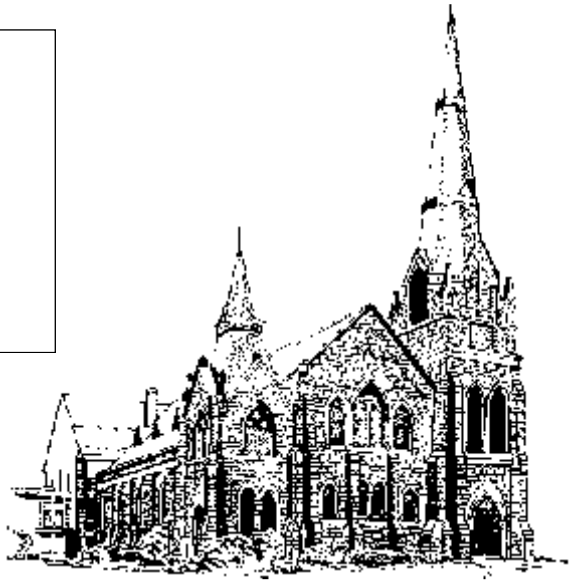


THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH AT CALDWELL

326 Bloomfield Avenue  
Caldwell, NJ 07006  
973-228-0310  
[www.firstprescaldwell.org](http://www.firstprescaldwell.org)



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

Sunday, March 3, 2024  
9:30 am  
Third Sunday in Lent

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REFLECTION

*"When we look at our world through the lenses of God's grace, it changes everything. We can no longer view others as 'competition' that we have to outdo in our piety in order to 'make it in' to heaven. Everybody 'makes it in' because God wills it. Period. The whole creation is to be drawn into the peace and love and life of God's kingdom"*

Alan Brehm

PRELUDE

*"Arioso"*

J.S. Bach.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

In this place, the community of faith is reminded of the promise:

**God's love endures forever!**

In spite of our impatient grumbling, despite our attraction to the shadows:

**Christ's light shines in us!**

When we think our hands are empty, when we have no music in our souls:

**the Spirit fills us with glad songs, and creates us for good works!**

\*HYMN NO. 394

*“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”*

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

1. Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone, chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one; holy Zion’s help forever, and our confidence alone.
2. To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay; come, with all your loving kindness; hear your people as we pray, and your fullest benediction shed within these walls today.
3. Here bestow on all your servants what they seek from you to gain; what they gain from you, forever with the blessed to retain; and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.
4. Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one: one in might and one in glory while unending ages run!

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**The Light of the world has come, Ceaseless Creator, but we admit we love the shadows all around us. For there, we can boast of our achievements, rather than point to your grace; there, we can grumble of our unhappiness with you, instead of singing your praises; there, we can give into our natural anger, and not be touched by your call to be agents of peace and hope.**

**Forgive us, Eternal Love: lead us from the shadows of sin into the light of your joy; raise us up, as your children so we may kneel in service to others; shower us with the grace, the hope, the peace you have brought to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Let those gathered in grace say so:

**Christ’s grace endures forever!**

Let the community of faith say so:

**God’s love endures forever!**

This is the good news for us: God’s love endures in Christ forever.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 698

*“Take, O Take Me as I Am”*

TAKE ME AS I AM

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;  
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Connor Lee Dombrowski and Hope Lynne Dombrowski*

CHILDREN’S PRAYER RESPONSE

HYMN NO. 752

*“Dona Nobis Pacem”*

DONA NOBIS PACEM

Dona nobis pacem, pacem. Dona nobis pacem.

FIRST GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 4:16-21

Page 57, NT

SPECIAL MUSIC

*“Lost in the Night”*

Cathy Mokolbust

SECOND GOSPEL LESSON

John 3:16-21

Page 88, NT

## \*HYMN NO. 769

*"For Everyone Born"*

## FOR EVERYONE BORN

1. For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead,  
***Refrain: and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,  
compassion and peace: yes, God will delight when we are  
creators of justice, justice and joy!***
2. For woman and man, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding the share,  
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power, for woman and man, a system that's fair,  
***Refrain***
3. For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong,  
***Refrain***
4. For just and unjust, a place at the table, abuser, abused, with need to forgive,  
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy, for just and unjust, a new way to live,  
***Refrain***
5. For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,  
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free,  
***Refrain***

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

## INVITATION

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*"Can You Drink This Cup"*

Craig Courtney

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

May the God of the Lenten pilgrimage be with you.

**And also with you.**

Offer all you have and are to your God.

**We bring our hearts, our hopes, our minds, our bodies.**

Sing praises to the One whose love is constant and true

**We sing joy, life, and peace to our God.**

Though you are holy, you set out by way of Bethlehem, God of wonder, to redeem us from all that separates us from you. Though we spoke in anger and rebellion, constantly opposing you, your Word came speaking of grace. . . Pour out your Spirit upon this Table and the gifts of the bread and the cup, that they might bless those you have gathered here. It is by your grace that the broken bread is able to strengthen us to serve; it is by your peace that the cup nourishes us to pray for others. We will join our sisters and brothers, the saints and sinners, the complainers and the committed, in singing our songs of thanksgiving to you, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

## CONSECRATION

## 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.**

DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**As we leave this place, may we remember you are God's community in the world. Help us remember are alive with Christ: for Christ's light shines in the deepest shadows! Let us remember the gifts God offers to us for the Spirit fills us with good works to do, and glad songs to sing to the world! Amen**

\*HYMN NO. 165

*"The Glory of These Forty Days"*

ERHALT UNS, HERR

1. The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise;  
for Christ, by whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.
2. Alone and fasting Moses saw the loving God who gave the law;  
and to Elijah, fasting, came the steeds and chariots of flame.
3. So Daniel trained his mystic sight, delivered from the lions might;  
and John, the Bridegroom's friend, became the herald of Messiah's name.
4. Then grant that we like them be true, consumed in fast and prayer with you;  
our spirits strengthen with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*"Bless the Lord"*

Taize

POSTLUDE

*"Psalm XIX "*

Benedetto Marcello

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\* Please rise in body or spirit

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Rev. William Schram  
Valerie Shondel, Director of Music  
FPC Chancel Choir  
FPC Handbell Choir  
Will Downey, Violin  
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:

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