



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

Living Matthew 25:
Rooted in Christ, Living Boldly, Serving with Compassion

May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter
Worship & Communion

10:00 AM

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.***

PRELUDE

“Simple Gifts”

arr. John Carter

GREETINGS TO THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

* CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsively)

based on Psalm 31:1-5, 14-15

One: Our God refuses to shame us. God’s justice delivers us.

All: Praise God, in whom we seek shelter and guidance!

One: Our God comes near to us. God rescues us from danger.

All: Praise God, in whom we seek shelter and guidance!

One: Our God renews our spirits. God is always faithful.

All: Praise God, in whom we seek shelter and guidance!

One: We trust our God. Let us worship God, whom we call ours.

All: Praise God, in whom we seek shelter and guidance!

* HYMN # Blue 487

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

Joseph Barnby

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

PRAYER SEEKING GOD’S GRACE: (In unison)

God of compassionate mercy, your grace and love extend to all people. We are called to forgive others, as you forgive us. Far too often, however, we wield forgiveness like a weapon. We see others doing wrong and feel proud when we grant them grace. We call out the sins of the powerful but fail to notice our own. We become narrow in our quest for truth, and exclude other people, in other rooms, crying out for your justice. Help us search ourselves and seek forgiveness from those we have made beg us for mercy. Connect us to others and guide us to share power and grace as we follow you.

SILENT REFLECTION

One: Lord, in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayers.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

All: And also with you.

RESPONSIVE HYMN # Blue 419

“How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord”

C. Hubert H. Parry

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 139:1-14

p. 577

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

All: Thanks be to God.

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Inclusive Kin-dom of God”

The Rev. Emily Sutphin

A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

* HYMN # Green 277

“The Servant Song”

Richard Gillard

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.

EUCCHARIST

OFFERTORY

“If You Search With All Your Heart”

Craig Courtney

* 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

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: It is indeed our right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending praise:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

One: We are Easter people! Death has been defeated and is no more. Christ has risen! Alleluia. Christ is risen indeed! Nothing – not forces of evil, not injustice, not sorrow or pain - can stop us from praising his name. Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

All: We remember Christ's death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his arrival in glory.

One: Lean close, Holy One, as we name the concerns on hearts. We pray for our nation and our local communities. We pray for all we know who are in need of you. We pray for those we don't know whose names are known to you. We lift up prayers for ourselves and our needs. We pray for the world now and look forward to what it will be. We pray for the day when we all will be brought before the heavenly banquet and will sit next to each other as one beloved community. We pray all this with the prayer Jesus' taught us, saying,

THE LORD’S PRAYER: (In unison)

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, They will be done on earth at 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 and ever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Administered by Intinction

Please approach by way of the center aisle, moving to one of the stations on the left or right of the sanctuary to receive the elements. Dip the bread into the cup (grape juice on the inside) and consume it. Return by way of either side aisle to be seated in your pew. Elements will be brought to anyone who cannot come forward. A gluten/egg free option is available. Please do not drink from the chalice.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

* HYMN # Blue 374

“Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace”

Francis of Assisi

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Trumpet Tune in F”

Terry Baldrige

Pastor: The Rev. Nathaniel Fryer
Organist/Choir Director: Sarah Jane Zollner
Chancel Choir

Firemen’s Home: Marisa Crozier and Lois Merritt

Usher Team: Marisa Crozier, Donna Keoppel, Natalie Pisarcik, Martel Roberts, Roxanne Tavakkol.

Please Welcome Our Guest Preacher – Rev. Emily Sutphin.

Pastor Emily is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary (‘23), where she met Pastor Nathaniel Fryer. (Pastor Emily and Pastor Nathaniel sang in the PTS travel choir together!) She has her Master of Divinity and Master of Christian Education and Formation, and was ordained in 2023 as a Minister of Word and Sacrament. Currently, Pastor Emily works as an employment specialist helping adults with intellectual disabilities find and maintain meaningful employment. She’s passionate about disability inclusion, comprehensive social justice, and k-pop music. In her free time, she likes to crochet, spend time with her dog and cat, and read memoirs.

LITURGIST Sue Lyon lives in Boonton with her husband Mike. They have 3 kids and 6 grandchildren. Sue most recently worked as a Memory Care Director; loves dogs and fosters puppies for a rescue group; volunteers as a trained Stephen Minister and as a support group facilitator for Alzheimer’s NJ. Both Sue and Mike are looking forward to joining the church this Spring.



CHANCEL FLOWERS

are given to the glory of God by Natalie Pisarcik in honor of springtime and loved ones.

~Prayer List & Church Announcements~

Hope/Joy

“We thank you, God, for...”

GALE BLACK's surgery went well. She's not walking yet, but is progressing. Thanks for your prayers!

Concern

“Loving Lord, we pray for...”

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

BEVERLEY STEPHENS requested prayers for a procedure she had Wednesday.

