

# PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Families Strengthened

Welcome, we are glad you are here!

February 17, 2019

## WELCOME TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of MADISON

Relax. We're glad to have you, just as you are. We believe Jesus Christ teaches us that, so we really mean it. You're a child of God and you're safe here, no matter what.

Each one of us is in a different place on this life journey. The person next to you may be here for the first time, or they may have been born into a family in our church for generations. We're all continually learning, growing, and evolving as we connect in the Spirit with the rest of the world.

Children in church make squirmy joyful noises to the Lord! Babies cry! Relax about all that, too. If you wish, safe childcare is available for 4 and under. Your greeter will be happy to show you the way.

Please stick around after church for a few minutes if you have the time. We have refreshments and fellowship time in the lobby area. It's a great way to get acquainted!

Check out the box below for how it all works. We're all different, together, and God isn't finished with us. Come and see!

Scott Foster, Pastor

\*Stand in body or spirit. **Bold - Everything is said in unison.**  *Italics - We all sing.* After children's message, K-5 escape to Sunday School. Please share your info with us using the card in the pew. Write prayer requests in the book at the back of the church.

## **ORDER of WORSHIP** Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. — Luke 6:18-19 (NRSV)

#### THE GATHERING

**Praise Music** (A time of centering and preparation for worship. Please silence all electronic devices.)

Introit

#### Welcome

"Let us prepare our hearts to worship God..."

#### \* Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.)

VERSE 1:

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;

join me in glad adoration!

VERSE 2:

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,

shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!

Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?

VERSE 3:

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!

Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.

#### A Grateful Heart

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.) **VERSE 1:** 

A grateful heart is what I bring, a song of praise, my offering. Among the saints I lift my voice: in you, O God, I will rejoice. VERSE 2: Your name is known in all the lands. You feed the poor with gentle hands. Your word is true, your works are just; in you, O God, the faithful trust. VERSE 3: With saving love you set us free, and still you dwell in mystery with wisdom none can comprehend. Your praise, O God, will never end.

#### Together We Serve

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.) **VERSE 1:** 

Together we serve, united by love,

inviting God's world to the glorious feast.

We work and we pray through sorrow and joy, extending God's love to the last and the least. VERSE 2:

We seek to become a beacon of hope, a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet. We learn, year by year, to let love shine through until we see Christ in each person we meet. VERSE 3:

We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,

the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.

We offer a home to those who will come,

our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare. VERSE 4:

Together, by grace, we witness and work, remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong. Together we serve in Spirit and truth, remembering love is the strength of our song.

\* Opening Prayer

God of life, in Christ Jesus you are the Resurrection! Raise us from death to life. Transform us to bear witness to the power of your grace in our lives through Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### Call to Confession

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

#### **Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, we confess we suffer in our mistakes—in the choices we've made, in the sins against us. We do things we should not do, and we neglect our neighbors. Have mercy, forgive us, and save us from ourselves. Grant us the courage and grace to change what we can. Teach us to live a life in Christ Jesus. O Lord, hear our prayers...

Redman/Myrin

Response You Alone Can Rescue Who O Lord could save themselves Their own soul could heal Our shame was deeper than the sea Your grace is deeper still

(Silence is kept for our personal prayers of confession.)

One: Amen.

#### Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed and restored!

ResponseYou Alone Can RescueRedman/MyrinYou alone can rescueYou alone can saveYou alone can lift us from the graveYou came down to find us led us out of deathTo You alone belongs the highest praise. Amen.

#### **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

Amazing God, open the farthest and darkest corners of our hearts and minds with the light of your Word. Let the word of your Holy Scripture penetrate our souls—Come Holy Spirit, enlighten us! Amen.

Prophetic ReadingJeremiah 17:5-10(O.T.pg. 719)

<sup>5</sup>Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. 6They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup>Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. <sup>8</sup>They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

<sup>9</sup>The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse-who can understand it? <sup>10</sup>I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

One: The word of the Lord.

#### All: Thanks be to God!

Special Music In Christ Alone

Getty/Townend

#### Young People's Message

#### Gospel Reading Luke 6:17-26

(N.T. pg. 64)

<sup>17</sup>He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup>They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup>And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

<sup>20</sup>Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup>"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup>"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup>Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup>"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup>"Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup>"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Sermon "X's & O's"

#### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\* Give Thanks, O Christian People (The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.) VERSE 1: Give thanks, O Christian people, for workers of our day who heed the call to service and make it their life's way to go to feed the hungry. to tend to those in need. to work for equal justice, till all God's folk are freed. VERSE 2: Give thanks, O Christian people, for leaders of our years who live to share with others our joy when Christ appears, to teach the ones who seek light, to guide the faltering feet. to lead the followers forward our living Lord to meet. VERSE 3: Give thanks, O Christian people, for all who love the Lord,

who live each day believing
in God's eternal Word:
to share Christ's love in living,
to witness with each deed,
to use the talents given
to plant the gospel seed.
VERSE 4:
Give thanks, O Christian people,
for life in fellowship
with all who trust our Savior
their serving to equip:
to ease another's burdens,
to cope in joy and stress,
to magnify God's message
and Christ's great love confess.

