

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

Ascension of the Lord
May 5, 2013 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE

Precious Lord

Dorsey-Wagner
Bell Choir

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.)

INTROIT

“I will remember the works of the Lord”

Donovan Klotzbeacher
The Choral

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Louis Mitchell

Clap your hands, all you peoples.

Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

God ascends among shouts of joy.

Sing praise to God, sing praise! Sing praise to our King, sing praise!

HYMN #144 (Hymnal)*

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)*

God of glory, you are great and awesome. By your sovereign power you have enthroned Jesus Christ far above all rule and authority and dominion, and you have provided us a glorious inheritance in his name. Yet we confess that we speculate on matters that are not for us to know. We forget much of what you have revealed, and we neglect our calling to proclaim your glory to all the world. Forgive our self-promotion and sloth. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts and renew our zeal for your mission, by the powerful gift of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

HYMN #579 (Hymnal)*

“Gloria Patri”

THE PEACE* ✚

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE ✚

Pastor Lou

MINUTE FOR MISSION	Pentecost Offering	Ron Riemann
SCRIPTURE	Genesis 12: 10-20	Don Winchell Pew Bible pg. 10
ANTHEM	“ <i>Cantate Domino</i> ” (<i>Sing to the Lord a new song</i>)	Giuseppe Pitoni The Chorale
SCRIPTURE	Titus 1: 5-11	Pew Bible pg. 214
SERMON	“Get a Grip on Yourself and on the Message!”	Dr. Stephen Crocco

THE RESPONSE

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory	<i>Golden Gospel Greats</i>	arr. Sharon Rogers Bell Choir
Hymn #592 (Hymnal)* Prayer of Dedication*	“ <i>Doxology</i> ”	Dr. Mitchell
HYMN #147 (Hymnal)*	“ <i>Blessing and Honor</i> ”	

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise. [The Minister continues.]

God is praised for the history of faithfulness shown to God’s people. The congregation then joins the celestial choirs and all the faithful of every time and place to sing:

**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.**

The prayer continues with thanksgiving for the life and work of Jesus Christ. The Words of Institution are recalled. The elements are set apart for their sacred use, and we offer ourselves to God’s service. Then, this response:

According to His commandment:

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.**

The presence of the Holy Spirit is sought, as well as God's blessing on our lives. The prayer concludes with a Trinitarian doxology.

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 COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

We will eat the bread individually when served. We will hold the cup until all have been served and then partake together. All baptized Christians, whatever your denomination or tradition, are invited to share with us in this holy sacrament.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

HYMN #148 (Hymnal)*

"At the Name of Jesus"

RESPONSE*

Choral Amen

Donovan Klotzbecher
The Chorale

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE*

"What God ordains is always good"

Johann Gottfried Walter
Organ

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

A Congregational Meeting has been called for today, May 5, 2013 immediately following Worship for the purpose of electing an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee and to fill vacancies on the Nominating Committee and Session.

**"I am the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."**

ELIZABETH MITCHELL

June 15, 1913 – April 29, 2013

~ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ~

Adult Education (9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.)

This morning, Bob Kane led the Adult Ed study and discussion group with "Why Do I Choose What I Choose?"

Martha Circle: All women of the Church - you are welcome to join the Martha Circle in the Library on **May 6 at 1:30 p.m.** This is a Study Group under the leadership of Rose Eller; the topic is "Dispatches to Christians: the Lesser Epistles."

Vacation Bible School 2013

Cokesbury's Everywhere Fun Fair - Where God's World Comes Together

Dates: July 29 to August 2

Time: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Registration: April 8 through May 30, 2013, see church office or website for registration forms. Cost is \$25 for the week.

Daily Bible Story Summary:

Monday Sarah and Abraham Welcome the Visitors - Genesis 18:1-14 and 21:1-3 (Theme - Neighbors are friendly)

Tuesday A Widow Gives Cheerfully - I Kings 17:7-16 (Theme - Neighbors are giving)

Wednesday Good Samaritan: A Bold Neighbor - Luke 10:25-37 (Theme - Neighbors are bold)

Thursday Jesus Forgives Zacchaeus - Luke 19:1-10 (Theme - Neighbors are forgiving)

Friday God Welcomes Everyone - Acts 10:1-43 (Theme - Neighbors are welcoming)

Vacation Bible School (VBS) Overview:

At this exciting, kid-friendly global fair, children will experience the love of Jesus, meet welcoming neighbors from the Bible, and explore the everyday life of neighbors from Japan, Zimbabwe, the United Kingdom, Australia, and Mexico. Children will learn that God's love welcomes everyone, as they understand how to love and serve God and be a neighbor to everyone in the world. We still need volunteers to fill many important roles to make VBS a memorable and fun learning experience. Please contact Cassandra Khazem ([609-619-2617](tel:609-619-2617)) or Jenni Collins ([609-395-8151](tel:609-395-8151)) if you are interested in volunteering or should you have any questions regarding VBS 2013.

