

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
Passion/Palm Sunday
March 29, 2015 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE *March* **June Nixon**
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 *“The Lord is in His Holy Realm”* arr. by **George Andrews**
music and lyrics by **Jo D. Andrews**
Children’s Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP **Brett Butler**
Give thanks to the Lord, who is good,
whose steadfast love endures forever.
Blessed is the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
Let us worship God.

HYMN #89 (Hymnal)* *“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)*
God our Redeemer, we confess that we join the parade and shout hosanna, then deny our Lord in his hour of need. We wave the palms and sing praise, then hand our Savior over to die. Forgive us, God of grace. Our lives are in your hand—deliver us from evil. Save us, by your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

HYMN #579 (Hymnal)* *“Gloria Patri”*

THE PEACE* ✚

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE ✚ **Gretchen Stults**
SCRIPTURE **John 12: 12-19** **Pew Bible pg. 106**
Palm Parade *“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”* **Hymn #88**

ANTHEM

“Blessed Is the One”

arr. by George Andrews
music and lyrics by Jo D. Andrews

Children’s Choir

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 27: 15-26

Pew Bible pg. 32

SERMON

“Jesus People”

Dr. Louis Mitchell

THE RESPONSE

HYMN #371 (Hymnal)*

“Lift High the Cross”

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

Palm Sunday Welcome

French, arr. Austin C. Lovelace

The Chorale

Hymn #592 (Hymnal)*

“Doxology”

Prayer of Dedication*

Mr. Butler

HYMN #91 (Hymnal)*

“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”

RESPONSE*

Choral Amen

The Chorale

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE*

Promenade

Modest Musorgsky

Organ

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

We give thanks to God for the birth of

**Brady Nemeth
on March 1, 2015
son of Bryan and Stephanie Nemeth**

“See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.” I John 3:1

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. Linda Protinick is the Nursery Coordinator.

Our congregation is very happy to have children participate in worship with their family as part of our church family! "Worship bags" containing quiet activities are available in the narthex for children to enjoy during worship.

Hearing devices are available for your convenience in the narthex. The ushers can assist you.

Flowers are given by the Swanagan family in memory of Don Swanagan.

Coffee Hour is hosted by the Deacons.

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; Will Ellsworth; Bill Keller; Karen Moser; Karen Moutenot; Matt Rhodes; Russ Richardson; Mark Sasso; Wilma Shimer; Anne Taylor; Doris Wiegartner and Ann Zimmerman.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Vicki Bain's mother, Joan Stiles; Alan Balcomb's friend, Mike Toth; Jean Dunham's sister, Pat; Arlene Duran's daughter, Catherine Lepp; Phyllis & Bob Dyke's sister-in-law, Karen Scirrotto; Joan Fraser's friend, Rev. Greg Keosaian; Paul & Janet Furchak's nephew, Bobby Hennessy; Gail Geijer's son, Dan; Mark Hughes' grandmother, Olga Zelder; Fran Stewart's father, Eugene Feeney; and Gretchen Stults' granddaughter, Jodi Mallette & family.

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!

SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Maundy Thursday, April 2

10:30 a.m. Meadow Lakes Communion Worship Service

6:30 p.m. Traditional Foot Washing Service and Simple Supper in Fellowship Hall hosted by the youth

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Communion Service

Combined service in our sanctuary with the Cranbury United Methodist Church

Good Friday, April 3

7:15 p.m. Meadow Lakes Tenebrae Service of Shadows

Easter Sunday, April 5

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service at the Cranbury United Methodist Church

9:15 a.m. No Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

11:00 a.m. Meadow Lakes Worship Service

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Confirmation Class and Youth Group invite you to join us in a **Traditional Foot Washing Service and Simple Supper at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, on Maundy Thursday, April 2.**

We will prepare a simple supper of soup and bread for you and then we invite you to join in the beautiful and vulnerable tradition of foot washing.

