



**First Presbyterian Church**  
 513 Birch St., Boonton, NJ 07005  
 (973) 334-3535 [www.fpcboonton.org](http://www.fpcboonton.org)  
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**March 15, 2026**

***Fourth Sunday in Lent***  
*"How Are We Called To Love During Lent"*

**10:00 AM**



***Living Matthew 25:***

Rooted in Christ, Living Boldly, Serving with Compassion

GATHERING

\* = Please stand in body or in spirit

**WELCOME! We are glad you can join us for worship here and online.**

Visitors, please fill out a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate.

Prayer Request Cards are available in the racks within each pew.

Please ***remember to turn off all devices as we turn towards God.***

GREETINGS TO THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

PRELUDE

*"I Love to Tell the Story"*

arr. Gordon Young

OPENING PRAYER (In unison)

From the PCUSA Daily Prayer App

**Eternal God, send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, to direct and rule us according to your will, to comfort us in all our afflictions, to defend us from error, and to lead us to truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

One: Just like a deer that thirsts for streams of water,

**All: Our whole being thirsts for God, for the living God.**

One: I will again give God thanks,

**All: Our hope is in God, always.**

One: Hope in God!

**All: God is a solid rock, a sure foundation. Great is the faithfulness of God. Amen.**

\* HYMN # Blue 368

*"I've Got Peace Like a River"*

African American Spiritual

PRAYER SEEKING GOD'S GRACE (In unison)

**Gracious and merciful God, we confess we have not lived up to your calling. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We do one thing on Sunday and quite another during the week. Forgive us. Renew in us your son's message in all that we do.**

SILENT REFLECTION

One: Lord, in your mercy...

**All: Hear our prayers.**

KYRIE: (Sung in unison)

HYMN # Blue 81

*"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"*  
(verse 1)

Claudia Hernaman

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: May the Peace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

RESPONSIVE HYMN # Green 148

*"Celtic Alleluia"*  
Refrain (sung twice)

Fintan O'Carroll/C Walker

TIME FOR MISSION

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 2:1-10

p. 49

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*"Just As I Am"*

Gilbert Martin

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 2:11-25

p. 49

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*"Exodus No. II"*

The Rev. Nathaniel Fryer

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

RESPONSE

\* HYMN # Blue 333

*"Seek Ye First"*

Karen Lafferty

(At this time, ushers will receive any written prayer requests  
or you can email the church office: [office@fpcboonton.org](mailto:office@fpcboonton.org))

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed (PCUSA book of Common Worship p 466)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (In unison)

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

*"O Rest In the Lord"*

Mendelssohn

\* 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

SENDING

\* HYMN # Blue 343

*"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"*

John Zundel

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*"Doxology"*

arr. Marilyn Arison

**Pastor:** The Rev. Nathaniel Fryer  
**Organist/Choir Director:** Sarah Jane Zollner  
**Chancel Choir**  
**Usher Team:** Donna Keoppel  
**Liturgist:** Pat Maraziti

**Pat Maraziti** and her husband, Charles have lived in the Boonton/Mountain Lakes area most of their lives. They have two married daughters and five grandchildren who reside in Pennsylvania. Pat serves as Deacon and sings in the Chancel Choir. You can usually find her in the Loaves & Fishes food pantry.

**Prayers from the Prayer Wall**

Lord help me turn my faith into action  
Kindness...It doesn't cost a darn thing Spread that stuff everywhere  
Good health and world peace  
Pray for our country, our leaders, peace for our world

**Music Memorial Fund**

A donation has been given by Deming Yaun in memory of Elsie Morris

## ~Prayer List & Church Announcements~

### *Hope/Joy*

*“We thank you, God, for...”*

**DAN G** (Betty Tilli's family) - Thyroid was removed and tests came back cancer free! Praise God!

**GEORGE BLANK'S** eye is much better and the infection is under control. Thanks for your prayers.

**GERARD** (Betty's friend's B-I-L in Germany) is making great progress with his new prosthetic legs. He has a very positive attitude and is grateful for all the prayers!

**JOE** (Judy Caggiano's friend) is home and improving, but remains on antibiotics.

**LOUIS BRUNO** (Kim Robbins' Uncle) had a heart valve replacement and is home gaining strength. Thanks for all the prayers/calls.

