



## First Presbyterian Church

513 Birch St., Boonton, NJ 07005

(973) 334-3535 [www.fpcboonton.org](http://www.fpcboonton.org)

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January 28, 2024

*Fourth Sunday After Epiphany*

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

*"Soft and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling"*

Will Thompson

\* INVITATION TO WORSHIP: (Responsively)

One: Out of the blue, God comes to us.

**All: In the midst of turmoil, Jesus walks towards us.**

One: As darkness closes in, the Spirit lights a way for us.

**All: On our life journey, God is present in a multitude of ways for us.**

One: We gather, seeking to be in community as we follow God's path of abundant life.

**All: As we embrace this day, the day that God is making, let us rejoice and sing our praise.**

CHORAL INTROIT

*"Arise, Shine"*

Gary Alan Smith

\* PRAYER OF CONNECTION: (In unison)

**O God, morning by morning you awaken us; day-by-day you show us your wondrous love. You surround us with countless acts that tell of your majesty; we are struck by your goodness, as we are refreshed in your Spirit. Come, dwell among us, and through Christ, let us praise you. 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)

written by Moira Laidlaw. (edited)

**God of grace and goodness, your mercy comes to us in ways that continually surprise us, for you appear to offer such mercy with no strings attached which is so different from the way we so often act and live. You heal those that need healing. Help us to see people with Jesus' eyes and to be moved by his compassion so that we become active and fearless bearers of healing and mercy. Empower us with your Spirit to be barrier-breakers rather than barrier-builders and remind us, if necessary, over and over, that nothing can separate us, or others, from your love as we experience it in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Saviour. This we pray in his name. Amen**

SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE



**Pastor:** The Rev. Carie Morgan  
**Organist/Choir Director:** Sarah Jane Zollner  
**Lay Reader:** Claudia Yanez  
**Ministers:** All the People of the Church

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### **January 28 – February 3 ~ *Fourth Sunday After Epiphany***

Sunday	9:15 am	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	<b>Worship</b> (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	<b>Congregational Meeting for Members</b> (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am	<b>Coffee Hour</b> (Library)
	12:00 pm	<b>Choir Holiday Brunch at the Nickels</b>
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
Monday	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/Fishes
Saturday	8/9:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves/Fishes

### **February 4 – February 10 ~ *Fifth Sunday After Epiphany***

Sunday	10:00 am	<b>Worship</b> (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	<b>Coffee Hour</b> (Library)
	11:30 pm	<b>Meeting of Session and Deacons</b> (Library)
	5:00 pm	<b>Deacons</b> (Library)
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
Monday	6:30 pm	NA PIC Meeting (Reighart)
	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/Fishes
	7:00 pm	<b>OPS</b> (Library)
Thursday	1:15 pm	<b>Second Thursday Adult Group</b> (Library)
Saturday	8/9:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway) / Loaves/Fishes

\*The calendar can also be found on our website under news and events:

<http://fpcboonton.org/calendar-pro/>

## Announcements

**We are glad you are worshipping with us today!**

**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** – **Claudia Yanez** studied Journalism, Media and Cinema at Rutgers University and graduated in 2021 and is working at Fusion Public Relations in NY. She is a member of the church and has been attending FPCB for over 16 years and lives with her family in Boonton.

**CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by the Beatty family in loving memory of their dear friend, Lorig Zinzalian-Smith.

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

**COFFEE HOUR** – is hosted/sponsored today by Congregational Life. Please join us in the Library to enjoy this time of fellowship. \*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. **Next Sunday is Leftover Sunday** – remember to bring something yummy from your pantry!

**2024 BILL & VIVIAN LOWTHER SCHOLARSHIP:** The Memorials Committee is pleased to announce that the Scholarship Subcommittee is accepting applications from FPC Members who have applied to or are attending an accredited college or professional school in pursuit of professional certification, undergraduate education, or a graduate degree. Please contact the church office at 973-334-3535 or [office@fpcboonton.org](mailto:office@fpcboonton.org) for application forms. Completed applications are due to the church office by **March 1, 2024**.

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION** of First Presbyterian Church Boonton NJ, will be held for members TODAY immediately after worship in the Sanctuary. Purpose to receive the annual report, approve the 2024 budget, and other business appropriate for congregational consideration.

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

**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](mailto: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.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE-** Please join us, Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm to experience the power of community. This is a wonderful opportunity to begin your Lenten journey in community and explore the power of forgiveness and grace.

**2024 PER CAPITA** - Congregations pay an annual amount of money per church member — per capita apportionment — to their respective presbyteries. It is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together, by sharing the benefits of the system of government and operational expenses.

The per capita amount is a combined total of requests from the presbytery, the synod in which the presbytery is located, and the General Assembly — based on their respective annual budgets.

We ask all those who are able to consider covering your per capita charges for 2024. The Presbytery Per Capita fee is \$42.50 per member. This includes youth who have been confirmed. Ex: For a couple, the per capita amount is \$85 and for family (where 1 youth is also a member) the per capita would be \$127.50.

As a connectional church, we are obligated to pay this to the Presbytery of the Highlands early each year, to cover operational expenses. A small portion (a total of 10%) also gets allocated for General Assembly and Synod expenses.

We ask that you prayerfully consider making your per capita contribution. Every per capita cost that is not paid comes out of the overall endowment (or savings) of the church. By paying your per capita will allow us to allocate all of our donations to the missions of this church. You may use the special envelopes in your offering boxes or you can simply mark your contribution with the words “Per Capita.”

*-Mission Interpretation & Stewardship Committee*