

# THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Church Street and Gatzmer Avenue  
JAMESBURG, NEW JERSEY

Gary W. Filson, Pastor  
Larry Kettelkamp, Organist  
Sara Cheong, Pianist  
Ella L. Filson, Bell Choir Director  
Elliott Stroul, Praise Band Leader

November 10, 2019

The Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

11:00 a.m.

## WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

*The Praise Music is a call to worship;  
a time for reflection and preparation for entering God's presence.*

### THE PRAISE MUSIC

*Breathe*

Darlene Zschech

*Shout to the Lord*

Marie Barnett

### THE PRELUDE

#### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: As we come to worship, let us leave at the door our self-centered thoughts.

PEOPLE: AND OPEN OUR EYES TO SEE OUR NEIGHBOR IN WORSHIP.

Leader: As we come to worship, let us leave at the door our feelings of exclusiveness.

PEOPLE: AND OPEN OUR MINDS TO THE POSSIBILITIES OF INCLUSION.

Leader: As we come to worship, let us leave outside our notion of generosity.

PEOPLE: AND OPEN OUR HEARTS TO THE POSSIBILITY OF GIVING BEYOND OUR  
TYPICAL GIFT.

ALL: AS WE COME TO WORSHIP, LET US OPEN OUR EYES, OUR MINDS AND OUR  
HEARTS TO WHAT CAN BE INSTEAD OF WHAT IS. FOR ALL OF OUR GIFTS  
AND FOR ALL POSSIBILITIES, LET US LIFT OUR VOICES IN PRAISE!

#### \*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

Merciful God, we come before you with praise and thanksgiving! Through Jesus Christ, you have lavished on us every spiritual blessing we could possibly imagine! Before the world was created, you already knew us and loved us. You adopted us as your own children and redeemed us through the blood of Christ. Even more, you have made us your heirs, and given us your own Spirit as a sign and guarantee. How we praise you! Open our hearts and minds to your presence among us here. May our worship this morning bring you honor and glory, for you alone are worthy of our praise. Amen.

#### \*\*THE HYMN OF ADORATION 1 (Red Hymnal)

Lobe Den Herren

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

#### THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Gracious God, forgive us. We place our trust in things that are fleeting, rather than in you and the sure promises you offer. We focus on the things that are before us, getting bogged down in the mundane and the trials of the moment. We fail to remember to set our sights on you. Forgive our doubt, our lack of hope, our fear. Restore our hope in those things unseen by our eyes. Revitalize our faith. Renew our hearts that we might worship you fully. Redeem us so we can be a sign of your love to others who doubt. Amen.

#### THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Jesus said, "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

PEOPLE: "COME UNTO ME ALL YOU WHO LABOR AND ARE HEAVY LADEN, AND I  
WILL GIVE YOU REST."

Leader: Sisters and brothers, hear the Good News: in Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we are made new!

PEOPLE: LET US LIVE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT WE ARE FORGIVEN AND BE AT  
PEACE. AMEN.

**THE UNISON READING**

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

**\*THE GLORIA PATRI (No. 546)**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**THE CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**\*\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

PEOPLE: PEACE BE WITH YOU.

**\*\*THE HYMN OF PRAISE 339 (Blue Hymnal)**

Slane

*Be Thou My Vision*

**THE CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION** (Acknowledgment of Visitors and Guests)

**LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD**

**THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God of wisdom, we approach your Word with wonder, for everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Lord, open our ears that we might hear, open our hearts that we might feel, open our minds that we might learn and open our souls that we might grow in our relationship with you. Amen.

**THE SCRIPTURE READING**

Haggai 1:15b-2:9

**THE SERMON**

“The Dimensions of the Church”

The Reverend Joanne Petto

**RESPONDING IN THANKS AND SERVICE**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

(using "debts")

**THE WORSHIP OF GIVING**

**The Offertory**

*Hallelujah (Your Love Is Amazing)*

arr. E. Stroul

**\*The Doxology (No. 544)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*The Prayer of Dedication**

Loving God, because we believe you work through ordinary lives, we re-dedicate ourselves to you with this offering, that we, like it, may be used according to your good purposes. In the serving of our sisters and brothers, may we be living expressions of the Good News you offer to the world.

