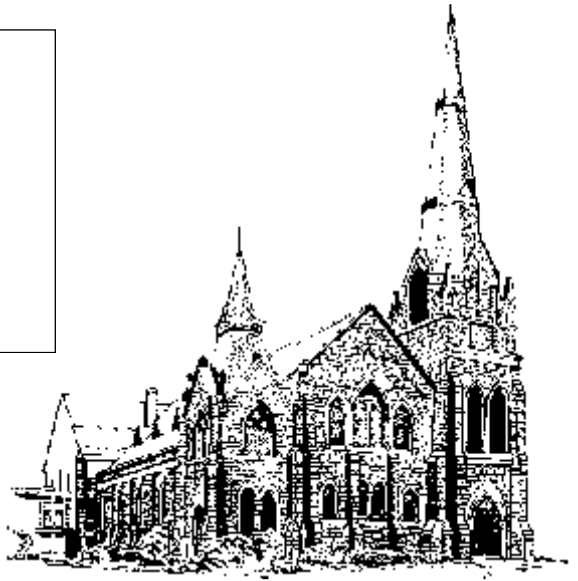


THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH AT CALDWELL

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, January 21, 2024
9:30 am
Third Sunday after Epiphany

REFLECTION

*"We find freedom when we commit ourselves to doing God's will on earth as it is in heaven.
We find freedom when we live our lives in harmony with God's justice and peace and mercy.
We find freedom when we embrace a way of living that is defined by love."*

Alan Brehm

PRELUDE

"Jesu Meine Freude"

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

As we offer a welcome to stranger and friend,
as we are embraced in their kindness,

we choose to be people of life and blessing.

As we serve others in God's name,
as we receive blessings from those we do not know,

we choose to walk in God's way.

As we forgive those who have hurt us,
as we reach out to those we have harmed,

we choose to be reconciled to our sisters and brothers.

*HYMN NO. 830

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

JESU, MEINE FREUDE

1. Jesus, priceless treasure, source of purest pleasure, truest friend to me;
ah, how long I've panted, and my heart has fainted, thirsting, Lord, for thee!
Thine I am, O spotless Lamb: nothing in the world can hide thee; naught I ask beside thee.
2. In thine arm I rest me; foes who would oppress me cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking, every heart be quaking,
Jesus calms my fear; lightnings flash and thunders crash:
yet, though sin and hell assail me, Jesus will not fail me.
3. Hence, all fears and sadness! For the Lord of gladness, Jesus, enters in:
God, who dearly loves us, from all trial saves us;
gives sweet peace within; I have borne this worldly scorn;
still in thee lies purest pleasure, Jesus, priceless treasure!

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

How often we make the wrong choices, God of our lives! We look at others through the prism of lust, distorting who they really are. We let our 'mad' feed us with bitterness and hurt. We toss about harmful words like so many snowballs on a winter's day. We would rather insult those around us, than to lift them up. Have mercy on us, God who is everywhere. May we set aside our quarreling natures to be united in common worship, common service, and a common purpose, as we follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Christ came, so we might be healed by God's tender touch. Christ came, so we might be reconciled to one another.

Thanks be to God! As risky, as hard as it may be, we will choose to be God's people. Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 587

“Alleluia”

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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.

FIRST GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:17-30

Page 4, NT

SPECIAL MUSIC

“I Danced in the Morning”

John Ferguson

SECOND GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:33-48

Page 5, NT

SERMON

“Dealing With Life's Stuff: The Impact of Others”

Rev. William Schram

*HYMN NO. 434

"Restore in Us, O God"

BAYLOR

1. Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;
renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.
2. O Spirit, wake in us the wonder of your power;
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives like springtime bud and flower.
3. Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.
4. Three personed God, fulfill the promise of your grace,
that we, when all our searching ends, may see you face to face.

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.

*HYMN NO. 720

"Jesus Calls Us"

GALILEE

1. Jesus call us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth saying, "Christian, follow me."
2. Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."
3. In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."
4. Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thy obedience, serve and love thee best of all.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Amen"

POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Ebenezer"

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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