



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

**March 22, 2026**

***Fifth Sunday in Lent***

**10:00 AM**

*“How Are We Called To Love During Lent”*

***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

*“Welcome, Happy Morning”*

Roger C. Wilson

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

from the PCUSA Daily Prayer App

**Eternal God, our beginning and our end, be our starting point and our haven, and accompany us in this day’s journey. Use our hands to do the work of your creation, and use our lives to bring others the new life you give this world in Jesus Christ, redeemer of all. Amen.**

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

based on Psalm 69

One: Our God has spoken!

**All: God will bring us out of the depths of the ocean.**

One: Bless God in the great congregation!

**All: Bless the Lord from the highest of heights!**

One: Let us worship the Lord our God in song!

\* HYMN # Blue 341

*“Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine”*  
(English Verses)

Fanny J. Crosby

PRAYER SEEKING GOD’S GRACE (In unison)

**God of all creation, your vision of peace is beyond our knowing. We have been hurt and we have seen destruction. Then we turn around and hurt others, destroying what you have called good. Forgive us. Restore in us your right message. Let us be accountable, so we may bring forth your peaceful kingdom.**

SILENT REFLECTION

One: Lord, in your mercy...

**All: Hear our prayers.**

KYRIE: (Sung in unison) HYMN # Blue 572 *“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”*

John Merbecke

*Lord Have Mercy Upon Us, Christ Have Mercy Upon Us, Lord Have Mercy Upon Us*

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 3:1-12

p. 50

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*“Dona Nobis Pacem”*

arr. Mark A. Miller

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 3:13-22

p. 50

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*“Exodus No. III”*

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*

**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

*“His Eye Is On the Sparrow”*

arr. Fred Bock

\* 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 288

*“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”*

Isaac Watts

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*“Toccata”*

arr. Gordon Young

**Pastor:** The Rev. Nathaniel Fryer  
**Organist/Choir Director:** Sarah Jane Zollner  
**Chancel Choir**  
**Usher Team:** Marisa Crozier  
**Liturgist:** Leslie Smith-Ficaro

**Leslie Smith-Ficaro** is grateful for FPCB and has been a member since 2011. She and her husband Bob live in Montville. They have two daughters, two grandchildren and are enjoying retirement activities. She is currently serving as Deacon and is an active participant in the 2nd Thursday Adult Group that meets monthly at 1:15 in the library.

### **Prayers from the Prayer Wall**

- Thank you Lord for showing us the path to better love and appreciation of our life partners
- For Janice and Bob Doppler after the death of their son. Strengthen them as they process this loss
- For the Rishkofskis after the death of Anthony Senior
- ”But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” ...My prayer for the congregation of first Presbyterian Church and our new Pastor Nathaniel

**Chancel Flowers** are given to the glory of God by John and Kathy Pizar in celebration of the birthday of their compassionate, creative daughter Shavaun.

### **~Prayer List~**

#### ***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.

**MIKE STORA**- is home and thanks you all for your miracle working prayers!

#### ***Concern***

**“Loving Lord, we pray for...”**

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

**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.

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

**“Continued Prayers For Health and Healing”**

**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 HORNICKEL** (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.

**BOB AND JANICE DOBLER’S SON** – Prayers for the Doblere’s after losing their only son at age 32 in an awful quad accident.

**RISHKOFSKI FAMILY** – Prayers for them as they process the loss of their father/grandfather.

Please send updates/changes to prayer requests to the office [office@fpcboonton.org](mailto:office@fpcboonton.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 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 **4/22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library**.

**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 **3/25 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** - Leftover Sunday! Join us in the library for leftovers and a great 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.

**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 Worship at 10:00 a.m.

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**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<sup>th</sup>** in the Library after Worship, or **April 29<sup>th</sup>** at 7p.m. in the Library. A New Member Lunch with Session will be held **May 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 11:30 a.m. in the Library. 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 22<sup>nd</sup> - March 29<sup>th</sup>

#### Sunday

9:15 – 9:40am Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
10 – 11am Worship (Sanctuary and online)  
11 – 11:30am Coffee Hour (Library)  
11:30am – 1:00pm Choir Rehearsal SATB (Choir Room/Sanctuary) 1215-1 S/A  
7 – 8pm AA (Reighart)

#### Monday

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

#### Tuesday

3-4:15pm 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

#### Thursday

3 - 4:15pm LGA Play Practice (Choir Room)  
6:30 – 7:30pm Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)

#### Friday

5 – 10:00pm Girl Scouts (Reighart Hall)

#### Saturday

8 – 11am Coffee & Services (Gateway)  
9 – 11am Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

#### Sunday

8 – 9:00am Palm Sunday Breakfast and Parade with St. John's (Reighart)  
8:15 – 8:45am Handbell rehearsal  
9:15 – 9:40am Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
10 – 11am Worship (Sanctuary and online)  
11 – 11:30am Elder/Deacon Communion Training / Coffee Hour (Library)  
11:15am – 12:30pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room/Sanctuary)  
7 – 8pm AA (Reighart)

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

### Upcoming Events

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

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