We ask it in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**\*THE HYMN OF DEDICATION 379 (Red Hymnal)**

Nettleton

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

**THE BENEDICTION**

**THE POSTLUDE**

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*Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.*

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An asterisk (\*) indicates that the congregation stands. For hymns we stand at the beginning of the last line of the introduction. A double asterisk (\*\*) indicates places where the ushers may seat people.

If you are visiting with our church family this morning, the Membership & Outreach Committee would like to note your attendance. Please complete the white Attendance Registration Card in the rack in your pew and put the card in the collection plate. Thank you.

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**This morning we welcome** the Reverend Joanne Petto to our pulpit. Reverend Petto is a resident of Monroe Township and is a Chaplain for both the New Jersey State Police and the Plainsboro Police Department. The Reverend Gary Filson is in Pittsburgh where he performed his daughter Sarah's wedding yesterday. He will return to the pulpit next Sunday, November 17, 2019.

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- **Ushers** scheduled for today are Nancy and Alfred LePoidevin, Jaime and Edward Steenhuisen, and Dolores Wigodinski.
- **The Arrangement of Flowers** for this morning's worship service is offered by proud parents the Reverend Gary and Ella Filson in celebration of the marriage of their daughter Sarah Elizabeth Filson to Kevin Christopher Cimador.

During the month of November, flowers from our Sunday services will be delivered to the sick and shut-in by Deacon Anthony Murro.

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### **Your prayers and cards are asked for**

*Please remember:* Armand Basmajian, Steven Brower, Shirley Combs, William Cramer, Leonard Craparotta, Frank Earl, Evelyn Espin, Edith Greeno, Joan Higgins, Margaret Hriczak, Harry Koenig, Bert Kovash, Alfred LePoidevin, Jennie Martin, Jerri James and T. Glenn McKee, Kathleen Metroke, Robert Metroke, Denise Schaefer (sister to Karen Dinardo), Jaime Steenhuisen, Barbara Stroul, Christine Strych, Joan Trent, Melissa Vella (daughter of Theresa and Harry Koenig), Mark Velloso, Patrick Warren, Beverly White (sister of Janet Herkert and June Lisk) and Dolores and Dennis Wigodinski.

Terri Hartel — Summer Hill Nursing & Rehab. Center, 111 County Road #516, (B-Wing, Room 9), Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Tianle (Heidy) Li — SBI#203931D, PO Box 4004, Clinton, NJ 08809-4004

The Reverend Robert Organ — 46 River Street, Spotswood, NJ 08884

The Reverend Robert S. Turton — c/o Fresh Ponds Chapel of Gospel Mission Corps, PO Box 361, Dayton, NJ 08810-0361

**With Sympathy.** It is with sadness we report the death on October 31, 2019 of Robert Anacker. Robert died after a lengthy illness and would have been 61 years old today, his birthday. He is survived by his wife Bonnie and children Kyle, Keri and Keith.

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### **Sunday School**

**Adults:** 9:30 a.m., in the Conference Room (Room 106).

**Children (ages 3 & up):** Students will attend our 11 a.m. church service until Reverend Filson finishes the Children's Sermon. Students then leave for Sunday School in the upstairs classroom until the church service ends, around 12:15 p.m.

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**The November Session Meeting** has been changed to Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

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**The Revelations Praise Band Concert** scheduled for today has been canceled.

**Operation Christmas Child.** Today is the deadline for bringing in your shoebox gift(s).

**Christmas Flowers.** Ordering information is available at the entrances to the sanctuary for placing poinsettias in the Church for Christmas. Order deadline is November 24, 2019.

**Next Sunday.** The congregation is invited to stay after worship for refreshments and a time for fellowship in the Fellowship Hall.

