

Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church
Please join us for fellowship and refreshments at “Coffee Hour” in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.
(✚ Latecomers may be seated.)

AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 12, 2012 10:00 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

arr. Robert Lind

Dr. Gaylord W. French, Guest Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please sign the red “friendship pads” found at the end of each pew by the center aisle. Note the names of those worshipping around you as you pass the pad back. We encourage you to greet each other after the service.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

O magnify the Lord with me; let us exalt God’s name together.

Look to God with joy, and never be ashamed.

O taste and see that the Lord is good.

Happy are those who take refuge in God.

HYMN #263 (Hymnal)*

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)*

Bread of life, we are hungry and thirsty. We are starving for something that we can believe in, something that we can trust. We want to be rid of the emptiness in our lives, so we fill it with empty promises, empty calories, empty relationships, and find ourselves malnourished, and desperate, and still craving more. We are so sorry. You are the bread that came down from heaven. You offer us more than our fill. You offer us everything. You offer us life forever. Help us to receive your hospitality and your gifts of life that we might have abundant life forever with you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

HYMN #577 (Hymnal)*

“Gloria Patri”

THE PEACE* ✚

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE ✚

Pastor Lou

SCRIPTURE	Ecclesiastes 1: 1-14	Joan Fraser Pew Bible pg. 614
SCRIPTURE	Ecclesiastes 3: 1-15	Pew Bible pg. 616
SERMON	“Life is a Stage”	Dr. Louis Mitchell

THE RESPONSE

HYMN #275 (Hymnal)* *“God of Our Life”*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER (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 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.

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *“Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven”* **arr. Robert Farlee**
Dr. French, Guest Organist

Hymn #593 (Hymnal)* *“Doxology”*
Prayer of Dedication*

HYMN #267 (Hymnal)* *“All Things Bright and Beautiful”*

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE *“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”* **arr. R.V. Williams**
Dr. French, Guest Organist

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

Visitors! We hope you will find a warm welcome here. We invite you to consider membership in our church family. Please speak to one of the greeters or pastors after worship for more information or if you would like to be contacted by the Outreach Committee please provide us with your address and/or email address in the red "friendship pad".

Childcare is provided during worship. Children from birth to age 2 may be taken to the infant room, and children age 3 through Kindergarten are welcome in the toddler room. Laurie Davis is the Nursery Coordinator (MusicMomNJ@comcast.net).

Our congregation is very happy to have children participate in worship with their family as part of our church family! "Worship bags" containing quiet faith activities are available in the narthex for children to enjoy during worship.

Hearing devices are now available for your convenience in the narthex. The ushers can assist you.

Friends, as we prepare for worship, please be mindful of our neighbors in the pews who are allergic to strong scents and perfumes. We want everyone to be comfortable and healthy as we worship the Lord together! Thanks very much for your thoughtfulness.

We thank those who are serving today in these ways:

The Flowers in the chancel today are given in loving memory of Joe and Maryminta Konrad by Walter, Austin, Ed, Debbie and Ben Konrad.

Head Usher is Loida Wilson

Coffee Hour is hosted by Deanna and Tory Anderson.

PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer request, or if you would like to become part of the "chain" of church members who pray daily with and for people with a particular need, please contact the church office at (609)395-0897.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church members with special needs: Tory Anderson; Marge Bloom; Everett Campbell; the Cassidy family; Martha Davis; Arlene Duran; John Henzler; Helen Myer; Rebecca Pelto; Russ Richardson; Dorothy Swec; Cathy Vogen; Lindsey Warne; Mildred Watts and Don Winchell.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Barbara Danser's mother, Evelyn Walton; friend of the church, Barbara Darwin's daughter, Cindy; Gail Geijer's son, Dan; family member of CPNS, Patricia Holman; Jane Huff's grandson, James Huff-Miller; Joanne Hughes' parents, Cornelius and Bella Tanis; Linda III's mother, Carol Scarpone; Mary Lou Kerr's friend, Ron Wanat; Carolyn Lee's husband, John; church treasurer, Art Pellichero and his wife Linda; friend of the church Sharon Ramkishun's niece, Kaitlyn; Leslie Vandenberg's brother, James Danek and Cathy Vogen's aunt, Dani Ratkelis.

