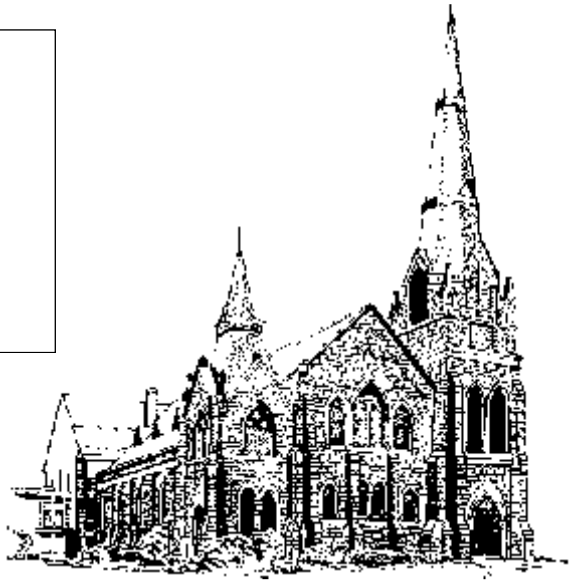


THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH AT CALDWELL

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, October 15, 2023
9:30 am
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

REFLECTION

"The history of the human race, as well as the story of any one life, might be told in terms of commitments."

Margaret Farley

PRELUDE

"Voluntary"

John Stanley

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, rejoice in what God is doing in our world!

Come, be in awe of God our creator!

God has given us hearts to love, bodies to live and breathe, souls to rejoice!

God has made us, beautiful and wonderful beings!

God has made the whole universe, and is continuing to make all things new;

God is doing something new in our lives, right now.

Come, join your hearts in worship of our magnificent Creator!

Come, rejoice in our God

*HYMN NO. 693

“The Gift of Love”

GIFT OF LOVE

1. Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.
2. Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.
3. Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control;
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

How often, O Lord, have we believed that the greatest commandment is our love for ourselves solely. We have not heard the cries of those in need; we have turned our backs on opportunities to serve you by serving others. Many times we have thought only of our own wants and desires and ignored the needs of others. Help us to truly understand the commandments to love you with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind. Let us care for our neighbors both far and near. Bring us back to your loving light. For we ask these things in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rejoice, beloved of God, for God’s love and forgiveness are given to you this day..
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 582

“Glory to God”

GLORY TO GOD

1. Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.
2. World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

CHILDREN’S PRAYER RESPONSE

HYMN 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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

*African Dream Academy Concert
Mission Trip Fundraiser*

1. Deep in the shadows of the past, far out from settled lands, some nomads traveled with their God across the desert sands. The dawning hope of humankind by them was sensed and shown: a promise calling them ahead, a future yet unknown.
2. While others bowed to changeless gods, they met a mystery, invisible, without a name: "I AM WHAT I WILL BE"; and by their tents, around their fires in story, song, and law, they praised, remembered, handed on a past that promised more.
3. From Exodus to Pentecost the promise changed and grew, while some, remembering the past, recorded what they knew, or with their letters and laments, their prophecy and praise, recovered, kindled, and expressed new hope for changing days.
4. For all the writings that survived, for leaders, long ago, who sifted, copied, and preserved the Bible that we know, give thanks, and find its story yet our promise, strength, and call, the model of emerging faith, alive with hope for all.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS 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.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Refrain: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
2. For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light: **Refrain**
3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: **Refrain**
4. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: **Refrain**
5. For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: **Refrain**

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *“May the Peace of God Go With You”*

Hal H. Hopson

POSTLUDE

“Basse et Dessus de Trompette”

Louis-Nicholas Clerambault

* Please rise in body or spirit

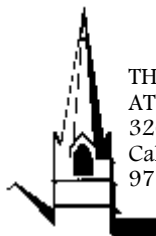
WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Valerie Shondel, Director of Music
FPC Chancel Choir
Ray Liptak, AV Engineer
Dennis Velez, Assistant AV Engineer
Matthew Califf & Michael Sperrazza, 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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