### *Concern*

*“Loving Lord, we pray for...”*

(INSERT YOUR NAME HERE) and lift up to God your needs and concerns.

**CLEO JOINER** (Pastor Nathaniel's cousin) Prayers for him and his family as they deal with a medical emergency.

**ERIC PARKIN** (Shavaun Pizar's HS friend, musician and NJ Theatre actor) of keen mind, has decided to stop treatment for a rare leukemia. He is now on hospice. Prayers for him and his friends and family.

**GEORGE BLANK'S** tumor is growing; prayers for his health and good results at his follow-up in June.

**MIKE STORA**- prayers for Mike, Deb and family as they continue to deal with his health challenges.

**POMERVILLE FAMILY** - please keep the entire family in your prayers as they grieve the passing of their beloved grandmother.

**RESIDENTS OF THE NJ STATE FIREMEN'S HOME** – pray for their families & caregivers.

*“Continued Prayers For Health and Healing”*

**ARLENE AND DOUG LANGDON, CARL REIDER** (friend of Kim Robbin's & Steve),

**CODY** (Marilyn Ward's great grandson), **DEBBIE DIXON** (Meg Meyer's friend), **DON KEARNEY, GAIL COE, MORGAN HANNA** (Gail Coe's grand-daughter).

*“Prayers For Those With Cancer...”*

**BOB DUFFELL** (Kim Robbins' friend's dad), **CAROLYN TARDIF** (Meg Meyer's friend),

**DAVID** (Betty Tilly's friend's son), **EINAR BORGSTROM, EMMIE** (Evelyn's great niece),

**FRED LAYMAN** (Marisa Crozier's friend), **GENE SARDONI** (Judy Caggiano's friend),

**GEORGE HORNICHEL** (the Blank's cousin), **JOHN ENRIGHT** (Jack Thompson's friend), **MARISA LAPLACA** (Bea Beatty's coworker), **MAX** (food pantry volunteer's son-in-law),

**MILES** (Trish Herrera's friends' grandson), **NEIR** (The Troiani's friend), **RICHARD ANDERSON** (Jessica Beatty's friend's father), **ROBERT NERLINE, SR., TERESA** (Leslie Smith-Ficaro's friend).

*“And God Shall Wipe Away the Tears...”*

**AMY MCCAULY** (a prominent member of the community) passed away 2/15. Prayers for her friends and family.

**LINDA GARVIN** (friend of the Croziers) passed suddenly on 2/8. Prayers of support for her husband Jim and family.

Please send updates/changes to prayer requests to the office [office@fpccoonton.org](mailto:office@fpccoonton.org)

### Announcements

#### MISSION

**SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIP** - The Deacons are offering a \$400 scholarship for any youth of our congregation (members' children/grandchildren/relatives), who are interested in attending a week of summer camp at Camp Johnsonburg this summer. Please reach out to Martel Roberts if you are interested in taking advantage of this wonderful experience before registering

[martelroberts@gmail.com](mailto:martelroberts@gmail.com)

**MEAL TRAIN** is an opportunity to provide a meal for a person or a family in their time of need. Please email Lois Merritt at [loisann139nj@gmail.com](mailto:loisann139nj@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer to provide a meal or if you are in need of a meal.

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

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** - Our theme for 2026 is **Fill God's Garden With Love** and **the goal is \$2600**. OGHS funds/supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People and the Presbyterian Hunger Program which unite us in caring for the hungry, the weak and the vulnerable. Donations can be left in the offering plate, given through Breeze or mailed to the church (please put OGHS in the memo or note when giving through Breeze).

#### WORSHIP

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

**HEARING AIDS/RECEIVERS** and **PEW PILLOWS** for additional back support, are available during worship service. Please ask an usher for assistance with these.

### **FAITH FORMATION**

**A LENTEN LECTIO DIVINA** (an ancient Christian practice that has been going on for at least 1,600 years). It is a Latin phrase meaning “divine reading” but don’t worry, you don’t have to know Latin to be a part of Lectio. Lectio Divina is a way of slowing down when reading the Scriptures and engaging the text so that you hear God’s word for you. The next meeting will be **3/18 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Library (Note location change!)**

**AFTERNOON PRAYER DURING LENT** - These prayer services allow for the exploration of Lenten themes and give congregants a prayerful practice and keep them connected with the church community throughout the week. The next date is this Wednesday **3/18** at 2:30 p. m. in the Sanctuary.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL** - *Discipleship in a Divided Age; A Lenten Journey through Matthew's Gospel* is available on our website, will be attached to our weekly newsletter emails and is being emailed DAILY to everyone on our email list. Hard copies available on the bridge.