On the Night Jesus was arrested he joined his disciples in one last meal; during the meal Jesus took it upon himself to wash his disciples feet saying, *"Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you"* - John 13:14-15

Vacation Bible School: We are already getting all ramped up with excitement here getting ready for VBS 2015!! Pastor Suzanne Schafer-Coates, Youth Director, Brett Butler and VBS Coordinator, Cassandra Khazem are heading up a team of volunteers to help with the planning and organization for VBS and we are looking for team members!

We are looking for the following volunteers to help work together with our leaders:

- 3 - Volunteers to help with Staffing
- 2 - Volunteers to help with Advertising
- 1 - Volunteer to help with Registration
- 1 - Volunteer to help organize a Decorating Team
- 1 - Volunteer to help with the Mission Project

Please feel free to email anyone of us (firstpressuz@comcast.net, bbutler532@gmail.com and/or ckhazem@gmail.com), if you are interested in being a small part of this amazing adventure!

Cranbury Men's Bible Study (Sundays 8:00 p.m.): All men are invited to join us in the church office. Please contact Brett Butler for more information.

CPNS

Our Palm Day Celebrations were wonderful, we hope you had the opportunity to see one of them, or at least had a chance to visit with us during our rehearsals. We want to thank our music teachers, Jenni Collins and Noël Kinney for sharing their special gifts with the children, and a big thank you to Dorothy Klotzbeacher for playing the piano. Also a special thank you to all the children who shared their precious singing voices with everyone.

We are currently registering for the 2015-2016 school year, as well as our Pre-Summer and Summer Programs. Please let your friends and neighbors know about the opportunity to send their child to our Christian preschool. Ask them to email or call me for a private tour of our school. Registration forms can be found on our church website or at CPNS. We look forward to sharing the preschool years at our wonderful school with families of our church and our local community.

MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS

Snippets from the Year Book of Prayer: On this Palm Sunday, the PC(USA) Office of Public Witness in Washington, DC is commemorating a parade for Jesus who is being celebrated as a healer and prophet. Jesus' commitment is to overturn the wrongs of society to bring liberty and justice for all. Compassionate and prophetic discipleship, motivated by love, shows itself in the willingness to challenge the principalities and powers to do Justice. We remember what Jesus said at the beginning of his ministry: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free."

Pray Now for the Elimination of Hunger! Bread for the World is concentrating on eliminating hunger and reducing poverty. But BFW points out that prayer is the first step in such an accomplishment. Their newsletter assures us that the first step toward attaining this goal is to pray. Many Bible characters prayed first before doing anything else to forward their goals. Esther was a particular example. Now that we are in the season of Lent, we are encouraged to pray earnestly and often, not only about hunger, but about our own failings, and our desire to better ourselves. And Jesus, of course, constantly resorted to prayer. Can we do better than to follow his example? May reducing hunger be on our hearts and may our prayers assist this achievement to happen.

Gretchen Stults

OTHER NEWS

You're Invited! Dr. Gaylord W. French will present an organ recital on April 12, at 4:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. The program will feature works by Bach, Boellmann, Reger, Locklair, and Klotzbeacher.

Please join us for **Stories That Shape Us** at the Camp Johnsonburg Women's Retreat on Friday, April 17 through Sunday, April 19, 2015. The Rev. Loli Ros Reiter is the retreat speaker and Worship Leader. This is a wonderful opportunity for rejuvenation and recreation!

Your fee of \$125.00 includes the following:

- Option to arrive early Friday to enjoy the camp
- Casual dinner Friday evening
- All other meals (breakfast (2) - lunch & dinner) tasty made from scratch offerings
- All linens included (bring your own pillow)
- You may pay up front or pay the day of the event
- Enjoy our main Speaker
- Large group sessions
- Small group sessions
- Time for private reflection
- Enjoy engaging worship Friday and Saturday evenings AND Sunday morning
- You may also enjoy a massage which is separate from the retreat event

Rev. Reiter is currently serving the Seffner Presbyterian Church in Seffner, Florida. She is an experienced youth retreat leader (at Montreat, Cedar Kirk and Bethelwoods) and adult retreat leader.