**This Saturday, November 16, 2019: Spud Night & Fun Auction**, 5:30 p.m.; auction to follow. (*Sponsored by our Fools for Christ clown group*) Spud Night is a lavish baked potato bar with your choice of toppings, salad, dessert and beverage. Following dinner, stay for the clowns' famous fun auction! Adults: \$10; children ages 5-12: \$5; age 4 and under: free. **Come and have fun!**

**Fresh Baked Sweet Potato Pies.** On Saturday, November 23, 2019, the Presbyterian Men's Council will once again be baking their pies for Thanksgiving. \$12 per pie. Pick up on Saturday, November 23, 12 p.m.-1 p.m. (or no later than 1 p.m. on Sunday, November 24, 2019). Order yours today. Sign-up sheets are at the back of the sanctuary and in the grand foyer.

**FUNraiser.** On Wednesday, November 27, 2019, all day: Help our Cub Scout Pack #54 by placing an order, dine in or take out, at The Original Thin Crust Pizza Company, 306 Gatzmer Avenue, Jamesburg ([www.theoriginalthincrustpizza.com](http://www.theoriginalthincrustpizza.com) ; 732-641-2041). You must mention that you are supporting Pack 54 when you place your order.

### **Opportunities for You to Help the Deacons**

- (1) The Food Cupboard needs donations of turkeys and chickens for the November 16, 2019 food distribution to the needy. Of course, the Cupboard can also use any other foods that would go well for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.
- (2) The Deacons are preparing for their annual Christmas giving of gifts to needy children. They are also accepting donations of individual gifts; please bring them to the church office. The most need is for gifts for children under age 3 and ages 10-13.
- (3) Needed: tape and wrapping paper for the December distribution of gifts for needy children. The Deacons will be wrapping gifts on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

### **COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD**

Sat., Dec. 7, 2019 **Bus Trip.** The Friends of the Jamesburg Public Library is sponsoring a trip to Longwood Gardens. The bus leaves at noon and returns at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$70 and includes a \$10 meal voucher, admission and driver gratuity. Payment is due upon registration at the Library, 229 Gatzmer Avenue, Jamesburg. For more information, call the Library at 732-521-0440.

Fri., Nov. 15, 2019 **Life Line Screening** will again be here in our Fellowship Hall offering non-invasive and painless preventive health screenings. Five screenings will be offered. The cost of the Wellness Package, which includes 4 vascular tests is \$139; add \$10 to also include osteoporosis screening. All 5 screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event, please call 1-888-653-6450. *Additional information can be found on the pink flyers available at the entrances to the sanctuary and in the Gatzmer Avenue foyer.*

**Census Taker Jobs.** You can join the 2020 census team by being a census taker. Apply online at [2020census.gov/jobs](http://2020census.gov/jobs). \$21 an hour in Middlesex County. Employees are paid weekly and can expect to receive their first paycheck approximately 10-14 days after their first day of work. Field employees will be reimbursed for authorized work expenses, such as mileage, while conducting 2020 census work. Trainees will be paid during training at a slightly lower rate than their regular hourly rate.

**Concert Series.** United Methodist Church at Milltown, 47 North Main Street, Milltown, NJ 08850 ([www.umcmilltown.org](http://www.umcmilltown.org)) will present:

1) Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019: 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert at 4 p.m. Celebrating the anniversary of their church, organist Shea Velloso will present pieces including Johann Sebastian Bach's monumental work *Passacaglia and Fugue in c minor*, César Franck's *Final in B-Flat*, Sigfrid Karg-Elert's *Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals*, and others. The Sanctuary Choir will also perform works by John Ness Beck and Ralph Vaughan Williams. There will be a reception following the performances.

2) Friday, Nov. 22, 2019. Spaghetti Dinner & Light Opera, 6 p.m. An Italian dinner and a performance of popular arias by Italian composers. Dinner will include spaghetti with meatballs or sausage, plain or garlic bread, salad, beverage and dessert. Gluten free pasta and bread are available upon request. Seating is limited to 100. Tickets are \$25. Call the church office at 732-828-0610 for tickets.

### **MEETINGS**

**Youth Group – No meeting tonight**

Prayer Group – Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., in the Conference Room (Room 106)

Handbell Choir – Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., in the sanctuary

Session – Rescheduled to Tuesday, Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m., in the Conference Room (Room 106)

## ***Presbyterian Church of Jamesburg***

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