

Welcome to Worship at The First Presbyterian Church
Please join us for fellowship and refreshments at "Coffee Hour" in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.

AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 14, 2019 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

"Blessed is the One"

**Music and Lyrics by
Jo D. and George Andrews
Children's Choir**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God, Rejoice! Sing out in celebration, God's people! Your King is coming to you, humble, riding on a donkey.

Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who brings forth the Kingdom of God. Glory to God! Hosanna!

HYMN #197 (Hymnal)*

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)*

God our Sustainer, we sing for joy when Christ comes into our lives, and then we fail to follow him when he leads us on the journey. We hide our faces from the pain, turn away from the cries, and put our trust in the wrong king. Help us to have the same mind as Christ, so we would know your promises; help us to have the same heart as Christ, so we might serve your children; help us to have the same Spirit as Christ, so we might go wherever you lead us. Amen.

LITANY FOR HOLY WEEK

Leader: O God, in whose grace and glory we have our lives, we acknowledge our debt to you. In your self-giving for our salvation, you have demonstrated again and again that you love us.

People: **O Lord, make us thankful.**

Leader: For the cross of your Son, for the dark days leading up to the cross, and for his love so freely given to us and all persons,

People: **O Lord, make us thankful.**

Leader: For the Lenten season when we can recount the loneliness of the garden, the suffering, the shame, and rejection which our Lord endured, for his unfailing faith in you and all humankind,

People: **O Lord, make us thankful.**

Leader: Teach us that unless we walk through the darkness, we cannot appreciate the light; that unless we see the cross clearly, we will not understand the empty tomb; that unless we obey even to the point of sacrifice, we cannot truly be your disciples. In the name of Christ Jesus we pray,

People: **Amen**

HYMN #198 (Hymnal)* *“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”*

RESPONSE* *Choral Amen*

The Chorale

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE* *Promenade*

Modest Mussorgsky
Organ

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

Holy Week and Easter Services

Maundy Thursday – April 18

*Remembering the Last Supper and Jesus' last acts of service,
a Tenebrae service of Scripture readings and gradual darkness*
7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Tenebrae and Communion Service

Good Friday – April 19

*The world darkens as Christ breathes his last breath,
a somber service of prayer, reading, and meditation*
12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Open Prayer
2:30 p.m. Good Friday Service

Easter – April 21

*The tomb is empty!
Christ is Risen!
Sing Alleluia!*
No Sunday School
7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service (Village Park Lakeside)
10:30 a.m. Easter Worship Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors! We hope you will find a warm welcome here. We invite you to consider membership in our church family. Please speak to our Greeter or one of our Pastors after worship for more information; or if you would like to be contacted, please provide us with your address and/or email address in the red “friendship pad”.

Worship Bags, Children’s Bulletins & Coloring Pages! All three are available in the Narthex, and are offered with the hope that children who want to will be able to worship alongside the whole church family.

Hearing devices are available for your convenience in the Narthex.

Flowers in the chancel today are given in loving memory of Clyde and Louise Sechler by the Andrews and Barry families. *“The music goes on and on...”*

Coffee Hour is hosted by Peg and Monty Hagerty.

Head Usher is Craig Vandenberg.

Greeters are Jack Britton, Heidi Knowlton and Andy Kremann.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church members with special prayer concerns: Austin Applegate; Bill Chermak; Bob Demers; Rose Eller; Carol Fisher; Joan Fraser; Paul Furchak; David Geijer; Sally Giovanos; Judson Hagerty; Scott Kerr; Lucille Kirkenir; Margaret Lawson; Beatrice Mabutho; Charles Patterson, Jr.; Charles Patterson, Sr.; Marie Perrine; Russ & Cheryl Richardson; Ken Rossman; Wilma Shimer; Diane Smith; and Hennie Sushereba.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Rev. Marie Branigan's brother, Tom; Helen Dickerson's mother, Martha & brother, Clifford; Judy Duke's soon to be son-in-law, Peter; Gordon & Joan Fraser's son, Iain; Gail Geijer's son, Dan & sister, Jane; Mark Hughes' father, John; Mark & Joanne Hughes', niece, Lauren; Carol Kientz's cousin, Steve; Dorothy Klotzbeacher's ex-husband, Rev. Maltby & son-in-law, Bob; Karen Lovaglio's friend, Antwon; Michael Lovaglio's friend, Kyle; Anita McManus' sister, Nancy; Karen Moser's friend, Andrew & daughter's friend, Jamie; Art Ryba's sister-in-law, Patricia; John Ryba & Sharon Marshall's niece, McKenna; Joan Smith's brother, Jim; Doris Wiegartner's friend, Tyler; Loida Wilson's cousin, Charo & friend, Kathleen; Agnes Winchell's sister, Aniko; and Walter Wright's daughter, Mary Alice

We pray for all people who are in need in our wider community and please remember family and friends in our nation's service. Members of our church family are encouraged to make prayer requests for relatives serving in our armed services, most especially those serving in harm's way.

Prayer Chain: If you have a prayer concern, please call the church office at (609)395-0897 or email Daune Arsnow at deersnow@verizon.net. 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.