Please address concerns to Robin Garzoni, Chairperson of Hospitality at Camp Johnsonburg at (908)857-2349 or for more info go to www.campjburg.org/retreats/#r218. You can also contact Anne Gordon or Linda Cody with any questions.

OUTREACH

Looking for a Church Home? Join Pastor Lou and members of the Session on April 19, April 26 and May 3 for the **New Members Class**.

This is your opportunity to learn what it means to be a member of our church. We are a congregation which offers members of all age's opportunities to join in fellowship and expand their faith experiences.

The class will begin at 9:15 a.m. on April 19 and April 26 in the library and will begin at 9:00 a.m. on May 3 with breakfast in Fellowship Hall. Please contact the church office at 609/395-0897 to join the class or for additional information.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

Senior Exercise Schedule: March 30, April 2, (April 6-No Class), April 9, April 13, April 16, April 20, April 23, April 27, April 30

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Counting Teams: 3/29 (Team #3) - 4/5 (Team #4)

	Week Ended 3/22/15
Weekly Offering	\$3,963
YTD Offerings	\$120,463
YTD Expenses	\$94,565
YTD Net Income/(Loss)	\$25,898
YTD Per Capita	\$3,404.50
	% of 2015 Assessment (\$21,286) = 16%

Session is asking for your help in supporting our ministry by covering the cost of our "per capita" assessment as a congregation of the Presbyterian Church, USA. The amount of this assessment is \$35.30 per active member. The per capita is paid for by all active members, including youth who have been confirmed.

What is the Per Capita? The per capita is an annual assessment paid by all presbyteries to synod and General Assembly in order to fund the operating and administrative expenses of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Per capita pays for services and resources offered by Presbytery, the Synod and the General Assembly for use by congregations. The total assessment for our Church in 2015 is \$21,286. Of this amount, Monmouth Presbytery is required to remit \$2,412 to the Synod of the Northeast and \$4,263 to the General Assembly of PC (USA), the remainder, or \$14,611, is retained in our Presbytery.

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

March 29, 2015 (Passion/Palm Sunday)

9:15a Celebration Sunday Easter Egg Hunt
 9:15a Christian Ed for all ages (CRs/Lib./FH/McK Rm/Rm 1)
 10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour
 11:00a Meadow Lakes Worship Service
 4p-5p Cranbury Scout Band Practice-CR upstairs
 5p - 6p Jr. High Youth Group - FH
 6p- 8p Sr. High Youth Group-FH
 8p-9p Cranbury Men's Bible Study-Church Office

March 30, 2015

CPNS Closed

10:00a Senior Exercise
 7:30p Brass Choir
 8:00p Al-Anon-McK Rm

March 31, 2015

CPNS Closed

3:30p Meadow Lakes Bible Study - ML Meeting Rm
 7:15p APNC Mtg.- Lib
 7:30p AA - McKnight Room

April 1, 2015

CPNS Closed

5:00p - 10:00p Women's Club Meeting - FH
 7:30p Cemetery Board Mtg.-Lib
 7:30p Bell Choir

April 2, 2015 (Maundy Thursday)

CPNS Closed

10:00a Senior Exercise
 10:30a Meadow Lakes Maundy Thursday Communion
 Worship Service
 2:30p-5:30p TASK (VAN)
 6:30p Traditional foot washing service and simple supper-FH/Kit
 7:30p Maundy Thursday Service - Sanctuary

April 3, 2015 (Good Friday)

CPNS Closed/Church Office Closed

7:15p Meadow Lakes Tenebrae Service of Shadows

April 4, 2015

***Parking Lot being used by the Barn (A. Smith)

April 5, 2015 (Easter)

7:00a Easter Sunrise Service at the Cranbury Methodist Church
 10:30a Easter Worship Service followed by coffee hour
 11:00a Meadow Lakes Easter Worship Service with Communion (One Great Hour of Sharing)