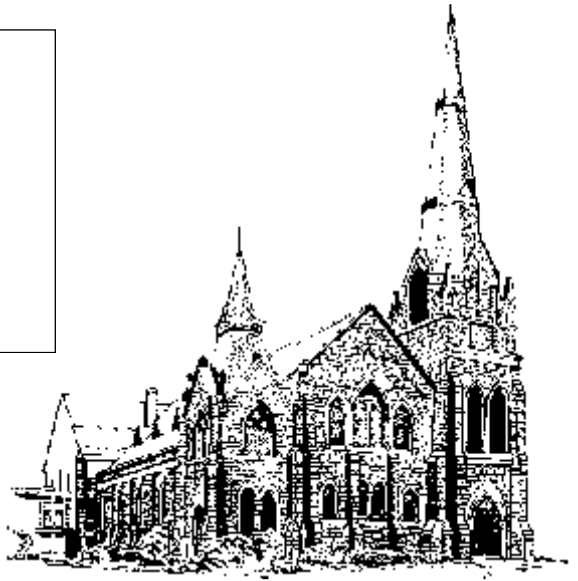


THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH AT CALDWELL

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 22, 2023
9:30 am

Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost

REFLECTION

"The idea that truth sustains community while deception destroys it is woven into the very notion of truth that we encounter in the biblical traditions."

Miroslav Vol

PRELUDE

"St. Catherine"

Gordon Young

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lead a life worthy of your calling.

**We cannot do this alone,
we dare not try this alone,
so we gather as God's people.**

Lead a life filled with the gifts of your calling,
gifts to be used with service and meekness.

**We come to build up Christ's Body,
in humility and gentleness,
with patience and love.**

Lead a life which reflects your calling,
that life of peace grounded in the Spirit.

**We rejoice in our oneness in Christ;
we would share the grace offered to us.**

Live a life worthy of the calling
to which you have been called.

**We gather as God's family
at the Table prepared for us,
waiting to be fed by the Bread of life.**

*HYMN NO. 451

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

OPEN MY EYES

1. Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!
2. Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!
3. Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere.
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Maker of us all, we confess that we have fallen away from Your intention for our lives. We have sought the ways of this world, seeking what others have, and dissatisfied with what we've been given, even when our needs are met. We put possessions above people. We have confused need with desire. Forgive us. Call us back into Your intention for us, to love one another and to care for this earth that You made. Call us back to Your ways of love, justice, and peace. Help us to learn that when we care for others, our needs are met. When we care for this earth, there is enough for everyone, and for all creatures. Maker of us all, call us into Your way of life, away from the ways of this world. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Despite knowing our sin, Christ chooses to forgive us; holding our shattered hearts, God chooses to heal us.

Christ has graced us with mercy and created new life from our brokenness. Thanks be to God. 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

Christine's Kitchen

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Joshua 22:10-12, 21-28

Page 204, OT

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Teach Me, Your Way, O Lord"

Richard Cheri and Jalonda Robertson

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Ephesians 4:1-15

Page 182, NT

SERMON

"Community Building Practices: Truth Telling"

Rev. William Schram

*HYMN NO. 754

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

BARONITA

1. Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.
2. Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.
3. Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.
4. Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one!

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.**

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE

INVITATION TO GIVING

*HYMN NO. 703

“Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me”

ST. CATHERINE

1. Jesus, thy boundless love to me no thought can reach, no tongue declare;
O knit my thankful heart to thee, and reign without a rival there!
Thine wholly, thine alone, I'd live; myself to the entirely give.
2. O grant that nothing in my soul may dwell, but thy pure love alone;
O may thy love possess me whole, my joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove; may every act, word thought be love.
3. O Love, how gracious is thy way! All fear before thy presence flies;
care, anguish, sorrow melt away where're thy healing beams arise.
O Jesus, nothing may I see, nothing desire, or seek, but thee.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“May the Peace of God Go With You”

Hal H. Hopson

POSTLUDE

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

Joseph Haydn arr. Gordon Young

* Please rise in body or spirit

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram

Valerie Shondel, Director of Music

FPC Chancel Choir

Ray Liptak, AV Engineer

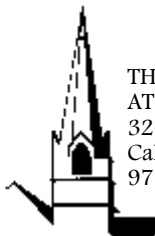
Dennis Velez, Assistant AV Engineer

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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