



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

May 12, 2024

*Seventh Sunday of Easter*  
**Ascension of our Lord Sunday**

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

*"Simple Gifts"*

arr. John Carter

PRAYER OF ADORATION: (In unison)

from Walter Brueggemann

**We are people who must sing to you, for the sake of our very lives. You are a God who must be sung by us, for the sake of your majesty and honor. We thank you for the long parade of mothers and fathers who have sung you deep and true; We are witnesses to your mercy and splendor; Amen.**

CHORAL INTROIT

*"Gloria, Gloria, Gloria"*

Pablo Sosa

\* CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsively)

by Christine Sine - Godspace

One: God with a mother's heart, You gather us as your children. You comfort and hold us in your warm embrace.

**All: When we hurt, your arms enfold us. When we are afraid, your wings protect us. When we are hungry, you feed us with the bread of life.**

One: God with a mother's heart, Your love surrounds and supports us,

**All: In good times and in tough, in the midst of joy and pain, always and everywhere. You will never leave nor abandon us.**

One: God eternal and loving one, God with a mother's heart,

**All: We thank you this day for being part of your family.**

\* HYMN # Blue 469

*"Morning Has Broken"*

Gaelic Melody

INVITATION TO SEEK GOD'S GRACE

RESPONSIVE PRAYER: (In unison)

by Christine Sine

**One: Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, a new world has broken into ours—**

All: A world in which justice does come for the poor, freedom comes for the prisoners, and healing for the sick.

**One: Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God, a new community has been formed—**

All: A community that loves and cares for all members, a family that welcomes all who are abandoned and rejected, a place where all find a place of belonging.

SILENT REFLECTION



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

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### May 12 – May 18 ~ *Seventh Sunday of Easter*

Sunday		Mother's Day
9:15 am		<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	<b>Worship</b> (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	<b>Coffee Hour</b> (Library)
	11:15 am	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> (Choir Room/Sanctuary)
	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	10:30 am	<b>Bible Study</b> (Library)
	3:00 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	4:00 pm	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
	7:00 pm	<b>Session Meeting</b> (Library and zoom)
Thursday	6:00 pm	Girl Scouts (Reighart Hall)
	6:30 pm	<b>Handbell Choir</b> (Choir Room)
Saturday	8:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	9:00 am	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
	12:00 pm	St. John's Luncheon at St. John's Boonton

### May 19 – May 25 ~ *Pentecost*

Sunday	9:15 am	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> (Sanctuary)
	10:00 am	<b>Worship</b> (Sanctuary and online)
	11:00 am	<b>Coffee Hour</b> (Library)
	11:15 am	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> (Choir Room/Sanctuary)
	7:00 pm	AA (Reighart Hall)
Monday	7:30 pm	NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart Hall)
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	3:00 pm	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	4:00 pm	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
Thursday	6:30 pm	<b>Handbell Choir</b> (Sanctuary)
Saturday	8:00 am	Coffee & Services (Gateway)
	9:00 am	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry

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

[Click here](#)

## 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!

**CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by Bruce Middleton in honor of all the moms who have blessed our lives!

**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 today by Kim Robbins and thanks to Bob and Nell Troiani. 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). CL will provide coffee.

**PENTECOST - Sunday, May 19** - In the Spirit of Pentecost - wear **Red** to worship on Sunday - Join us for an informal communion worship service as we explore the power of the Holy Spirit.

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** joins together at 10:30am in the FPCB Library and via zoom (an Adam Hamilton study on Simon Peter). *Link provided in weekly Inspire email.*

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** on the book of Psalms - **June 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** in the church Library. Email Marilyn Ward if you haven't signed up already and are interested [marilynward@msn.com](mailto:marilynward@msn.com)

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY COMING SOON** – Also on the book of Psalms. Sign-up in coffee hour after worship or contact John Crozier at (973) 809-8153 to discuss what dates and times work best for the majority. More details to come.

**MUSIC SUNDAY – June 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.** “A Festival of Hymns” by Hal Hopson performed by the Chancel Choir, Hand Bell Choir and readers from the congregation. Come and sing along!

**NEWS** - The monthly ‘Inspire’ Newsletter is now a weekly email called *The Weekly Inspire*. Please read this email to keep up to date with church events and updates on our discernment study.

**NEW MEMBER'S CLASS** - Pastor Carie will be holding a new member class for those interested in formally joining the church. Please email her at [pastorcarie25@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcarie25@gmail.com) to let her know you're interested. Pentecost Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, will be the tentative New Member Sunday.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES** - Three young people have expressed interest in participating in a Confirmation class this spring. If you have a child or grandchild interested in confirmation 8th grade and higher – please email Pastor Carie to let her know - [pastorcarie25@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcarie25@gmail.com)

**JOHNSONBURG SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIP** - The Deacons are once again offering a scholarship for any youth of our congregation who are interested in attending a week of summer camp at Camp Johnsonburg this summer. Please reach out to Spencer Keoppel if you are interested in taking advantage of this wonderful experience. [spencerkeop@gmail.com](mailto:spencerkeop@gmail.com)

**2024 PER CAPITA** – Each year, congregations pay an annual amount of money per church member 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. **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. **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*

### DISCERNMENT TEAM UPDATE

During the month of May, we will be holding small group conversations inviting people to share about their faith connection to FPCB as well as to where they see God at work in the world and within the life of the congregation. A schedule of gatherings is in the works.

**Save the Date: Sunday, June 23**

Congregation wide Discernment Conversation. This will be the last part of our Discernment Study. Please plan on attending to share your vision and voice for the future ministries of FPCB.

Timeline Event - Partial Summary

Our timeline exercise on March 2, 2024 recalled many valuable and inspiring experiences and some challenging ones that our current members have had in the last 4 decades. The following observations were echoed by many.

Our physical church is a source of inspiration to many.

People see the steeple “Spire” as the Beacon on the Hill. A Light of the World. It is more than just a landmark. It has a strong presence in the town’s landscape. You can see it from the highway and it welcomes you home.

The Music Programs: The Chancel and Bell Choirs led by our inspiring Choir Director and Organist, Sarah, are much loved and resonate spiritually to many. The Christmas Cantata and Easter programs are a big attraction. The Presbyaires outreach choir performs at local Nursing Homes.

Missions and Community Outreach: This is a Mission oriented church and many people reiterated their involved experiences. The Deacons and volunteers generously give their time to work with Boonton Welfare and area churches to support community needs. The Coat Drive as well as the Angel Tree Christmas Gift events were named as ministry highlights.

*-submitted by your discernment team: John Crozier, Ken Nickel, Leslie Smith, Natalie Pisarcik*