We pray for all the people who are in need in our wider community and please remember family and friends in our nation's service.

Prayer Requests in the Bulletin: *In order to keep the prayer request list up to date we will print the names of friends and family of church members who have prayer requests for one month. After that time you may call the church office to have a name reappear on the prayer list.*

- Please be sure to sign the "**Pipeline to Session**" cards found in the pews if you have any questions/concerns for the Session. This is a great way to give "kudos" as well!

~ CPNS ~

Our teachers will be busy this month preparing for the new school year. We are all looking forward to spending time with our preschoolers and building a foundation for their future academic success. As you prepare your children for the upcoming school

year remember when you pass our building remind them that it will be their school soon, and they will be having a lot of fun and making new friends. You are always welcome to come play in our playground at any time as well.

For the school year 2012-2013, we are offering Discover 123, Art, Story & Theater, Library Adventures, Little Music Makers, Creative Movement and Power of Play. You could find the details as well as a registration form on our church website. Remember even children in a part time kindergarten program are welcome, so don't pass up this opportunity

As you research your options for a preschool for your child, please consider CPNS. Please call Janice Parker at 609 655-8663 or email her at CPNSchool@comcast.net for more information. Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors about our developmentally appropriate academic Christian preschool. We don't want anyone to miss the opportunity to give their children the best and strongest foundation for their child's academic success.

~~ MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS ~~

Skeet's Pantry REALLY Needs Some Food - Especially - TUNA FISH, RICE (any and all varieties), CEREAL (family-size boxes of any variety) and/or PEANUT BUTTER. Other foods, as well as laundry/dish/face soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes are always welcome, too. Just leave your donations in bags in the wheel barrow in front of church on Sunday morning or in the entrance hall of the Parish House whenever you get a chance. We truly appreciate your help, and the many families who visit our Food Pantry each month are very grateful, too.

SUPPORT FARMERS AGAINST HUNGER - Come on out and support Farmers Against Hunger on Saturday, August 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. by attending the New Jersey Farmers Against Hunger Walk-A-Farm & Feast to fight Hunger event. It will take place at the Middlesex County EARTH Center's (home to Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Middlesex County). Participants will walk a course through the beautiful grounds and gardens located at Davidson's Mill Pond Park in South Brunswick and will experience educational, family-fun stations. There will be additional activities for participants to enjoy, including the Rutgers Master Gardeners display gardens as well as a wide array of vendors. All funds raised from the event will benefit New Jersey Farmers Against Hunger.

Participants may register in advance or on the day of the event. Admission price is \$12 per adult, \$5 per child (under 2 free), or family of 2 adults and up to 2 children = \$25.00. Participants will get free refreshments and t-shirt for pre-registrants.

Every month patrons of our Skeet's Pantry benefit by receiving donated fresh produce from Farmer's Against Hunger. What a wonderful way for us to now help Farmers Against Hunger and say thank you. For additional information go to: www.farmersagainsthunger.org

A GREAT MISSION OPPORTUNITY! Wanted: an adventurous man or woman who is interested in driving a truck (not a huge one, and no license is required) to Maine to deliver toys and clothes and miscellaneous items to the residents, and to bring back wreaths to beautify the homes and surroundings in Monmouth and New Brunswick Presbyteries! The gentlemen who have been making this drive for many years feel unable to continue this valuable service. Discontinuing this trip would deprive Maine residents in need of some Christmas uplift of those clothes and toys mentioned earlier.

It is suggested the driver leave here the Monday after Thanksgiving, November 26, and return the 29th or 30th. Arrangements would be made to have the truck ready to go, filled with the items useful to our friends in Maine. The trip is about 450 miles, and the driver could follow his/her own schedule, stop on the way (oh, yes, all driver's and partner's expenses are covered) deliver the items the next day, pick up the wreaths, find a motel that night, and come on back to NJ the next day. It is true that it is possible to Fed Ex the wreaths, but the missing ingredient is what we send up to Maine.

