



First Presbyterian Church
513 Birch St., Boonton, NJ 07005
(973) 334-3535 www.fpcboonton.org
Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @FPCBoonton

September 24, 2023 *Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost* 10:00 AM

GOD’S PEOPLE GATHER

* = Please stand in body or in spirit

WELCOME! We are glad you can join us for worship here and online. Visitors, please sign the guest book located in the narthex. Prayer request cards are available in the racks within each pew. Ushers will collect them during the second hymn. Please *remember to turn off all devices as we turn towards God.*

GREETINGS TO THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

PRELUDE *“Voluntary”* W. Herschel

* INVITATION TO WORSHIP: (Responsively)

One: Give thanks to God, who made us from dust and cares for us as precious treasures.

All: God’s love endures forever!

One: Give thanks to God’s only Begotten who lived and died for us, was raised to new life for us, and ever lives to pray for us.

All: God’s love endures forever!

One: Give thanks to God the Spirit who breathes into us new life, and calls us all into ministry in Christ’s name.

All: God’s love endures forever!

One: Give thanks to the Triune God who summons us together to bear witness with joy.

All: God’s love endures forever!

* PRAYER OF CONNECTION: (In unison)

Almighty God, we pray for your blessing on the church in this place. Here may the faithful find salvation and the careless be awakened. Here may the doubting find faith, and the anxious be encouraged. Here may the tempted find help, and the sorrowful comfort. Here may the weary find rest, and the strong be renewed. Here may the aged find consolation and the young be inspired, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* HYMN # Blue 482 *“Praise Ye The Lord, The Almighty”* Joachim Neander

INVITATION TO SEEK GOD’S GRACE

PRAYER SEEKING GOD’S GRACE: (In unison)

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (In unison)

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that hearing, we may obey your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOD’S WORD TO US

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Genesis 12:1-9 p. 10

ANTHEM *“The Gift of Love”* Hal Hopson

SERMON

“Rattling the Gates of Heaven”

Reverend Pendleton

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

(A quiet time for contemplation on the preached scripture.)

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

* HYMN # Blue 388

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

Arthur Henry Mann

(At this time, ushers will receive any written prayer requests. Blank prayer request cards are available in the racks within each pew. Please feel free to fill one out and give it to an usher or email office@fpcboonton.org)

TIME FOR MISSION

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER: (In unison) “forgive us our sins, as...sin against us”

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land”

Traditional Spiritual

(Please remain silent during this time of worship, dedication and prayer)

* PRESENTATION / DOXOLOGY: (In unison)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOD’S PEOPLE GO INTO THE WORLD

* HYMN # Blue 420

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

John Hughes

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

One: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord be kind and gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on Hymn of the Day

Pastoral Care Coverage: Ryon Herin 765-650-9404
Guest Preacher: Rev. Gail Pendleton
Organist/Choir Director: Sarah Jane Zollner
Guest Organist: Christina Jonas
Lay Reader: Natalie Pisarcik
Ministers: All the People of the Church

PLEASE WELCOME OUR GUEST PREACHER: Rev. Gail Pendleton
Gail Pendleton is a minister member of the Presbytery of the Highlands of New Jersey. She was the first woman ordained by the former Presbytery of Newton. She received her B.A. from Montclair State University, her M.Div, from Princeton Theological Seminary, and her M.A. in English (Writing) from William Paterson University. She has worked in journalism as an editor, reporter, and columnist and at Sussex County Community College as an adjunct professor of English. She has a published novel *Two in a Canoe* and has another novel in progress. In addition, she is a mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

PLEASE WELCOME AS OUR GUEST ORGANIST: Christina Jonas - Christina is a graduate of Washington University, St. Louis, and Northwestern University. She has 30 years of music teaching and 45 years in church music ministry.

Announcements

HEARING AIDS/RECEIVERS – We have hearing aid receivers available during the worship service. Please ask an usher if you would like to use one. **PEW PILLOWS** – are available during worship for those of you who would like additional back support. Feel free to pick one up or have an usher bring one to you!

