



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEWTON

7:00 AM February 21, 2021

*As we worship together while physically apart,
may we celebrate the unity and the connections
that are ours through the gift of God's Holy Spirit!*

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: From water to wilderness:

People: **God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.**

Leader: On stone and in hearts:

People: **God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.**

Leader: From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up:

People: **God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.**

Leader: We follow Jesus on the Lenten path,

People: **for where he is, we would be also.**

Leader: Sisters and brothers, let us worship God.

HYMN STF #2105

"Jesus, Tempted in the Desert"

*Jesus, tempted in the desert,
Lonely, hungry, filled with dread: "Use your power,"
The tempter tells him; "Turn these barren rocks to bread!"
"Not alone by bread," he answers,
"Can the human heart be filled.
Only by the Word that calls us is our deepest hunger stilled!"*

*When we face temptation's power,
Lonely, struggling, filled with dread, Christ, who knew the tempter's hour,
come and be our living bread.*

*By your grace, protect, preserve us lest we fall your trust betray.
Yours, above all other voices, be the Word we hear, obey.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of mercy, we begin this Lenten season in confession. We do not live according to your ways, but according to our own. We condone violence, participate in systems of injustice, and use power to our own advantage at the expense of others. Forgive us, we pray, when we are tempted to follow paths other than those you set before us. Teach us your commandments; help us to turn from evil in its many guises, and turn us toward your kingdom drawing near. In covenantal love, remember us, we pray, and be for us, once more and always, an ark of safety and new life. (Our silent prayers continue...)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: As Noah and his family were brought safely through the flood onto dry ground, so in baptismal waters we are brought from death into new life in Christ. Jesus Christ, who is at the right hand of God, forgives us and reconciles us and all things in heaven and on earth.

People: **Thanks be to God for this good news!**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, in rushing waters and in dry wilderness, in every season and circumstance, we need your sustaining word. By the power of your Holy Spirit, proclaim the good news among us today so that we may repent and believe and see anew how the time is fulfilled and the kingdom has come near; in Jesus Christ your Son, our Savior. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 25:1-10

Leader: ¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

People: ²**O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.**

Leader: ³Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

People: ⁴**Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.**

Leader: ⁵Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

People: ⁶**Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

Leader: ⁷Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

People: ⁸**Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

Leader: ⁹He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

All: ¹⁰**All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 9:8-17

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:9-15

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THOUGHTS ON THE TEXT

HYMN PH #81

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

***Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray,
Teach us with Thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.***

***As Thou with Satan didst contend, and didst the victory win,
O give us strength in Thee to fight, in Thee to conquer sin.***

***And through these days of penitence, and through thy Passiontide,
Yea, evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.***

***Abide with us, that so, this life of suffering over past,
An Easter of unending joy we may attain at last!***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD'S SERVICE

SUNG RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING PH #591

*“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.”*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE STF #2088

*Lord, I lift your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life;
I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
From the earth to the cross my debt to pay;
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift your name on high.*

POSTLUDE

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**OUR WORSHIP IS ENDED. OUR SERVICE BEGINS!**  
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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION: The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and the Corporation will be held via Zoom on **TODAY at 11:00 a.m.** (not 10 a.m. as indicated in *The Beacon*). The meeting will include the presentation of the budget for 2021, a vote to approve the terms of the pastor's call, a vote to elect ruling elders, deacons, and members-at-large to the nominating committee, and other business as may be required. By order of the Session, Terry VanAuken, Clerk

E-Giving - *It makes giving easy!*

E-Giving is a convenient way to support our ministries. Here's how:

Scan the QR Code to make a donation through your smart phone. You may be able to get to the secure website simply by taking a picture of the QR code with your smartphone. Or you may need to download a secure QR code scanner App.

OR

Go to the church website, fpcnewtonnj.org and click on the **E-donate** button and sign up using your email and a password. You can make a one-time donation or sign up for automatic recurring donations.

More comfortable using a check? No problem, we are checking the mail on a regular basis during the office closure.

As Always, we thank you for your generosity and support!

