

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
5th Sunday after Pentecost
June 23, 2013 10:00 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE

Minuet Gothique

Leon Boellman
Organ

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

Mr. Brett Butler

Like Elijah, we seek you in the great and powerful, in the roaring wind and fire.

But we find you in a whisper.

We gather today to seek you, to hear you, to worship you.

As one in Christ Jesus—

no longer Jew nor Greek,

no longer slave nor free,

neither male nor female,

but all baptized as one in Christ.

HYMN #150 (Hymnal)*

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)*

O God, you are our exceeding joy. In you alone we have hope, and in Christ alone are we in our right minds. Yet, we confess, we cling to old forms of status and identity. We do not seem to know how to proceed without continually appealing to race, class, and gender, categories that divide, rather than unite us in Christ. Forgive us, O God. Send out your light and your truth. Let your Holy Spirit lead us, that we may praise you with all our gifts in the unity of the Holy Spirit and in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

HYMN #577 (Hymnal)*

“Gloria Patri”

THE PEACE* ✚

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE ✠

Brett

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15: 1-10

Don Winchell
Pew Bible pg. 78

ANTHEM

Jerusalem
(*Wm. Blake: Prophetic Books*)

C. Hubert H. Parry
Richard Craig, vocalist

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15: 11-32

Pew Bible pgs. 78-79

SERMON

“The Best Story Ever”

Dr. Louis Mitchell

THE RESPONSE

HYMN #368 (Hymnal)*

“I've Got Peace Like a River”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Dr. Mitchell

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

“Blessed are ye, faithful souls”

Johannes Brahms
Organ

Hymn #593 (Hymnal)*

“Doxology”

Prayer of Dedication*

Mr. Butler

HYMN #339 (Hymnal)*

“Be Thou My Vision”

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE*

Gavotte

Wm. Boyce
Organ

***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.

We thank those who are serving today in these ways:

The Flowers in the chancel today are given in memory of Henry Vincent Smith, Happy Birthday from Kevin, Diane and Erin.

Refreshments will be hosted by the Jost family.

Greeters are Earl Davison and Gretchen Stults.

Head Ushers are Ken Ellsworth and Ginny Swanagan.

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; David Geijer; Bill Keller; Claire Maselli; Rebecca Pelto; Russ Richardson and Art Ryba.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Alan and Barbara Balcomb's friend, Jim Manley; Linda Campbell's friend, Ryan Quill; friend of the Conley family, Gene McDermott; Barbara Danser's mother, Evelyn Walton; family and friends of Martha Davis due to her death; 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 & brother-in-law, Joe, cousin, Momabhele and co-worker, Aaron Hollis Lewis; Barbara Santoro's niece, Krystine; Gretchen Stults' granddaughter, Jodi Mallette and family; Mary Szczepanik's mother, Dorothy; Cathy Vogen's husband, Mike; and Doris Wiegartner's son, Brian.

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!

Birthday of Distinction: Nancy Stewart on June 26. **Happy Birthday!**

~ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ~

Vacation Bible School 2013

VBS 2013 is quickly approaching the week of July 29 to August 2, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. each day. As you have probably heard, this year's curriculum is Cokesbury's - Everywhere Fun Fair. We have wonderful volunteer teachers for more than half of all the needed positions, but still need to fill several positions listed below:

Pre-K: Lead teacher, Assistant teacher, Youth helper

Kindergarten: Lead teacher

1 and 2 Grade: Assistant teacher

3 and 4 Grade: Lead teacher

5 and 6 Grade: Assistant teacher, Youth helper
Nursery Childcare: Lead teacher, Assistant teacher

The Registration Deadline is June 30, 2013, see church office or website for registration forms. Cost is \$25 for the week. 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 will be closed for a few weeks until our Summer Program begins in July, but we are still busy filling spots in our school. We have several openings and a very short wait list for our 2 1/2-year-old program. We also have a variety of exciting enrichment offerings, including, Art, Story & Theater, Power of Play, The Little Music Makers, Discover 123, Library Adventures, Alphabet Soup and Creative Movement. We are also offering a Kindergarten Skill Builder class on Monday and Friday afternoons. Don't hesitate to register for any of the exciting opportunities we are offering for the school year 2013-2014. I look forward to speaking with you.

