

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
14th Sunday after Pentecost
August 25, 2013 10:00 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE *Allemande & Courante from Cello Suite No. 6* **J. S. Bach**
Zachary Mowitz, cello

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 Ron Riemann

The Lord does acts of righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

Let us offer ourselves to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted.

For the Lord will lead us—

praise the Lord, who forgives all our sins, heals all our diseases, redeems our lives from the pit, crowns us with faithful love and compassion, and satisfies us with goodness.

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in faithful love.

Praise the Lord!

HYMN #285 (Hymnal)* *“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)*

Holy God, you are a consuming fire and the judge of all, promising us a place in your kingdom that cannot be shaken, but determined to shake loose and remove all that is fleeting and impermanent by the powerful voice of the blood of Jesus. We confess, O God, that we cling to familiar, fleshly bonds, and sometimes find freedom more fearful than fear itself. Forgive our sins and our stubborn resistance to your will, and help us release our grip on those things that are of no avail and have no place in your eternal realm. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

HYMN #577 (Hymnal)* *“Gloria Patri”*

THE PEACE* ✚

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE ✚

Pastor Lou

SCRIPTURE

Mark 12: 28-34

Stephen Kim
Pew Bible pg. 49

SPECIAL MUSIC

Vocalise

Sergei Rachmaninoff
Zachary Mowitz and Noriko Schneiderman, piano

SCRIPTURE

Luke 10: 25-37

Pew Bible pgs. 71-72

SERMON

“The Danger of Religion”

Dr. Louis Mitchell

THE RESPONSE

HYMN #405 (Hymnal)*

“What Goes the Lord Require”

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

Salute d'amour

Edward Elgar
Zachary Mowitz and Noriko Schneiderman

Hymn #593 (Hymnal)*

“Doxology”

Prayer of Dedication*

Mr. Riemann

HYMN #540 (Hymnal)*

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE*

“Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend”
(Lord Jesus Christ, be present now)

J. S. Bach
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 loving memory of W. Scott Applegate (April 7, 1968 – August 26, 2006) by mother, Grace, wife, Stacey, sons, Will and Austin and sisters, Catherine and Cynthia.

Refreshments today will be hosted by Agnes and Don Winchell.

Greeters are Earl Davison and Pat Scott.

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; Russ Richardson; Art Ryba; Mark Sasso; and Carol Sprout.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Rosellyn Cassidy's father, Jim Savasta and friend, Sarah Pagano; Barbara Danser's mother, Evelyn Walton; Danser family friend, Lynda Patterson; Pat Demers' son, Erik Bjornen; Judy Duke's mother, Ruth Biesecker; Jean Dunham's son, Jay and family; Arlene Duran's daughter, Catherine Lepp; Phyllis and Bob Dyke's friend, Mary Garcy; Paul and Janet Furchak's friend, David Braverman; Gail Geijer's son, Dan; Jane Huff's grandson, James Huff-Miller; Joanne Hughes' parents, Cornelius and Bella Tanis; Mark Hughes' grandmother, Olga Zelder and great uncle, Peter Ewaskiw; Linda Ill's mother, Carol Scarpone; Carolyn Lee's husband, John; Karen Moser's husband, Norman; Leah Moy's friends, Irene and Marty Goldberg; Barbara Santoro's niece, Krystine; Fran Stewart's father, Eugene Feeney; Gretchen Stults' granddaughter, Jodi Mallette and family; 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: Ken Rossman on August 25. **Happy Birthday!**

~ CPNS ~

We are closed for the summer, and are busy getting ready for school to begin in September. We have several openings for our classes at this time and a very short wait list for our 2 1/2-year-old program. We also have a variety of exciting enrichment offerings as well as our new 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! So many in our congregation have been helping to keep Skeet's Pantry stocked with food for families in need, and we truly thank you. Because you sometimes wonder which foods are most needed, we thought we'd simplify things for the next few months by designating a "Food of the Month" for August. Our Food of the Month is **CEREAL**. We would be grateful for donations of any kind of cereal but most especially family size boxes of nutritious cereals rather than the sugary fancy kind! As always, you can leave your cereal donations in the wheelbarrow on Sunday mornings or in the front hallway of Fellowship Hall. THANKS for making August a great month full of cereal for needy families!

