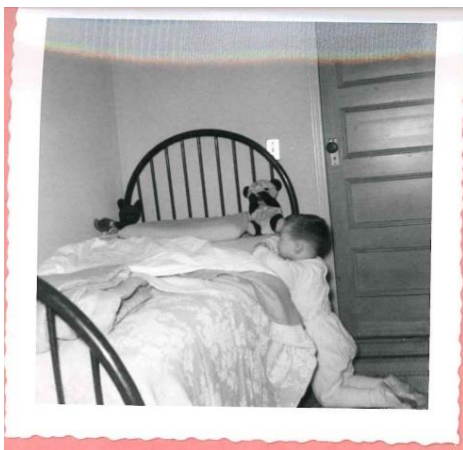


First Presbyterian Church of Newton

10:30 AM September 29, 2024

** indicates when to rise in body or in spirit*

(PH denotes *The Presbyterian Hymnal*) and STF denotes *Sing the Faith Hymnal*)



“Faith has to do with things that are not seen and hope with things that are not at hand.”

—Thomas Aquinas

GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** based on Matthew 11:28-30

Leader: Come, all that are weary, all that are carrying burdens so heavy

People: **Jesus will give us rest**

Leader: Come, take what Jesus has to offer: love, forgiveness, and grace

People: **Christ will give us peace**

Leader: Come, find rest, and learn from Jesus

People: **For our Savior will give us rest in our souls**

Leader: Come, let us worship our God of Grace

ALL: **Let us follow our Savior, who leads us into life.**

*** HYMN PH #333**

“Seek Ye First”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Lord, though you should guide us, we inform ourselves;
though you should rule us, we control ourselves;
though you should fulfill us, we console ourselves.

We think your truth too high, your will too hard, your power too remote,
your love too free. But they are not! And without them, we are of all people
most miserable. Now heal our confused minds with your word, heal our
divided wills with your law, heal our troubled consciences with your love,
heal our anxious hearts with your presence, all for the sake of your Son,
who loved us and gave himself for us.

(Silent Time of Prayer...)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The good news is this:
 God loves the world so much as to make it a fit place to live;
 God loves us so much as to reshape us into people of faith.

People: Like a cup of cold water,
 forgiveness revives us, restores us, gives us new life.
 Thanks be to God, we are forgiven!

* SONG OF JOY *“When Morning Gilds the Sky”*

*When morning gilds the sky,
My heart awaking cries: May Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer, to Jesus I repair:
May Jesus Christ be praised!*

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

O God, help us to listen and to trust in your Holy Spirit, that we may sense your presence and know your grace in these words.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 124:1-8

Leader: If it had not been the LORD who was on our side —
let Israel now say —

People: if it had not been the LORD who was on our side,

Leader: when our enemies attacked us,

People: then they would have swallowed us up alive,
when their anger was kindled against us;

Leader: then the flood would have swept us away,
the torrent would have gone
over us; then over us would have gone the raging waters.

People: Blessed be the LORD,
who has not given us as prey to their teeth.

Leader: We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

ALL: Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE LESSON James 5:13-18

Are any among you suffering? They should pray.

Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise.

Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

MESSAGE Praying Again and Again

MOMENT FOR MISSION Peace and Global Witness Offering Alice Sharick

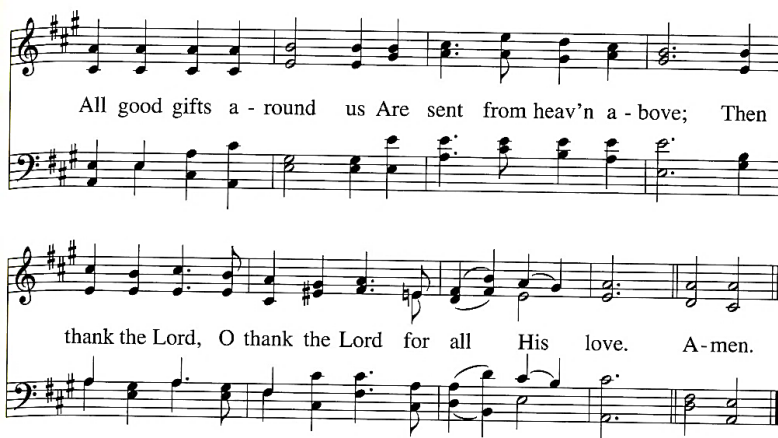
* HYMN PH #323 *“Loving Spirit”*

CALL TO OFFER OUR GIFTS TO GOD’S SERVICE

OFFERTORY MUSIC

* **SONG OF GRATITUDE**

WIR PFLÜ-GEN TUNE



The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Loving Spirit" (Hymn PH #323). It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "All good gifts a - round us Are sent from heav'n a - bove; Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all His love. A-men." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

SHARING OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS and CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ending with the LORD’S PRAYER (in 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.