~ CPNS ~

We continue to plan for our Family Fun Day on Tuesday, May 14 and Wednesday, May 15. This year the theme will be "Down the Shore". We will be turning Fellowship Hall into the Jersey Shore, along with a slide show presentation of all our family memories of the beach and a very special sing-a-long with our Creative Movement teacher, Noel Kinney. We will also be collecting gift cards and financial donations for a family from Point Pleasant that lost everything in Sandy. Look for more details next week, but mark your calendars to visit CPNS on May 14 and/or May 15 this month.

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.

Registration for our pre-summer and summer program has begun. Children entering our 3-year-old program through children entering first grade are eligible to attend. Registration forms can be found on our website. Please call or stop by for details on any of our programs. We look forward to hearing from you.

~ MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS ~

Skeet's Pantry Needs Some Food! With many thanks to all our friends in the congregation who have been so generous, we're asking again for some food for our pantry. Specifically, we need PASTA, RICE and CEREAL. Any kind, any size (but think "family size" if possible) will be very welcome. So thanks again for always being there when we need your help!

Snippets from the Year Book of Prayer: For over 138 years, the Laughlin Memorial Chapel in Wheeling, W. Va. has ministered to children and their families through the love of God. An after-school program which runs from September to May includes exciting things for children to do, in addition to homework assistance which is the main thrust. But each day community partners assist with several social activities in which 130 children are enrolled. They receive a snack and nutritious dinner each day. In summer a

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.

We thank those who are serving today in these ways:

The Communion Servers are Jim Dixon, Gaylord French, KY Huang, Charlie Ill, Heidi Knowlton, Audrey Smith, George Smith, and Chris Welch.

The Flowers in the chancel today are given in honor of a wonderful mother/grandmother, Rose Eller, from her daughters, Linda and Diane and her granddaughters, Alyssa and Erin.

Coffee Hour is hosted by Connie & Bill Bauder and Nancy & Dennis Chonko.

Greeters are Earl Davison and Marie Perrine.

Head Ushers is George Arsnow.

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 call the church office at (609)395-0897.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church members with special needs: Marge Bloom; Everett Campbell; the Cassidy family; Martha Davis; Bill Keller; Beatrice Mabutho and family due to the death of her cousin, Sampson, Jr.; Claire Maselli; Dr. Louis Mitchell and family due to the death of his mother, Elizabeth; Rebecca Pelto; Rev. Joanne Petto; Russ Richardson and Art Ryba.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Jo D. Andrews' friend, Becky Dennison Peterson; Barbara Danser's mother, Evelyn Walton; Pat Demers' son, Erik Bjornen; Judy Duke's mother, Ruth Biesecker; Jean Dunham's son, Jay and family; Arlene Duran's daughter, Catherine Lepp and friend, Bill Brokley; Gail Geijer's son, Dan; Jane Huff's grandson, James Huff-Miller; Joanne Hughes' parents, Cornelius and Bella Tanis; Linda Ill's mother, Carol Scarpone; Carolyn Lee's husband, John; Beatrice Mabutho's sister, Phyllis and brother-in-law, Joe; Karen Moser's daughter, Dawn Winkler and granddaughter, Paige Winkler; Fran Stewart's friend, Ciarra Blackman; Gretchen Stults' granddaughter, Jodi Mallette and family; Mary Szczepanik's mother, Dorothy; and Doris Wiegartner's friend, Cherylin Kratina.

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!

Birthdays of Distinction: Ginny Swanagan on May 5, John Sprout on May 6 and Craig Gilbert on May 10. **Happy Birthday!**

~ BELL CHOIR ~

Ringers Needed! The Bell choir is in need of additional ringers. The only qualifications are that you can count note values. The choir meets every Wednesday evening from 7:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. It's a fun group and it only takes a few rehearsals to learn the technique. Come out and give it a try. You may find that this is just what you are missing in your life, the opportunity to share your talents and glorify God.

~ BRAINERD-WESTMINSTER CEMETERY COMMITTEE ~

All members of the congregation are invited to a dedication ceremony in memory of Chris Christiansen who was the superintendent of the Brainerd and Westminster Cemeteries for many years. We will gather near the Memory Garden of Brainerd Cemetery at 12:30 p.m. on today, May 5 to remember Chris and his dedicated service. Light refreshments will be available afterwards.

program offers a full day of activities, and again food is available, with breakfast, lunch and a snack Monday through Friday. Reading is the most important segment of the day but the afternoons are filled with fun opportunities. Vacation Bible School is held in August and here learning about the love of Jesus is the major focus.