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 fill out and 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!

Birthdays of Distinction: Samuel Smith and Faith Sarafin on April 15, Joan Eiker on April 17, and Don Winchell on April 20. **Happy Birthday!**

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

We want to invite everyone to our **Spring Workday on Sunday, April 28** beginning at 12:00 p.m. The Buildings & Grounds Committee will provide lunch for those helping during the workday as we tackle some projects around the church. Anyone staying to help can dress down for Worship.

There is a variety of jobs that we would like to complete this Spring. These include some outside and inside clean up and some repairs and maintenance items. No special skills are required. We hope to see you there. We are very thankful for any and all help in maintaining our church building and property. Looking forward to a productive day.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

Study Luke this Lent! Join us for a Lenten Bible Study on The Gospel of Luke on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. in the Library (April 15 and April 22).

Sunday School: There will be NO Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 21.

Register for Vacation Bible School (VBS): Join us on June 24 through June 28 for VBS – To Mars & Beyond! You can register at <https://tmab.cokesburyvbs.com/FirstPresCranbury>.

Youth Group (Sundays): Middle School and High School Youth Groups meet tonight from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There will be No youth group on Easter Sunday, April 21.

Book Club! Join us for our next book club meeting Monday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 1. We're reading *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman.

Mark Your Calendars!!! Adult Retreat Coming up in May: Our upcoming Annual Retreat is just weeks away and will take place this year on May 3 and May 4. This year marks the 32nd Anniversary of the Adult Retreat. If you have never attended but are wondering what it's like, now is a wonderful time to find out. For those who have attended in the past, we hope you'll join us again.

We are blessed to have Loida Wilson as our leader again this year as we gather together in Christian love and fellowship to learn, share and grow. The theme will be, *“Leaning into God during Crisis: Faith vs. Fear”*. We all look forward to

relaxing and enjoying the natural beauty and peaceful surroundings of the Fellowship Deaconry in Liberty Corner, New Jersey while deepening our faith along with others from our church family. This is sure to be an uplifting weekend!

Look for the sign up table in upcoming weeks during coffee hour in Fellowship Hall. Transportation is available on the church van for all who are interested. Barbara Santoro will be our driver. If you have further questions or would like more information, please call Dorothy Klotzbecher (Mrs. K at 732/521-2026).

CPNS

CPNS will be closed for our Easter Vacation beginning on Friday, April 19 and will return to school on Monday, April 29. Before we break for our Easter vacation, we will be having our Easter Parades in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, April 17 and Thursday, April 18. Both days will begin at 11:00 a.m. The children will be singing some of their favorite Easter songs and we hope you will be able to join us. The children will be sure to put a smile on your face and love in your heart. Hope to see you at one of our programs.

The registration for the 2019-2020 school year has begun. Please let your friends and neighbors know about CPNS. We want everyone to take advantage of giving their children a developmentally appropriate academic, Christian preschool experience.

DEACONS

Coffee Hour: Anyone who signs up for Coffee Hour will have a Deacon helper if they want a Deacon helper. There are two sign-up lists; the first is to sign-up to be a Coffee Hour Host. The second is to volunteer to bring a plate of cookies or crackers or the like to help the host. If you have any questions, please contact Fran Stewart at (609)395-7159 or email her at frannymag58@aol.com.

MISSIONS, SERVICE & GRANTS

One Great Hour of Sharing is all about sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relieve from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

Our goal this year is to raise \$2,500. Let's join together to meet our goal and spread God's love!

During this season of Lent, let us open our hearts and wallets to support this very special offering. The children of our church will be filling fish boxes full of coins and dollars, you can text OGHS to 20222 to give \$10.00, donate on our church website, or write a check to the First Presbyterian Church, with OGHS in the memo line. One Great Hour of Sharing offerings will be dedicated TODAY, but gifts will be gratefully accepted after Sunday. Working together, as a church family, we can make a difference! Thank you for your generous support.

April - Skeet's Pantry: Our shelves are now about 1/3 full (good news), but that means our shelves are about 2/3 empty – bad news for the 80 or more families who are hoping for our help with their Easter and springtime meals.

Here's the list of the foods we REALLY NEED for our Good Friday food distribution on April 19:

GRAPE JELLY, PEANUT BUTTER, CEREAL (family size boxes are really great!), PASTA (all varieties) and PASTA SAUCE (all varieties)

Anything you and your family can do to help us fill our shelves with these foods is truly wonderful, and if friends or neighbors offer to add some food to your donation, that would be fantastic! Providing food for those in need on Good Friday will make that very special day in our worship life even more blessed. THANK YOU!

CROP Hunger Walk: If someone is interested in organizing this year's CROP Hunger Walk for our church, please contact Loida Wilson at loidawilson@comcast.net or call her at (609)947-3348.

OTHER NEWS

Save the Date: Johnsonburg Spring Women's Retreat on April 26 through April 28, 2019. Topic is *"Resilience for the Fearfully & Wonderfully Made"* led by Rev. Dr. Tracy Mehr-Muska. For more information and flyer go to: <https://www.campjburg.org/camp/wp-content/uploads/Womens-Retreat-Flyer-2019.pdf>.