GOING OUT TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST

*** HYMN PH #130** *“Let Every Christian Pray”*

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** POSTLUDE**

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**We thank our Worship Leader Judy Prendergast,  
our Ushers/Greeters Alice Sharick and Shirley Smith this morning.**

Liturgical Resources:  
Call To Worship written by Rev. Mindi Welton-  
Mitchell, and posted on Rev-o-lution.  
Call to Confession and Assurance of Pardon written by Thom Shuman.

## **E-Giving - *It makes giving easy!***

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



*Scan Me*

Scan the QR Code to make a donation through your smart phone. **OR**

Go to the church website, [fpcnewtonnj.org](http://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, just drop a check in the mail.

***As always, we thank you for your generosity and support!***

**Our Staff**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p align="center">Interim Pastor:<br/>Heather Morrison-Yaden<br/><a href="mailto:heathermorrisonyaden@gmail.com">heathermorrisonyaden@gmail.com</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p align="center">Associate for Family Nurture:<br/>Colleen Duffy<br/><a href="mailto:colleen.duffy@fpcnewtonnj.org">colleen.duffy@fpcnewtonnj.org</a></p> |
| <p>Office Administrator: Janet Lasko<br/><a href="mailto:admin@fpcnewtonnj.org">admin@fpcnewtonnj.org</a></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>Treasurer: Jane MacDonald<br/><a href="mailto:treas@fpcnewtonnj.org">treas@fpcnewtonnj.org</a></p>                                                      |
| <p align="center">Organist: Ann Socha</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p align="center">Bell Choir Director: Melinda Kline</p>                                                                                                   |
| <p align="center">Choir Director: Cate Pasculli</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <p align="center">Child Care Provider: Heather Woods</p>                                                                                                   |
| <p align="center">Church Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm;<br/>Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm<br/>Church Email Address: <a href="mailto:admin@fpcnewtonnj.org">admin@fpcnewtonnj.org</a><br/>Church Telephone Number and Address: 973-383-4420<br/>54 High Street, Newton NJ 07860<br/>Church Web Site Address: <a href="http://www.fpcnewtonnj.org">www.fpcnewtonnj.org</a><br/><a href="https://www.facebook.com/FPCNJ">facebook.com/FPCNJ</a><br/><a href="https://www.youtube.com">www.youtube.com</a> (Search for: "fpcnewtonnj")</p> |                                                                                                                                                            |

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AT  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEWTON  
Week of September 29, 2024**

- Sun. 9/29    **9:00 Worship (Chapel)**  
**9:00 am Adult Study (Adult Study Room)**  
**9:00 am Faith Formation Classes (for our children to grow in faith)**  
(Upstairs Sunday School Classrooms)  
**9:45 am Family Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)**  
**10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)**  
Child care for infants and toddlers is available on the second floor  
**Coffee Hour following worship (Parlor)**  
**Garden Glimpses Presentation after worship**  
**5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Youth Group**
- Mon. 9/30    **10:00 am Wired Word (via Zoom)**  
**7:00 pm Session (Parlor)**
- Wed. 10/2    **8:00 pm Midweek Vespers (via Zoom)**
- Thur. 10/3    **7:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)**
- Fri. 10/4    **1:00 - 3:00 pm Hearts and Hands Craft Group (Adult Study Room)**
- Sun. 10/6    **World Communion Sunday**  
**Peace and Global Witness Offering Dedicated**  
**9:00 Worship (Chapel)**  
**9:00 am Adult Study (Adult Study Room)**  
**9:00 am Faith Formation Classes (for our children to grow in faith)**  
(Upstairs Sunday School Classrooms)  
**9:30 am Family Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)**  
**10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary)**  
Child care for infants and toddlers is available on the second floor  
**Coffee Hour following worship (parlor)**  
**5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Youth Group**

\*Our service can also be found on our YouTube channel sometime after 3 pm.  
Go to: [www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com) and search for: fpcnewtonnj