

Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments

in the courtyard following the service.

(✚ Latecomers may be seated.)

AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 27, 2014 10:00 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE

Bouree

William Babell (1689-1723)

Jenna Cody, flute

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

Janet Wheeler

Like a tiny seed or a little leaven,

the realm of God grows among us.

Like a hidden treasure or precious pearl,

the realm of God is all we desire.

HYMN #339 (Hymnal)*

“Be Thou My Vision”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)*

O Lord our God, we confess that we do not reflect your glory. We devote ourselves to small things while you work for a greater purpose. We distract ourselves with grand designs while you surprise us with hidden wonders. Forgive us; restore and reorder our lives by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may know your will, seek your way, and share your work, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

HYMN #577 (Hymnal)*

“Gloria Patri”

THE PEACE* ✚

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE ✚

Sandy Piper and Rivet the Ant

SCRIPTURE	Psalm 77:13-20	Gretchen Stults Pew Bible pg. 537
ANTHEM	<i>“Lord teach us how to pray”</i>	Allen Pote Summer Chorale
SCRIPTURE	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52	Pew Bible pgs. 14-15
SERMON	“Whose Kingdom?”	Brett Butler

THE RESPONSE

HYMN #333 (Hymnal)* *“Seek Ye First”*

COMMISSIONING OF VBS FAMILY MINISTRY LEADERS: Samantha Andrews, Daune Arsnow, Victoria Bain, Brett Butler, Jo D. Andrews, Kate Ellsworth, Emily Ellsworth, Sarah Gordon, Anne Gordon, Alicia Kasper, Cassandra Khazem, Carron Kohn, Helen Lazarro, Finn Lecky, Karlee Pedersen, Ann Riemann, Rebekah Sandefer, Lilly Santoro, Barbara Santoro, Katie Stewart, Carole Vandercher, Alex Vogen, Vicki Waciega, Cassi Waciega, Maggie Welch, Janet Wheeler and Spencer Zulo

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

God spoke these words through his servant Moses: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. These words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.’ Then, in the fullness of time, Jesus told his disciples: ‘I give you a new commandment, that you love one another just as I have loved you.’

What we have heard and know for ourselves, we must hand on to the next generation. These in their turn will tell others to put confidence in the Lord, never forgetting God’s faithfulness and always keeping his commandments.

QUESTIONS TO THE VBS FAMILY MINISTRY LEADERS

We give thanks to God that you are leaders in our VBS Family Ministry. Through your efforts, the good news of God’s love will be celebrated among another generation. Please answer these questions. Do you trust Jesus Christ your Savior, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit? **We do.**

Do you promise to be guided by the Scriptures and the teachings of the church, so that with imagination and love you may serve the Holy Spirit by calling children to faith in Jesus Christ and training his disciples? **We do.**

You are now commissioned to be a leader in the VBS Family Ministry. May the light of God's love shine through all that you say and do!

PRAYER (In Unison)

Eternal God, in every age you have appointed teachers and leaders to tell of your love and power, your justice and peace. We thank you for these brothers and sisters who will teach children and young people your ways this week in VBS. Give them the gifts of your Spirit, so that they may be bold witnesses of your good news. Guide them as they serve in your name. May they speak your word and show your kindness. O Lord, help us to turn to you in obedience to your commandments and to live in the hope and joy of Jesus Christ. Amen.

COMMISSIONING OF THE YOUTH MISSION TEAM

Our mission as the church is to make the Lord Jesus Christ known to all people by our words and actions. Jesus taught us, saying: "I give you a new commandment: that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another". We celebrate your devotion to the tasks ahead of you, as you join with other people in mission working with NextStep Ministries in Braxton County, West Virginia. Through the gift of your service and its example of love, you show others the infinite love that God has for all people. This is both a privilege and a responsibility. We ask that you publicly affirm your commitment to this work. Will you accept the people you serve right where they are and just the way they are?

I will, with God's help.

Will you work in glad cooperation and mutual support with others, being sensitive and helpful, according to the needs presented to you?

I will, with God's help.

Will you conduct yourself in a manner which witnesses to what God has done through Christ in your life and for all humanity?

I will, with God's help.

Do you sincerely believe that the work you are about to undertake is truly the work of God in our world?

I do.

Almighty God, look graciously upon these people now being commissioned. Send them forth in the power of your Holy Spirit to love and serve you with joy. Grant them an extra measure of grace as they serve together. Strengthen them as your faithful witnesses, so that many may share the good news of your son Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

THE COMMISSIONING

Brett Butler, Emily Curran, Sarah Gordon, Nina Reyes, Villana Tkac, Cole Toto, Ryan Vandenberg and Cassi Waciega, on behalf of the Session, you are commissioned to share the love of Jesus Christ throughout your time of service at the NextStep Ministries in Braxton County, West Virginia, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Brothers and sisters in this congregation, I commend to you those who will participate in this mission. Let us support them with our love and care and uphold them in our prayers this week for the work that they will perform.

CONGREGATION: (IN UNISON)

We rejoice to send you as representatives of our church, and thank God for your dedication and your gifts of service. We pledge our prayers and support. With you, we renew our commitment to God and to service in the name of Jesus Christ. We pray God’s blessings for you and for the people you go to serve. Amen.

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 *Arioso* **William Boyce (1710-1779)**
Jenna Cody, flute

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

HYMN #525 (Hymnal)* *“Here I Am Lord”*

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE* *The St. Catherine* **John Barrett (ca. 1674-1735)**
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.

The Flowers in the chancel today are given in honor and appreciation of the youth of our church by the Santoro family.

Coffee Hour is hosted by Mark and Joanne Hughes.

Greeters are Earl Davison and Marie Perrine.

Head Usher is Bob Kane.