Snippets from the Year Book of Prayer: Baltimore Presbytery has a novel, but productive program emerging from its mission partner, The Center. The Center encourages local and out-of-town groups to do something about injustices in our world. Groups are invited to spend a day, weekend or week addressing issues of poverty, inadequate housing, or environmental pollution in the neighborhoods of Baltimore. The groups are partnered with local congregations and spend their time learning, thinking about, and doing justice work. They learn the work of social justice through the lens of our faith. They then devise the faithful congregation worshiped with wind whipping through broken windows and doors a plan to effect change in their own communities. Among the Center's partnering faith groups one congregation is planning a campaign to clean up local streams and waterways, another is expanding its ability to feed the hungry in its community, and a third is exploring ways fully to engage its diverse and changing neighborhood. All are working with the Center to meet the challenge to be apostles of reconciliation in their communities.

~~ OTHER NEWS ~~

2014 Women's Retreat - Get Psyched and Plan Ahead! The Women's Retreat is scheduled for **April 25 - 27** at Camp Johnsonburg Presbyterian Center. The theme for the retreat is **Making Time to Let Go, Relax, Breathe, Find Peace and Nourish You.**

Registration forms are available in the church office and narthex. The cost of the retreat is only \$105, and if you reserve your spot by **September 30, you pay \$95.00.** This includes comfortable lodging for two nights, meals, crafts projects, and an amazing opportunity to meet other women from our larger church family for worship and fellowship. Women from our church will lodge together and participate in group discussion focusing on the book Flunking Sainthood by Jana Riess. If you have never been on a women's retreat, it is an opportunity not to miss. For more information and details, please contact Anne Gordon.

~~ SENIOR FELLOWSHIP ~~

Senior Fellowship will travel to Ocean Grove on Wednesday, September 11 to visit the Ocean Grove Historical Society museum and their restored Centennial Cottage. This is a short walking tour. Those who do not want to walk to the cottage can stay at the museum.

We will depart from the church parking lot at 10:00 a.m. When we arrive, we will eat our brown bag lunches in the covered seating area on the boardwalk overlooking the ocean. We will see the Great Auditorium and the tent village. Those who wish my walk the boardwalk to the north through Asbury Park, others may wish to sit on the benches by the ocean. Please bring your brown bag lunch, wear sunscreen and bring a hat, sunglasses and a jacket in case it is windy. If there is bad weather that day, we will have a brown bag lunch in Fellowship Hall at 12:00 p.m. and watch a video on the Grounds for Sculpture.

If you are not on our calling list please preregister for this trip by Wednesday, September 4 by calling the church office at 609-395-0897

~~ STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE ~~

Counting Teams: 8/25 (Team #4) - 9/1 (Team #1)

Did you forget something before you left for vacation? Some of you did, because pledge receipts are down. Way down since the beginning of the summer. If your midyear pledge statement has also gone missing, please reach out to the church office, we'd be happy to reunite you so you can bring your pledge up-to-date. Enjoy the rest of the summer!

~~ WORSHIP~~

Flower Openings Available! October 27 and November 10 are open for flowers. If you are interested, please contact Diane Smith at 609-890-0822.

~~ CALENDAR ~~

August 25, 2013 - September 1, 2013

Sunday 25	10:00a Worship followed by refreshments 4:00p-5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice - upstairs classroom
Monday 26	7:30p Brass Choir 7:30p CPNS Board Meeting - Library 8:00p AI-Anon-McK Rm
Tuesday 27	9:00a Bulletin Material Due 9:30a Staff Mtg.-Church Office 7:30p Deacons - FH 7:30p AA - McKnight Room
Wednesday 28	7:00p-10:00p Cranbury Camera Club Mtg. - FH 7:00p Volunteer Orientation Meeting for Helene Cody Cranbury 5K - McKnight Room
Thursday 29	7:30p APNC Meeting-Lib.
Friday 30	9:00a Bulletin Assembly-Church Office 8:00p-9:00p AA (Promises 12 Steps)McK Room
Saturday 31	
Sunday 1	10:00a Worship with Communion followed by refreshments 4:00p-5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice - upstairs classroom