LAY READER – **Natalie Pisarcik** has been a member since 2012 and works for the Rockaway Valley Regional Sewerage Authority. She’s also a volunteer firefighter serving on the Town of Boonton Fire Dept. and is the President of the Maxfield Hose & Engine, Co. 1. She has served as moderator of the Deacons and as a youth group leader/chaperone and currently is on our Church Nominating Committee. Natalie and her wife Amanda live in Boonton and enjoy hiking, boating, fishing and taking road trips.

WORSHIP FLOWERS NEEDED You can sign up on the chart by the Sanctuary doors or through our website. One or both of these arrangements are delivered to the sick and homebound each week and bring connection and cheer. The church office will contact you regarding the \$40 flower donation and your dedication for the bulletin.

MISSIONS - We are always accepting Mission Donations through Breeze or they can be mailed to or dropped off at the office.

BOONTON DAY – We’ll be participating in Boonton Day TODAY. It begins at noon and runs through 4:00 pm.

COFFEE HOUR – today all are invited to the Boonton Day festival, there *will be no coffee hour*.

Next Sunday is Leftover Sunday – remember to bring something yummy from your pantry!

*Please consider sponsoring or hosting coffee hour. You can sign up on the board next to the office (or consider donating to the jar in the library). Congregational Life will provide coffee. **BREEZE** - If anyone needs help downloading the Breeze app on their phones and/or updating their info and picture, there will be a tech support person to assist you in the library.

MEAL TRAIN is an opportunity to provide a meal for a person or a family in their time of need. Please email Martel Roberts at martelroberts@gmail.com or call or text 973-216-0787 if you would like to volunteer to provide a meal or if you are in need of a meal.

PEACEMAKING OFFERING: Between now and 10/1/23, the Deacons will be collecting monetary donations for the PCUSA Peace and Global Witness program. The Deacons will contribute 25% of the total funds collected to the **American Foundation for Suicide Prevention** (AFSP). Please mail your donations to FPCB, P.O. Box 157, Boonton, NJ 07005 or donate through Breeze.

DEACONS ANNUAL WINTER COAT DRIVE - Please bring clean, lightly used coats and winter apparel (gloves, scarfs, hats) for adults and children. Additionally, we are now collecting spare blankets as well! These items can be dropped off in the boxes on the bridge and Reighart Hall. Donation Deadline: Fri. **Nov. 10th**. Coat sort **Nov. 12th** Coat giveaway & luncheon **Nov. 18th** 12-2 Reighart Hall.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 24 – September 30 ~ Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) <i>Sarah off</i>
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary and online)
	12:00 pm	BOONTON DAY
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
Monday		Dover Faith Kitchen
	7:30 pm	NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart Hall)
Tuesday	4:00 pm	NJ Conservatory (Choir Room)
Wednesday	3:00/4 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves and Fishes
	7:00 pm	Presbyaires (Choir Room)
Thursday	6:00 pm	Girl Scouts (Reighart Hall)
Saturday	8/9:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves and Fishes

October 1 – October 7 ~ Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) <i>Sarah off</i>
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour-Leftover Sunday! (Library)
	11:30 am	Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room/Sanctuary)
Monday	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
	6:30 pm	NA PIC Meeting (Reighart Hall)
	7:00 pm	LG Board Meeting (Choir Room/Whitley)
	7:30 pm	NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart Hall)
Tuesday	4:00 pm	NJ Conservatory (Choir Room)
	6:30 pm	Deacons (Library)
Wednesday	3:00/4 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves and Fishes
	7:00 pm	Presbyaires (Choir Room)
Friday		LG Academy closed
Saturday	8:00 am	PW Event (RH/Kitchen)
	8/9:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves and Fishes

Office Hours are M-F 830-130

*The calendar can also be found on our website <https://www.fpcboonton.org/calendar/>