

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
1st Sunday after Christmas
December 29, 2013 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE *“As with Gladness Men of Old”* **Donovan Klotzbeacher**
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.)

INTROIT *“Glory to God in the Highest”* **Donovan Klotzbeacher**
The Chorale

CALL TO WORSHIP

I will remember your gracious deeds, O Lord.

I will declare your mercy and steadfast love.

To my sisters and brothers I will speak your name.

In the great congregation I will sing your praise.

HYMN #31 (Hymnal)* *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)*

God-with-us, we confess that we have not embraced your love. We forget your great mercy and seek out other saviors. We allow violence to continue and ignore those who weep. Forgive us, loving God. Make us sisters and brothers, sharing with all your children good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

HYMN #579 (Hymnal)*

“Gloria Patri”

THE PEACE* ✚

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE ✚

Pastor Lou

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

**Karen Eve Lawson and Mark Edgar Lawson
twins of Robert C. Lawson and Patti G. Davis
sister and brother of Scott
born on September 5, 2013**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

QUESTIONS TO THE PARENTS

QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION:*

Dorothy Klotzbeacher

Our Lord Jesus Christ ordered us to teach those who are baptized. Do we, the people of this church, in the name of the whole Body of Christ, promise to tell Karen and Mark good news of the gospel, to help them to know all that Christ commands, and by our fellowship, to strengthen their family ties with the household of God? If so, please say, "We do."

Congregation: We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH*

The Apostles' Creed (Blue Hymnal, pg. 14)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER:

THE BAPTISM & WELCOME INTO THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1: 18-25

Stan Dickerson
Pew Bible pg. 1

ANTHEM

"The snow lay on the ground"

John Carter
The Chorale

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2: 25-35

Pew Bible pg. 59

SERMON

"Life Changing"

Dr. Louis Mitchell

THE RESPONSE

HYMN 24 (Hymnal)*

“Away in a Manger”

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

“The Holy Boy”

John Ireland
Organ

Hymn #592 (Hymnal)*

“Doxology”

Prayer of Dedication*

HYMN #27 (Hymnal)*

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

RESPONSE*

Choral Amen

Donovan Klotzbecher
The Chorale

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE

“Once He Came in Blessing”

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: **Flowers** in the chancel today are the beautiful Christmas poinsettias. They have been given to the Glory of God in memory, in honor and as a gift of gratitude by many wonderful people.

Coffee Hour today is hosted by the Deacons.

Greeters are Earl Davison and Larry Wegner

Head Ushers are Janice Parker and Jeff & Diane Yeager.

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; Liz Callaway; Rose Eller; Cyndi Girardet; Bill Keller; Claire Maselli; Russ Richardson; Art Ryba; Mark Sasso; and Agnes Winchell.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Rosellyn Cassidy's father, Jim Savasta; Barbara Danser's mother, Evelyn Walton; Martha Donovan's friend, The Rev. Dusty K. Fiedler; Judy Duke's mother, Ruth Biesecker; Jean Dunham's son, Jay and family; Arlene Duran's daughter, Catherine Lepp; Ken and Dina Ellsworth's son, Will; Gail Geijer's son, Dan; 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; Kathy Mitchell's friends, Doug and Jean Lovejoy; Beatrice Mabutho's sister, Phyllis and brother-in-law Joseph, family member, Harriet George and friend, Allary Hollis Lewis; Leah Moy's friends, Irene and Marty Goldberg; Karen Moutenot's sister, Patricia Obanion; Cranbury Librarian, Jan Murphy's husband, Rian; Fran Stewart's father, Eugene Feeney; Gretchen Stults' granddaughter, Jodi Mallette and family; CPNS staff member, Theresa Vaccaro's sister, Charlene and family; and Cathy Vogen's husband, Mike.

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

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a very happy, healthy New Year. We are looking forward to spending some time to relax with family and friends and we have been closed for our Christmas vacation from Friday, December 20 and will return on Thursday, January 2, 2014.

Registration for the school year 2014-2015 will begin in January. Our currently enrolled students will be able to register beginning on Monday, January 13, 2014 and church members and siblings can begin to register on January 21. The general public can register any time after February 1. Please let your friends and neighbors know about our school and encourage them to contact us. It's never too late to join our CPNS family. If you are not currently a CPNS student or are attending kindergarten for a half day program you are also welcome to participate in any of the enrichment classes that fit into your schedule. Many of our CPNS students are already registered, but if you haven't registered your child or want to add more enrichment classes, we still have openings, it's not too late. We also have a few openings in our regular classes as well. Details can be found on our website, www.cranburypres.org or please call Janice at 609 655-8663.

MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS

Snippets from The Year Book of Prayer: Few of us, I would guess, are familiar with the country of Lithuania. But, thanks to Presbyterian mission workers, some interesting work is taking place there through visits to what is termed a "deserted place," a large men's prison in the deep Lithuanian forests. The place is called by a Russian name meaning "those who were blamed." One young man whom the couple tutor wrote "I thought a lot about you. You spend so much time, effort, and money to make my life better, even not knowing me. You never asked why I am here. It seems that I matter to you. (You think) I am worth it." Here in a deserted place, one is full of fear, far from the things needed. What a blessing that there is help for these prisoners, helped given by missionaries our church supports.

Mission Dinner Fundraiser: (Formerly Guatemala Dinner): Our mission dinner is quickly approaching. Don't miss the wonderful opportunity for church fellowship, entertainment and a delicious meal. There are a limited number of tickets being sold, so buy them today.

We will be serving dinner on Friday, January 31 and on Saturday, February 1 beginning at 7:00 p.m. with open seating beginning at 6:30 p.m. As you dine on Friday, you will be serenaded by piano music by Francine Hannay and on Saturday the Cranbury String Quartet and Piano by Don Klotzbecher.

The cost of the meal will be \$50.00 per person (remember this is a fundraiser). You may want to attend both evenings to experience the variety of entertainment being offered. We will be selling only a limited number of tickets, so plan on buying your ticket early. They are on sale now and will be available during coffee hour (see Lil or George Conley) or call the church office.

We are offering a filet mignon, grilled salmon, or stuffed chicken, as your main entrees along with all the trimmings and a delicious desert to top it off with.

Checks can be made payable to The First Presbyterian Church (tax deductible) memo: Mission dinner. Any amount above the \$50.00 fee will be greatly appreciated. Please save this date, we are counting on you for our success in this project.

George Conley
Mission Committee
(609) 395-0897

OUTREACH

Looking for a Church Home? Join Pastor Lou and members of the Session on January 12, January 19 and January 26 for the **NEW MEMBER CLASS**.

This is your opportunity to learn what it means to be a member of First Presbyterian. We are a congregation which offers members of all ages opportunities to join in fellowship and expand their faith experiences.

The class will begin at 9:15 a.m. on January 12 and January 19 in the library and will begin at 9:00 a.m. on January 26 in Fellowship Hall. Please contact the church office at 609-395-0897 to join the class or for additional information.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Counting Teams: 12/29 (Team #2) - 1/5 (Team #3)

The Stewardship Committee wishes to thank everyone for their participation in the 2014 Stewardship Campaign. **Your 2014 Pledge Envelopes may be picked up in Fellowship Hall.**

Donating shares of stock is an easy and tax effective way to make gifts to the Church. The process involves providing a simple set of instructions to your broker so shares of stock are electronically transferred to our brokerage account. In-kind gifts avoid the costs and other consequences of selling stock with unrealized gains. The Church will benefit from the full value of the in-kind gift at the time of receipt. Please consult your tax advisor for additional information on this common tax management and gifting technique.

Download the Stock Transfer instructions from our Church website to learn how to take advantage of this way of gifting. If you have any questions, please contact Ken Gordon.

WORSHIP

January is Open for Flowers: Flowers are needed for Sunday, January 5, 12, 19 and 26. Please contact Diane Smith at 609-890-0822 or email her at D1Stargazer@verizon.net.

CALENDAR

December 29, 2013 – January 5, 2014

Sunday 29	No Sunday School 10:30a Worship with Baptisms followed by coffee hour 11:00a Meadow Lakes Worship Service 4p–5p Cranbury Scout Band Practice
Monday 30	CPNS /Church Office Closed 7:30p Brass Choir 8:00p Al-Anon-McK Rm
Tuesday 31	(New Year's Eve) CPNS/Church Office Closed
Wednesday 1	(New Year's Day) CPNS/Church Office Closed
Thursday 2	10:00a Senior Exercise 2:30p–5:30p TASK (VAN) 7:00p Worship Meeting—Lib. 7:30p B&G Meeting-Lib. 7:30p The Chorale - Sanctuary
Friday 3	9:00a Bulletin Assembly-Church Office 8:00p-9:00p AA (Promises 12 Steps)McK Room
Saturday 4	
Sunday 5	(Epiphany Sunday) 9:15a Christian Education for all ages (Classrooms/FH/McKnight Rm) 10:30a Worship with Communion followed by coffee hour 11:00a Meadow Lakes Worship Service 4p–5p Cranbury Scout Band Practice 6:00p-7:30p Jr. High Youth Group-McK Rm 7:30p-9p Cranbury Men's Bible Study at the Inn