**PRAYER WALL** (on the bridge) - a simple yet powerful way to share what’s on your heart and lift one another up in faith. We invite you to write a prayer and hang it up. In doing so, you become part of a living tapestry of prayer, where our community joins together in support, compassion, and trust in God’s presence. Pens and prayer cards are available on the bridge ledge.

### **FELLOWSHIP**

**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).

***LEFTOVER SUNDAY will be March 22 - bring your tasty leftovers to coffee hour to share!***

**PW MOVIE NIGHT – Friday 3/20.** Movie details to follow - plan to arrive at 7pm, the movie will start at 7:15pm. Please mark your calendar, it will be a fun evening and a great discussion!

**PALM SUNDAY COMMUNITY BREAKFAST & PARADE** - On March 29<sup>th</sup>, Congregational Life will be hosting a potluck breakfast at 9:00 a.m. in Reighart Hall. There will be a sign- up sheet available during coffee hour, for those who would like to bring something to share. After breakfast, we will enjoy a festive Palm Parade to St. John’s church and back, celebrating the beginning of Holy Week together. See Poster on the bridge for more details.

### **Holy Week**

**April 2 (Thursday)** - Maundy Thursday – Worship at 7:30 p.m.

**April 3 (Friday)** - Good Friday – Worship at 7:30 p.m.

**April 4** – Easter Vigil – Worship at 6:00 p.m.

**April 5** - Easter Sunday



**EASTER MEMORIAL PLANTS** - Available **NOW through March 29<sup>th</sup>**. *Would you like to honor or remember a loved one on Easter? Donations \$10 per plant can be - Left in the offering plate using the envelopes in the pew; Mailed (check payable to First Presbyterian Church of Boonton) “Memorial Plants for...” in memo line OR Paid through Breeze (QR Code below) use drop down - give to easter plants).* After the Easter service you may pick up your plant(s) or have it distributed to a homebound person or those going through difficult times.

**NEW MEMBERS CLASS** – if you are interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian church, please join us on April 26 in the Library after Worship. New members will be welcomed into the life of the congregation during worship on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

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### **2026 Per Capita:**

**The Presbytery 2026 Per Capita fee is \$44 per member.**

Paying online is easy via the pulldown menu in Breeze for "Per Capita" or by marking your check "Per Capita". We appreciate prompt payment for this item, as we have already been billed by our Presbytery.

-Stewardship Committee



**Breeze online giving code**

## First Presbyterian Church Weekly Calendar

### March 15<sup>th</sup> – March 21<sup>st</sup>

#### Sunday

9:15 – 9:40am      Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
10 – 11am          Worship (Sanctuary and online)  
11 – 11:30am      Coffee Hour (Library)  
11:30am – 12:30pm      Choir Rehearsal SATB (Choir Room/Sanctuary) 1215-1 T/B  
7 – 8pm              AA (Reighart)

#### Monday

7:30 – 10pm          NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart)

#### Tuesday

2:30 - 3pm            St. Patrick's Day  
LGA Play Practice (Choir Room)

#### Wednesday

2:30-3pm            Afternoon Prayer in the Sanctuary  
3 – 6pm              Coffee & Services (Gateway)  
4 – 6pm              Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry  
7 – 8pm              Lectio Divina Class (Gateway)

#### Thursday

3 - 4:15pm          LGA Play Practice (Choir Room)  
6:30 – 7:30pm      Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)  
7 – 8pm              Girl Scouts (Reighart Hall)

#### Friday

7 – 9:45pm          PW Movie Night (Library)

#### Saturday

8 – 11am             Coffee & Services (Gateway)  
9 – 11am             Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry  
12:00 pm             St. John's Luncheon

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

#### Upcoming Events

Please see our bulletin board on the bridge for upcoming church events,  
and the bridge doors for other local events

**Admin Office Hours: Mon. – Fri. 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**  
Pastor's 'in office' hours: Mon. – Wed. 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Off Fridays