#### \* Affirmation of Faith (by the Confirmation Class of 2017)

We believe God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit love all humanity, no matter what. They are everlasting—always with us, always creating, always feeling, and always listening. God is the creator of Earth and all life as we know it. God sent Jesus to be God in human form. Jesus shows us how to live and care for each other in the power of God's love, compassion, healing, forgiveness, and understanding even when we make mistakes. Fully human and fully God—Jesus lived, suffered, and died for our sins so God feels joy, pain, suffering, and death as we do. Jesus rose from the dead to prove God's power over everything. The Holy Spirit is the energy of God that gives us strength, confidence, and is always with us wherever we are. It is God's power and love in action and the wave of hope for all the human race. Amen.

#### Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Announcements

Invitation to Discipleship

Offering Offertory Be Still My Soul

\* Doxology

(The tune for the Doxology is at the back of this booklet.) Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all people here below; Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God whom we adore. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

\* Prayer of Dedication

Amazing God of all, bless our time, talent, and resources to see lives transformed, families strengthened, and our community renewed through intentional relationship with Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### **GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD**

\* Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty (Reprise)

(The tune for the hymn is at the back of this booklet.) **VERSE 1:** 

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

- \* Charge and Benediction (Please join hands.)
- \* Passing of the Peace and Postlude

#### **WORSHIP NOTES**

Thank you to Kathleen Underwood for reading today, and to our talented worship team of players, singers, and bell ringers!

What gifts do you bring? Share with us! Joyful worship comes from the soul of our collective Spirit. Come find your voice or vision here! Come play, sing, ring bells, read, lead, serve communion. If you have a gift of the arts such as music, drama, dance, poetry, prose, painting, or sculpting for examples, please give some thought to sharing it in worship.

What a great blessing!

#### About Today's Worship

We are developing a more blended style of worship with new contemporary worship songs and music as well as our traditional hymns and pieces. All of our hymns are from the new Presbyterian hymnal *Glory to God* printed for you in the bulletin. The choir will sing. The bell choir will play. We will hear our students. We will hear soloists. We will hear the band. It's a mix, and we may not have everything in the same day—unless you want to skip lunch. We hope it touches you.

#### About the Christ Candle

We continue to burn the Christ Candle from Christmas and through Lent until Good Friday to recognize the light of Christ in the world connecting Christmas to Holy Week.

#### About Today's Readings

We print the scripture readings in the bulletin, so you can follow along more easily. We also include the page numbers if you want to read from your pew Bible. Except where noted, all of our readings are usually from the New Revised Standard Version translation.

#### About Jeremiah 17:5-10

A common thread among the prophets is trust in God. We often hope and pray for good/evil cause and effect relationships between how we act in our lives and the blessings or consequences of those actions. In the real world, things have never been that simple. Nevertheless—we can rely on God to see us, hear us, and know us in ways that cut through the clutter.

#### About Luke 6:17-26

If all this sounds familiar, it should. Whereas Matthew's (Ch. 5-7) version of the story is called the "Sermon on the Mount," Luke's locale is "The Sermon on the Plain." This is one of the common stories between Matthew's Gospel and Luke's that are not shared in the other two Gospels of Mark and John. Matthew's version is a more linear beatitude format. This one contrasts the beatitudes with point-bypoint antithesis. Both promise a divine reversal of fortune by living into the "kingdom" of God.

#### About the Affirmation of Faith

There are 13 students in our current confirmation class. We struggle (a life-long journey) with issues of God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and what are they doing with us? What are they doing in our world? What do we do about it? Soon, each of our confirmands will write a statement of faith nailing down some theological concepts for their own personal baseline. We all theoretically do this, and throughout life the baseline keeps moving. That is so Presbyterian! Today's powerful affirmation is a digest of the statements of faith from the Class of 2017.

#### **Questions To Go**

What does God find in my mind and my heart? Is everything literal or is there room for interpretation? Where do I get my energy?