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. 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: Ethiopia is a male dominated society. But the young women who are being educated at Bethel Evangelical Secondary School (BESS) in Dembi Dollo are changing the culture. They are determined not to carry the heavy loads

while their husbands walk unencumbered under an umbrella. Many of these young women will someday turn their culture upside down. That is the value of a BESS education. American Presbyterian mission workers have been educating men, women, and children in Dembi Dollo since 1919. Now, all these years later BESS along with Berhane Yesus Elementary School and Gidada Bible School continues to prepare the young people to challenge the culture through the life changing gospel of Jesus Christ.

1,000 Days: Change A Life, Change The Future: Many of you participated in our Bread for the World Annual Offering of Letters in May. Now, I want to draw your attention to an effort that is being made not only by Bread for the World but other organizations to launch the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement, a global effort to mobilize collective action on nutrition. Attention is being drawn to the dire effects of poor maternal and child nutrition. Each year, more than 165 million children around the world live with the physical and cognitive effects of malnutrition. Three million children die from it. Awareness of the vital need for good nutrition from the time a mother becomes pregnant until the child is two years old--those first 1,000 days--is the goal of the nutrition effort. The focus on mothers is significant, reports the Director of Bread for the World Institute, "In many parts of the world, women and girls are the last to eat--so when they become pregnant their nutrition is already compromised. More are likely to die in childbirth. More are likely to give birth to underweight babies. It perpetuates the cycle of malnutrition." "One thing we all know is that providing nutrition to a malnourished baby is sacred work," said Beckmann, president of Bread for the World. "And we have a chance together to provide nutrition to tens of millions of malnourished babies."

An international meeting to be held this June, hosted in part by Bread for the World, will provide an ideal program for the United States to rededicate itself to the 1,000 Days Partnership. It is hoped that the U.S. government will make a bold financial pledge and share that pledge at the international meeting. It is babies and their chances at intelligent, healthy lives we are concerned about! Just thought we should all be aware of this 1,000 Days effort and what it means to babies, mothers, families, indeed, the world.

Gretchen Stults

~~ SENIOR BREAKFAST ~~

Join us on Thursday, June 27 as Frank Marlow will tell us about the Tuskegee Airmen.

The Senior Breakfast Club is open to all who wish to hear these events at our Thursday, once-a-month breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at the Cranbury Inn in Cranbury, New Jersey. If you wish to attend, and have not done so before, please notify the church office at (609)395-0897 so that we can contact you. We need to notify the Cranbury Inn with a head count of the guests that wish to attend. For information, contact Stan Dickerson at (609)443-6388 or Walter Wright at (609)799-1179.

~~ STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE ~~

Counting Teams: 6/23 (Team #3) and 6/30 (Team #4)

~~ WORSHIP ~~

Flowers Openings: We have flower openings for June 30, July 7 and July 28. Please email Diane Smith at D1Stargazer@verizon.net or call 609-890-0822 if you are interested. The Worship Committee is asking that anyone interested in being a Lay Reader, from July to December 2013, please sign-up on the schedule in Fellowship Hall.

~~ CALENDAR ~~

June 23, 2013 - June 30, 2013

Sunday 23	10:00a Worship followed by refreshments 12:00p - 4:00p Youth Barbecue @ the Miller's home (2 Loveland Court, East Windsor) 4:00p-5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice - upstairs classroom 7:30p - 9p Cranbury Men's Bible Study at the Inn
Monday 24	7:30p Brass Choir 8:00p Al-Anon-McK Rm
Tuesday 25	9:00a Bulletin Material Due 11:00a Staff Mtg.-Church Office 7:30p Deacons - FH 7:30p AA - McKnight Room 7:30p Presbytery Meeting @ Principe de Paz
Wednesday 26	
Thursday 27	8:30a Senior Breakfast at the Cranbury Inn 10:00a Senior Exercise 4:15p-4:45p Cherub Choir -Sanctuary 4:45p-5:30p Young Worship Choir-Sanctuary 6:00p Brower/Brown Wedding Rehearsal (Filson) 6:00p-7:00p Cub Scouts-McK Rm (KE)
Friday 28	9:00a Bulletin Assembly-Church Office 8:00p-9:00p AA (Promises 12 Steps)McK Room
Saturday 29	4:30p Brower/Brown Wedding (Filson)
Sunday 30	10:00a Worship followed by refreshments 4:00p-5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice - upstairs classroom 7:30p - 9p Cranbury Men's Bible Study at the Inn