen to your children praying.
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying.
Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

CHILDRENS' SERMON

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Mission Fair

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ezekiel 47:1-6

Page 769, OT

SPECIAL MUSIC

"If Ye Love Me"

Thomas Tallis

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 14:22-32

Page 15, NT

SERMON

"How Deep Is Your Faith?"

Rev. William Schram

*HYMN NO. 463 verses 1,3, and 5 *"How Firm a Foundation"*

FOUNDATION

1. How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent World!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
3. "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.
5. "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

JOYS AND CONCERNS

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving
May God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us open your hearts to God,
so they may be filled with grace.

Speak of the Word of life which is near you.

Glad songs of praise are on our lips.

Here at the corner of fears and doubts,
we come to your Table . . . we will sing our songs of joy to you,
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

CONSECRATION OF THE BREAD AND CUP

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

DISTRIBUTION

SPECIAL MUSIC

LATIN

Panis angelicus
fit panis hominum:
Dat panis cœlicus
figuris terminum:
O res mirabilis!
Manducat Dominum
pauper, servus et humilis.

Te trina Deitas
unaque poscimus:
Sic nos tu visita,
sicut te colimus;
Per tuas semitas
duc nos quo tendimus,
Ad lucem quam inhabitas.
Amen.

“Panis Angelicus”

ENGLISH

Thus Angels' Bread is made
the Bread of man today:
the Living Bread from heaven
with figures dost away:
O wondrous gift indeed!
the poor and lowly may
upon their Lord and Master feed.

Thee, therefore, we implore,
o Godhead, One in Three,
so may Thou visit us
as we now worship Thee;
and lead us on Thy way,
That we at last may see
the light wherein Thou dwellest aye.
Amen.

Cesar Franck

PRAYER AFTER THANKSGIVING

Lord, help us go into the world as your people, telling of God's hopes for all. Support us to go to serve the world as those trusting Jesus, showing with our lives that we can dive into lives of faithfulness. Nourish us to go to share the Spirit, bringing trust where there is doubt, sharing faith where there is fear. Amen

*HYMN NO. 591

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!”

HALLE, HALLE

***Refrain: Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!***

1. O God, to whom shall we go?

You alone have the words of life.

Let your words be our prayer and the song we sing:

hallelujah, hallelujah!

Refrain

2. My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord.

When I call them they follow me.

I will lead them to rest by the peaceful streams:

hallelujah, hallelujah!

Refrain

POSTLUDE

“Praise God From Who All Blessings Flow”

Michael Burkhardt

* Please rise in body or spirit

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram

Valerie Shondel, Director of Music

Scott Westenberger, Worship Leader

Singers: Abbey Clyne, Sarah Solie, Alan Smulen

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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