BOB AND JANICE DOBLER (Kim Robbin's friends) Please continue to pray for them as they struggle to process the loss of their son and search for healing.

BRIAN (friend of Kim Robbins's brother) received a serious pancreatic (non-cancer) diagnosis. He is only 60 years old. Prayers for him, his wife and son.

DOUG & ARLENE LANGDON won't be in church for a few months due to Doug's low immunity during chemotherapy. Prayers for strength and good results.

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

GEORGE BLANK started new eye meds to promote healing; infection under control but he needs to heal.

JANET MIDDLETON is now in rehab until June at the Oaks in Denville.

JOANNE M. (Natalie Pisarcik's aunt) - prayers for peace/healing as she deals with serious health issues.

MARTEL ROBERT'S SISTER is having hip surgery – keep her in your prayers.

MIKE STORA is home but still needs prayers for his health.

RICHARD SMITH (the Beatty's friend) - Prayers for healing and strength as he waits for test results.

SONJA FRYER (Nathaniel's mom) was diagnosed with Leukemia. Prayers for healing and strength.

TOM (Natalie Pisarcik's cousin's husband) who has a grade 4 inoperable brain tumor. Prayers are needed for a miracle as he begins chemo treatment.

PRAYERS TO KEEP OUR COUNTRY'S LEADERS SAFE

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

“Continued Prayers For Health and Healing”

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

“Prayers For Those With Cancer...”

BOB DUFFELL (Kim Robbins' friend's dad) is now on hospice, **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), **JOHN ENRIGHT** (Jack Thompson's friend), **MARISA LAPLACA** (Bea Beatty's coworker), **MAX** (food pantry volunteer's son-in-law), **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...”

STEVEN CHAPMAN (Elaine Doherty's friend) passed away recently, after a long battle with his health. Prayers for his family during this time.

SUSAN BRESALIER (Kim Robbins' close friend) passed away 4/20 at 61 years old from a massive heart attack. Please pray for her daughter, Abby, and her partner, Rich Hoff. She had a heart of gold, and she will be so missed.

Please send updates/changes to prayer requests to the office office@fpccoonton.org

Announcements

MISSION

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING – raised \$2721.47. Thanks for your donations!

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

MEAL TRAIN is an opportunity to provide a meal for someone. Please email Lois Merritt at 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 the office.

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

WORSHIP

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

MUSIC SUNDAY – MAY 17th – see below...

NEW MEMBERS – will be welcomed into the life of the congregation during worship on **May 17th**.

PENTECOST is MAY 24th - Wear **Red** if you can, or other colors of fire.

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.

FAITH FORMATION

AFTERNOON PRAYER RESUMES - These prayer services give congregants a prayerful practice and keep them connected with the church community. Dates are May 13, May 20, May 27, June 3, June 10, (June 17 is at 7pm), June 24 **at 2:30 p.m.** in the Sanctuary.

SECOND THURSDAY Adult Group will meet in the Library May 14th at 1:15pm

SPRING 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 **5/20 at 10:30 a.m. in the Library.**

FELLOWSHIP

COFFEE HOUR is hosted/sponsored today by Session. 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).

PW MOVIE NIGHT - May 15th - 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!



MUSIC

Sunday

MAY 17TH

10 A.M. DURING WORSHIP

*performed by the Chancel Choir,
Hand Bell Choir,
and readers from the congregation*

Come and sing along!



Following the Music Sunday service...

Congregational Life will be hosting ***a bbq in the library,***

Catered by Pasqual's to celebrate the musical talents of Sarah and our choirs. All are welcome! A free will offering will be collected to help offset the cost of the lunch.

First Presbyterian Church Weekly Calendar

May 3rd – May 9th

Sunday

- 9:15 – 9:40am Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
10 – 11am Sunday Services (Sanctuary and online) Guest Preacher
11 – 11:30am Coffee Hour (Library)
11:15am – 1pm Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room/Sanctuary)
7 – 8pm AA Meeting (Reighart Hall)

Monday

- 3:15 – 5:30pm LG Senior Thesis (Whitley)
6 – 7:15pm NA PIC Meeting (Reighart)
7 – 9pm Cub Scout Pack 201 Committee Meetings (Library)
7:30 – 10pm NA - Lost and Found Group (Reighart)

Tuesday

- 3:15 – 5:30pm LG Senior Thesis (Whitley)
6:30 – 8pm Deacons - Library

Wednesday

- 3 – 6pm Coffee & Services (Gateway)
4 – 6pm Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

Thursday

- 12 – 1pm National Day of Prayer - Town Hall
6:30 – 8pm Webelo Den Meeting (Reighart Hall)
6:30 – 7:30pm Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)

Friday

- 6:30 – 8:30pm Scouts - Pack Meeting (Reighart Hall)

Saturday

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

*The calendar can also be found on our website

Upcoming Events

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

Pastor Nathaniel will be on vacation from April 30th – May 8th.

For Pastoral Emergencies contact Ryon Heron 765-650-9404.



Breeze online giving code