Bread for the World: Thanks to those who participated in our Bread for the World Offering of Letters this past Sunday. The Letters urged President Obama and the Congress to work together to eliminate hunger both here and abroad by continuing to support anti-hunger and anti-poverty measures which include SNAP (food stamps); WIC (women, infants, and children); the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Credit tax. We have mailed 110 letters, and fifteen were taken home to be signed and mailed while thirty persons signed the Petition to President Obama. We have, we trust, helped to care for the vulnerable, as we, as Christians, are mandated to do. Thank you!

Many thanks to the wonderful helpers who assisted in this effort: Pat Demers, Anne Gordon, Carol Kientz and Heidi Knowlton. Now, with the Offering of Letters behind us, let us not forget the hungry, as we continue to support Skeet's Pantry, but also need to give thought and prayer to the hungry and poverty stricken elsewhere.

Gretchen Stults

Mother's Day (May 12) will be here soon. Give every wonderful woman in your life a gift she'll love- a donation to Healthy Women Healthy Families in her honor. For a mere 5 dollar gift, you get a lovely donation card for her and help women around the world! Cards will be available at coffee hour on April 28 and May 7 or donations may be sent to the church office.

Last year, gifts made through the Mother's Day Project purchased pediatric drugs, funded a malaria prevention program, and helped to expand a health education program for women and children. Other health services supported through the Mother's Day Project and Healthy Women Healthy Families include nutritional programs, immunizations, cervical cancer screening, fistula surgery, and prenatal and primary care.

~~ OTHER NEWS ~~

Dear Church Family:

Gloria-Jean and I sincerely thank you for all your kind prayers, cards and telephone calls, during the past several months. Hopefully, I will begin proton radiation at ProCure shortly. We feel so blessed having such a loving and caring church family. May God bless each of you abundantly!

Arthur Ryba

~~ SENIOR FELLOWSHIP ~~

Senior Exercise

May 6, May 9, May 13, May 16,
May 20, May 23, May 27(No Class), May 30

~~ STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE ~~

Counting Teams: 5/5 (Team #4) and 5/12 (Team #1)

Stewardship Time & Talent Requests

Share your time and skills with us. Do you have an interest in any of these small tasks? If so, check one or more of these small tasks, provide your contact information and put in the Offering Plate. Someone from one of the Committees will be in touch. Thanks!

- Strawberry Festival Set-up/Clean-up (Deacons)
- Counting Team after Service (Stewardship & Finance)
- Coffee Hour Host (Congregational Life)
- CROP Walk Coordinator (Mission, Service & Grants)
- Youth Group Retreat Chaperone (Youth)
- Usher during Service (Worship)
- Church Work Day Volunteer (Buildings & Grounds)

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Tel. #: _____

Email Address: _____

~~ WORSHIP ~~

Flowers Openings: We have flower openings for June 2, June 9 and June 30. Please email Diane Smith at D1Stargazer@verizon.net or call 609-890-0822 if you are interested.

~~ CALENDAR ~~

May 5, 2013 - May 12, 2013

Sunday 5	(Ascension of the Lord Sunday) 9:15a Christian Education for all ages (Classrooms/Library/McKnight Rm) 10:30a Worship with Communion followed by a Congregational Meeting and coffee hour 12(noon) Youth Ministry Committee Meeting-Church Office 12:30 Cemetery Dedication for Chris Christiansen followed by light refreshments in the Library 4:00p-5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice - upstairs classroom 7:30p-9p Cranbury Men's Bible Study at the Inn
Monday 6	10:00a Senior Exercise 1:30p Martha's Circle - Lib. 7:30p Brass Choir 8:00p Al-Anon-McK Rm
Tuesday 7	9:00a Bulletin Material Due 11:00a Staff Mtg.-Church Office 1:00p Outreach Committee Meeting- Library 7:30p Christian Ed. Meeting-Lib. 7:30p MS&G Meeting-FH 7:30p AA - McKnight Room
Wednesday 8	7:30p Bell Choir
Thursday 9	(Ascension of the Lord) 10:00a Senior Exercise 4:15p-4:45p Cherub Choir -Sanctuary 4:45p-5:30p Young Worship Choir-Sanctuary 7:30p P&A Meeting-church office (upstairs) 7:30p The Chorale - Sanctuary
Friday 10	9:00a Bulletin Assembly-Church Office 8:00p-9:00p AA (Promises 12 Steps)McK Room
Saturday 11	4:00p-5:00p USPS Food Drive Drop-off-FH
Sunday 12	(Mother's Day) 9:15a Christian Education for all ages (Classrooms/Lib./FH/McKnight Rm) 10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour 11:45 Library Committee - Library 4:00p-5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice - upstairs classroom 5:00p-6:30p Youth Group-McK Rm 7:00p Boy Scouts (GC) - FH 7:30p-9p Cranbury Men's Bible Study at the Inn