Continued next page...



Our Staff

Pastor, David Young
pastordavidyoung@fpcnewtonnj.org

****New**** Pastor David has a new office cell phone number.
It is 862-326-0042. Please make a note of it.

Assoc. Family Nurture, Colleen Duffy
colleen.duffy@fpcnewtonnj.org

Office Administrator, Janet Lasko
admin@fpcnewtonnj.org

Treasurer, Jane MacDonald
treas@fpcnewtonnj.org

Organist: Ann Socha;
Bell Choir Director: Melinda Kline; Child Care: Heather Woods

Church Office Temporarily Closed
Emails and Phone Messages Checked on a Regular Basis During Closure.

Church Email Address: admin@fpcnewtonnj.org

Church Telephone # 973-383-4420

54 High Street, Newton NJ

Church Web Site Address: www.fpcnewtonnj.org facebook.com/FPCNJ
www.youtube.com (Search for: "fpcnewtonnj")

(See Next Page for Congregational Life Schedule)



Virtual Congregational Life at First Presbyterian Church

February 21, 2021

Please subscribe to our YouTube Channel! Invite your friends to do so as well. It doesn't lock you into anything! But, a subscription makes it easier to use our YouTube channel. Here is the web address: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCifje87megV4T0c-tJ0hSjA>

New to Zoom? There is a brief Zoom tutorial video called "Using Zoom" on our church YouTube channel. Click on web address above, (subscribe!) then, click on "Using Zoom" to view the video. Chromebooks and other "Tablets" may require you to download a Zoom app that is specific to them. Others should not have to add this step in the process.

Sun. 2/21 **7:00 am Worship! (Or at whatever time works best for you & your family)**

Our service will be on our YouTube channel. Go to: www.YouTube.com and search for: "fpcnewtonnj".

If we have your email address you will also receive a link to the service. It will also be posted on the church Facebook page.

9:00 am-9:30 am Children's Ministry Zoom gathering

for children preschool to grade 5. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6063804664>

11:00 am Annual Congregational Meeting via Zoom

The meeting will go "live" at 10:30 so that you will have time to check in with one another and confirm a good connection prior to the meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81239979692?pwd=dINPSGQ2VzJtMCtqZzd3MGVrQjJPUT09> Meeting ID: 812 3997 9692 Passcode: 704955

Or: If you have trouble getting online you may dial into the meeting:

Dial by your location: 1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 812 3997 9692 Passcode: 704955

6:30 pm Sunday Evening Adult Study Zoom Meeting

Log in information: Topic - Sunday Evening Adult Study

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86042904750?pwd=N2VzdGtKOEZBV1NjUXJFbGR0SUFkQT09> Meeting ID: 860 4290 4750 Passcode: 805881

Or: If you have trouble getting online you may also dial into the meeting:

Dial by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 860 4290 4750 Passcode: 805881

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Mon. 2/22 **10:00 am Wired Word**

Here is the Log in information for Wired Word:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88085103384?pwd=dThQblpyM2VqdnNZVTdkRjdreUFlodz09> Meeting ID: 880 8510 3384 Passcode: 842293

Or: If you have trouble getting online you may also dial into the meeting:

Dial by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 880 8510 3384 Passcode: 842293

Wed. 2/24 **8:00 pm Midweek Vespers**

Pastor David leads a 15 minute service on Wednesday nights at 8:00 p.m. It includes psalms, scripture and prayer. Here is the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81421096398?pwd=aIFhM1R5eVA4U2xFdFgwQ1YrdrnNSdz09>

Sun. 2/28 **7:00 am Worship! (Or at whatever time works best for you & your family)**

Our service will be on our YouTube channel. Go to: www.YouTube.com and search for: "fpcnewtonnj".

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Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86042904750?pwd=N2VzdGtkeEZBV1NjUXJFbGR0SUFkQT09> Meeting ID: 860 4290 4750 Passcode: 805881

Or: If you have trouble getting online you may also dial into the meeting:

Dial by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 860 4290 4750 Passcode: 805881