The willing person will be performing a genuine service to these friends in Maine who make the wreaths and who need the income they generate and also need what we send them. How about a trip to Maine in such a good cause! A wonderful to help initiate the Christmas season! If interested, please call Gretchen Stults at 609-655-3125. Thank you!

Snippets from the Year Book of Prayer: In what is termed "the enchanting island" Alor which is part of Indonesia, has 168,000 inhabitants who speak 15 different languages and are predominantly Protestant Christians and what would seem to be a remarkable woman serves as associate pastor at a large church with over 2,000 members. In addition, however, she runs a preschool for disadvantaged children in the city and a junior high school that she has created out of next to nothing in a rural village on the north coast of the island. She became increasingly concerned about the deficiencies of Alor's educational system. So...she found an unused church building that she turned into a boarding school for students rejected by other schools. The students sleep on the pews and bathe in a public washroom down the street. Arising at 4:30 a.m. each day they share cooking and cleaning chores and have morning devotions. Then they study and, obviously, they study with great intensity because last year their school had the highest examination scores in Alor. Truly, this woman's dedication allowed God to find a way out of no way for these children who had been abandoned by their society.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD INFORMATION: Once again (still) BREAD FOR THE WORLD is urging people to contact members of Congress urging them to protect funding for SNAP and for global health and development programs. It is sad to know that one in eight Americans depends on SNAP benefits to provide the food they need. And perhaps even sadder, to learn that half of those receiving food are children who live in families that struggle to get enough to eat. And while Africa and other countries may seem far away and beyond our scope (although they have all been brought closer thanks to the Olympics), we need to know that maintaining funding for global health programs is a life-and-death matter for millions of people in Africa and elsewhere. As part of U.S. foreign assistance, they are receiving life-saving drugs to fight AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis. Fighting these diseases enables farmers to continue to plant and harvest crops that provide food for their families and their communities.

With all of these facts in front of us, it is not surprising that BREAD FOR THE WORLD and the many individuals who are concerned about children and hunger should feel a need to contact their members of Congress and urge them to take measures that provide the food and the drugs that are needed. It is one way to follow Jesus' mandate to "feed the hungry."

Gretchen Stults from BFW "Legacy of Hope"

MOMS AND DADS

If you have any bathing suits for pre-schoolers which you are not using or which your kids have outgrown, will you please donate them for those kids at Better Beginnings who will use them for water play days. The children gather on the lawn with a sprinkler for their summer fun. Some don't have beachwear or forget and we try to keep a drawer with extras. Any towels are appreciated too. Please give to Doris Wiegartner (609) 395-7099. Thanks.

~~ STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE ~~

Counting Teams: 8/12(Team #3) and 8/19(Team #4)

~~ WORSHIP ~~

Lay Readers: The schedule for June through December has been posted in Fellowship Hall. Please sign up if you wish to be a lay reader. Thank you.

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed: Coffee hour hosts are needed for the fall. Please contact Debbie Mara at dmara@comcast.net or 732-890-2841 if you are interested.

~~ CALENDAR ~~

August 12, 2012 - August 19, 2012

Sunday 12	10:00a Worship followed by refreshments
Monday 13	7:30p Congregational Life Meeting-Library 8:00p Al-Anon-McK Rm
Tuesday 14	9:00a Bulletin Material Due 11:00a Staff Mtg.-Church Office 7:30p MS&G Meeting-Lib. 7:30p Youth Ministry Committee Meeting-Church Office 7:30p Stewardship & Finance-Church Office 7:30p AA - McKnight Room
Wednesday 15	9:00a Session Material Due 9:00a Skeet's Food Pantry Packing 7:00p-9:30p Boy Scouts - Mercer Area District Mtg-McK Room
Thursday 16	
Friday 17	8:30-11:00a Skeet's Food Pantry Distribution 9:00a Bulletin Assembly-Church Office
Saturday 18	
Sunday 19	10:00a Worship followed by refreshments