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; Will Ellsworth; Bill Keller; Scott Kerr; Claire Maselli; Pastor Lou Mitchell; Kathy Mitchell; Cheryl Richardson; Elsie Sutton; Doris Wiegartner and Ann Zimmerman.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Vicki Bain’s mother, Joan Stiles; Judy Barbour’s son, David; Rosellyn Cassidy’s father, Jim Savasta; Jean Dunham’s son, Jay; Arlene Duran’s daughter, Catherine Lepp; Dina Ellsworth’s cousin, Aaron Briggs; Paul & Janet Furchak’s friend, Lori Sigley; Gail Geijer’s son, Dan; Wayne & Cyndi Girardet’s son and Karen & Andy Moutenot’s son-in-law, Benjamin Girardet; friends of the congregation, Robert & Patricia Grasso’s, friend Michelle Martin; Barbara Hannon’s daughter, Cynthia Wood; Mark Hughes’ grandmother, Olga Zelder; Karen Moutenot’s sister, Patricia Obanion; Leah Moy’s mother, Helen Wagner; Jean Randazzo’s daughter, Susan; Fran Stewart’s father, Eugene Feeney; Gretchen Stults’ granddaughter, Jodi Mallette & family; and Margo & Larry Wegner’s son, Devin.

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

We had a fantastic summer program. Thank you so much to our teachers; Vicki Bain, Rosellyn Cassidy, Jenni Collins, Helen Lazarro, Denise Reilley and a very special helper, Hope Kleppe. Everyone had a great time and learned so many wonderful things. Some of the children had fun learning about the zoo and the animals that live there, while others learned about recycling and spent some time in our CPNS Garden. We are so glad to have had this time together.

We are currently accepting registrations for the school year 2014-2015, including a variety of enrichment programs. Please let your friends and neighbors know about our school and encourage them to contact us. We would be happy to show them our school and tell them about all the wonderful learning opportunities that we have each and every day. You could find the registration forms on our website, www.cranburypres.org or call Janice at 609 655-8663 for the details.

MEADOW LAKES

Bible Study, led by Suzanne Schafer-Coates, will be held at Meadow Lakes on Tuesday afternoons through August 26, from 2:30-3:30 p.m., in the Meeting Room. We will be using another in the series presented by the Rev. Dr. Ray Vander Laan, (which includes wonderful teaching videos filmed on location at eight biblically significant sites), this series is called Life and Ministry of the Messiah. Everyone is welcome to attend!

MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS

Snippets from the Year Book of Prayer: The Presbytery of Chicago supports the University Christian Ministry which is committed to the nurture and development of leaders who will change their worlds. Programs include worship, discussions, speakers from around the world, retreats and mission trips. Each spring break a group of students travels internationally to learn about social injustice, help with local projects and build international friendships. In El Salvador, they maintain a relationship with a community in San Salvador and they have hosted several Salvadorans on their campus as part of their ongoing relationship.

Skeet's Pantry Wish List: (CEREAL, PASTA and PASTA SAUCE) The June and July Skeet's Pantry Days have been VERY large – 93 families in June and 87 families in July. There doesn't seem to be a summer drop-off in hungry families – that's for sure! We expect our next Pantry Day on August 15 will be equally large, and that means we need your help more than ever so that we can keep putting a dent in hunger in our local community. As always, please leave your food donations in the wheelbarrow on Sunday mornings, or in the front hall of the Parish House.

While we've always helped feed families with children, our Pantry also serves a particularly large number of seniors, many of whom live in nearby senior citizen housing in Cranbury and East Windsor. Recently, we also registered a few new seniors who had been homeless veterans. They are now living in Middlesex County in a former church building which has been turned into apartments for homeless vets. Folks like these often seem invisible in the midst of bustling, busy communities – but they are more grateful than we can describe for the food Skeet's Pantry is able to give them each month. So, on their behalf, we thank all of our church donors who make Skeet's Pantry possible.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Counting Teams: 7/27 (Team #4) – 8/3 (Team #1)

Budget Update (Year-to-Date to 7/20/14)		
	Week Ended 7/20	YTD to 7/20
Offerings	\$4,334	\$280,414
Expenses	\$9,570	\$237,157
Net Income/(Loss)	(\$5,236)	\$43,257

WORSHIP

All Lay Readers - please be advised that the calendar for July through December 2014 is now available in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to be a Lay Reader, please sign up. New Readers are very welcome!!!

Flower Opening available on Sunday, August 17. If you are interested, please contact Diane Smith at distargazer@verizon.net or (609)890-0822.

CALENDAR (July 27, 2014 – August 3, 2014)

Sunday 27	9:15a-9:45a Summer Pickup Choir 10:00a Worship w/VBS and Youth Mission Trip Volunteers Commissioning followed by refreshments 11:00a Meadow Lakes Worship Service 4p-5p Cranbury Scout Band Practice
Monday 28	9:00a - 12:00p VBS All Areas 7:30p Brass Choir 8:00p Al-Anon-McK Rm
Tuesday 29	9:00a - 12:00p VBS All Areas 9:00a Bulletin Material Due 9:30a Staff Mtg.-Church Office 2:30p-3:30p Bible Study – Meadow Lakes Meeting Rm 7:30p AA – McK Rm
Wednesday 30	9:00a - 12:00p VBS All Areas
Thursday 31	9:00a - 12:00p VBS All Areas
Friday 1	9:00a - 12:00p VBS All Areas Church Office Closed 8:00p-9:00p AA (Promises 12 Steps)McK Room
Saturday 2	
Sunday 3	7:00a Youth Mission Trip (West Virginia) – VAN 9:15a-9:45a Summer Pickup Choir 10:00a Worship w/communion followed by refreshments 11:00a Meadow Lakes Worship Service with Communion 4p-5p Cranbury Scout Band Practice