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Looking Ahead to Lent

Shrove Tuesday Pancakes Mar. 5th, 6pm Ash Wednesday, Mar. 6th, 7pm Celebration of Discipline study begins, Mar. 10th, 9am Middle School Retreat, 3/29-3/31

#### End Hunger 3.6

Saturday, March 9th, Simon Forum, Drew Campus, 9am-3pm

Food security is an on-going humanitarian crisis that takes a life every 3.6 seconds. PCM supports the Madison Rotary End Hunger 3.6 drive and there are two ways to help—Money, and volunteer time to pack meals. This is the largest End Hunger 3.6 campaign in the country with all meals staying right here in the New Jersey area. 400k total meals—250k are packed here in Madison. Check your eNews for a link to sign up.

#### Serve on Sunday

All are welcome, all who come in the name of the Lord! Snacks after church— check your eNews for a link to sign up.

Teach Sunday School—It's easy, really! Contact Patrick Allred.

And if you'd like to serve on our worship team on Sundays as a reader, communion server, singer, musician, bell-ringer, or greeter please do! Contact the church office for more information and we'll plug you in—973.377.1600.

#### Per Capita 2019

Each year congregations in our Presbytery pay a per member fee that provides support for Newton Presbytery (Morris, Sussex, Warren and portions of Hunterdon and Passaic counties), the Synod of the Northeast (New Jersey, New York and all of New England), and the General Assembly. We ask all those who are able to consider covering your 2019 per capita fee of \$37 per member. This includes youth who have been confirmed. For example, for a couple the per capita amount is \$74. For a family with one youth who is also a member, the per capita is \$111.

Paying your per capita allows us to allocate all of your pledges and offerings to the operations and missions of this church. When paying your fee please note "per capita" on your check or envelope.

#### Mid-week Prayers/Communion

Join us in the Parlor every Wednesday morning at 7:10am for a come-and-go round of prayers and the Lord's Supper. It's a great mid-week touchstone, and you'll be on your way in 15 minutes. No kidding! Commuters, you'll easily make the 7:32. Pastor Scott leads.

#### **Coffee with Scott**

Pastor Scott hangs out at Drip Coffee Thursday mornings at 9am ('til ?). Stop by! Let's FIKA, solve world problems, see if you can melt an entire biscotti in a cup of tea—we might even talk about God. Crazy, right?

#### Feel the Breeze

This is a key way to connect in PCM. Have you registered on Breeze? Breeze is the new church communication hub for everything PCM. We'll be fully implementing Breeze by March 1st. It's an easy interface...come learn how to use it Sundays after church in the lobby. Here's what's coming: Want to sign up for Bottle Hill Day? Breeze. Sign up for snacks on Sunday morning? Breeze. Be a reader in church? Breeze. Everything in PCM church life is tied to Breeze: event registration, giving statements—the whole nine. Check your inbox for the links to complete your sign-up. It's a breeze!

#### Interfaith Food Pantry

PCM supports the IFP year-round with hundreds of pounds of food to serve eligible Morris County residents. Aging people on fixed incomes, low-income working families—the need is great! Doris's Care Wagon will be inside the back door of the parish house. Named for long-time member and IFP advocate Doris Weber, the wagon has served our food collection for years!

The food of the month for February is breakfast food. Lowsugar and whole-grain cereals, oatmeal, and whole-grain pancake mixes are preferred. Please leave your donation in the basket in the narthex or in the wagon in the parish house.

#### **Quarters for RAMP**

We are continuing to give this offering to RAMP, currently supporting two refugee families from Afghanistan. Please remember to save your quarters, and look for the tube in the lobby area during fellowship time each Sunday.

#### PCM Social Media

We're making more and more use of social media communication in our church. Follow the links in the eNews to Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE



This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1-6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

THANKSGIVING



This paraphrase of Psalm 111 preserves the psalm's quality of providing a general list of God's praiseworthy characteristics rather than giving thanks for a particular act of deliverance. In the original text these attributes are organized as an acrostic on the Hebrew alphabet.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION



The first three words of this text appear in the website address for First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, California, for whose centennial the hymn was commissioned. The text draws on Ephesians 4:11–16, a passage describing the many gifts and ministries within the body of Christ.

THANKSGIVING



This text was written by a resolution interctor or Christian education in washington, DC, to honor the ministry of a colleague who was leaving the area. It is an effective reminder that God's people serve in many vocations and ministries. The tune adapts a secular German song.

# Doxology



#### VISION

To see lives transformed, families strengthened, and our community renewed through intentional relationship with Jesus Christ.

#### **OUR VALUES**

Renewed Lives Community Positive Intergenerational Family Joyful Service Presbyterian Roots

#### Staff

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#### Worship

10:15AM Sunday Service

The Presbyterian Church of Madison is part of the PC(USA) Denomination **pcusa.org** 

ThePresbyterianChurchofMadison info@pcmadison.org (973) 377-1600

pcmadison.org