OUTREACH

The Outreach Committee thanks each of you who participated in the Lenten Challenge. We hope that you have made a difference in your recipient's lives and that it has become a life changing habit for you.

Church Name Badges: The Outreach Committee invites you to sign-up to purchase a magnetic name badge to wear to church services, meetings and events. Sign-up at coffee hour with any committee member or email Audrey Smith at aud123abc@aol.com to place your order. Please be sure to give us the spelling of your name the way you want it to appear on your name badge. The badges cost Outreach \$7 each – any contribution you might wish to make would be great!

Save the Date: Urban*Promise* International’s African Gospel Choir will give a community concert on Sunday, May 19 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Come for music, rhythm and celebration – bring your family, friends and neighbors!

SENIOR BREAKFAST CLUB

Please join us for Senior Breakfast Club on **Thursday, April 25** at 8:30 a.m. at The Cranbury Inn. Our speaker will be Leslie Handler, an award winning syndicated columnist for Senior Wire News. Ms. Handler freelances for such publications as *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *WHYY*, and *HuffPost*. Her presentation is called “learning to love the color gray”. In addition to her writing, Leslie Handler gives inspirational and humorous talks based on her book with proceeds going to NAMI Mercer where she is a board member.

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. 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 the number of guests that will attend. The cost of breakfast is \$6 payable at the Inn. For information, contact Fritz Hager at (609)655-2787.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

Sr. Exercise Schedule: April 15, April 18, (April 22-NO CLASS), April 25 and April 29

SMALL GROUPS

Prayer Shawl Group: Join us in Room 1 on **April 25** at 11:00 a.m. Knit or crochet along with us. We need to prepare an inventory of shawls so they are ready whenever needed by one of our Pastors or one of the Deacons. We’d love to welcome you into our group. While we knit together, we enjoy our fellowship time together – so will you!

Religions of the World... our focus is to increase our knowledge and understanding of the religious faiths in our community. **In late April**, there will be a visit to the Mosque on Old Trenton Rd... **date to be advised**.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Counting Teams: 4/14 (Team #2) – 4/21 (Team #3) – 4/28 (Team #4)

Month Ended 3/31/19

YTD Offerings	\$78,100
YTD Expenses	\$86,089
YTD Net Income/(Loss)	(\$7,989)
YTD Per Capita	\$2,702 (10% of \$25,960)

WORSHIP

We need volunteers to Usher! If you have questions or would like to usher, please contact Heidi Knowlton at (609)480-9176 or email her at cabotk@comcast.net. There is also a sign-up sheet on the Congregational Life bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Flowers: If anyone wishes to provide flowers for any given Sunday in memory or in honor of a loved one(s), please contact Heidi Knowlton at (609)799-1724 or email her at cabotk@comcast.net.

Lay Readers: The Lay Reader schedule now through June 2019 is posted in Fellowship Hall. We are looking for, and would welcome, any new Readers to our group. Any questions please contact Joan Fraser.

Display Cases: When you get a moment, check out the display cases in the narthex. Leah Moy and Barbara Santoro do a wonderful job of changing the displays each season.

Do you like to read? Check out the (4) shelves of books in the Bell room. Just borrow and return at your leisure. (The room is behind the Bell tables).

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

April 14 (Palm Sunday)

9:15a Celebration Sunday/Easter Egg Hunt
10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour
6p-7p Middle School/High School Yth Grp Service Project

April 15

10:00a Senior Exercise (FH)
10:45a CPNS Easter Parade Rehearsals (Sanctuary)
12:45p CPNS Easter Parade Rehearsals (Sanctuary)
1:30p Lenten Bible Study (Lib)
7:30p Brass Choir
8:00p Al-Anon (McK Rm)

April 16

9:00a Bulletin Material Due
9:30a Staff Mtg
10:45a CPNS Easter Parade Rehearsals (Sanctuary)
12:45p CPNS Easter Parade Rehearsals (Sanctuary)
3:30p Children's Choir
7:30p AA (McK Rm)
7:30p Session Mtg (Lib)

April 17

11:00a CPNS Easter Parade (Sanctuary)
11:30a-12:30p CPNS Mtg (Lib)
7:30p Bell Choir
7:30p Mercer Area District Mtg (McK Rm)

April 18 (Maundy Thursday)

9:00a Skeet's Food Pantry Packing (FH)
10:00a Senior Exercise (FH)
11:00a CPNS Easter Parade (Sanctuary)
7:30p Maundy Thursday Tenebrae and Communion Service
8:30p The Chorale

April 19 (Good Friday)

CPNS Closed
Church Office Hours 9a – 12p
8:00a-10:30a Skeet's Food Pantry Distribution (FH)
9:00a Bulletin Assembly
12:00p-2:30p Open Prayer (Sanctuary)
2:30p Good Friday Service

April 20

Banners/Easter Flowers set-up

April 21 (Easter)

NO Sunday School
7:00a Easter Sunrise Service (Village Park Lakeside)
10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour
NO Youth Grp