

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

Reformation Sunday

October 27, 2013 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE

“Ein Feste Burg”
(A safe stronghold our God is still)

J. G. Walther
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 My Strength and My Song”
(Ps. 118: 14)

Donovan Klotzbeacher
The Chorale

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our God of salvation is the hope of all the ends of the earth.

The Lord stands with us and strengthens us.

East and west shout for joy,

as God brings us safely into the kingdom.

We shout in triumph! We sing to the Lord!

To God be the glory forever and ever!

Brett Butler

HYMN #260 (Hymnal)*

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)*

God of history: we praise you for having raised up men and women of faith who long ago reformed your Church. We confess that we have lost our way again and need new reformation. We are content with easy religion, with too much money and too little charity. Lord, let your word shake us up and your Spirit renew us. May our hearts and lives be continually reformed according to your word. Help us to repent, trust your love and forgiveness, and offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

HYMN #579 (Hymnal)*

“Gloria Patri”

THE PEACE* ✚

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE ✨

Pastor Lou and Mrs. K

Friends and members, today we offer our thanks for the lives of those who have spent most of their years worshipping God in this church. We pray for their continued health, for the blessings and favor of God upon them and their families. We are grateful for the ministry they have shared as a part of this congregation.

PRESENTATION OF 50 YEAR MEMBERS

Today we recognize you for the years of ministry and service you have given to the members and friends of The First Presbyterian Church. We give thanks to God for the many lives you have touched, both friend and stranger, and for your continued journey in faith as members of this church. With you we remember the commitments we made to serve the Lord in this congregation.

Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to you for your prayers and continued love and care.

PRAYER

O Lord our God, may you continue to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love, as together we recommit ourselves to the service of Jesus Christ.

We give thanks for all God has given us as members together in the body of Christ in this congregation. With you, we renew our covenant to faithfully participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service, so that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

And now may the God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit so that you may live in grace and peace. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55: 6-13

Janet Furchak
Pew Bible pgs. 685-686

ANTHEM

The Saints' Delight
(When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies)

Harm. Hilton Rufty
The Chorale

SCRIPTURE

II Timothy 3: 14 - 4: 5

Pew Bible pg. 213

SERMON

"Listen to God Speak"

Dr. Louis Mitchell

THE RESPONSE

HYMN #335 (Hymnal)*

“Though I May Speak”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Mr. Butler

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

*“Christus, der ist mein Leben”
(Christ, thou my life art ever)*

J. G. Walther
Organ

Hymn #592 (Hymnal)*

“Doxology”

Prayer of Dedication*

Mr. Butler

RESPONSE*

Choral Amen

Donovan Klotzbeacher
The Chorale

HYMN #457 (Hymnal)*

“I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE*

*“Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr”
(All glory be to God on high)*

J. G. Walther
Organ

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

~~ A NOTE FROM PASTOR LOU ~~

I am excited to tell you about a new ministry for our church family. For the past 42 years a congregation of Presbyterian residents of the Meadow Lakes Retirement Community, which is located in Hightstown, has worshipped at Meadow Lakes on Sunday mornings under the sponsorship of the First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown. For many of those years, the Rev. Suzanne Schafer-Coates has served as the pastor of that Meadow Lakes Congregation. During the spring of this year, the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown, looking toward their future while searching for a new pastor, came to the conclusion that they would no longer sponsor the Meadow Lakes Congregation. This would mean the dissolution of that Presbyterian worshipping community at Meadow Lakes and of the Rev. Schafer-Coates's ministry. Since this decision, under the direction of Session, I, the Personnel and Administration Committee and the Stewardship and Finance Committee, have been in conversation with the First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown, The Rev. Schafer-Coates, the Meadow Lakes administration, representatives of the Meadow Lakes Congregation and Presbytery's Committee on Ministry. The fruit of these conversations has resulted in the following unanimous actions: Session has voted to adopt and oversee the Meadow Lakes Ministry; Session has hired the Rev. Suzanne Schafer-Coates as the Pastor for what will soon be our church's ministry at Meadow Lakes; Session has concurred with my nomination of the Rev. Schafer-Coates as Parish Associate on our church staff; Session has hired Dr. Leo Van Den Blink and Ms. Carren Klenke as, respectively, Organist/Pianist and Soloist for the Meadow Lakes Congregation. Session deliberated these actions over months and considered all aspects of such actions, including finances. By the way, this ministry has been and will continue to be financially self-sufficient.

These actions go into effect on the first of November. Since there are bound to be many questions and the need for more information and interpretation, an informal meeting about all of this will take place in the sanctuary after worship today. The wonderful people of the Meadow Lakes Congregation, the Rev. Suzanne Schafer-Coates, Dr. Van Den Blink and Ms. Klenke are thrilled to be a part of our church family; and I and the Session are thrilled to have them. We hope that you will share our excitement.

Blessings, Lou Mitchell

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. Laurie Davis is the Nursery Coordinator (MusicMomNJ@comcast.net).

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

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

We thank those who are serving today in these ways:

The Flowers in the chancel today are given in memory of Helene Cody and in honor of Jenna Cody.

Coffee Hour is hosted by the Venanzi Family.

Greeters are Earl Davison and Janet Furchak.

Head Ushers are Ken Ellsworth and Ginny Swanagan.

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; Liz Callaway; Everett Campbell; Rose Eller; Bill Keller; Claire Maselli; Russ Richardson; Art Ryba; and Mark Sasso.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: Rosellyn Cassidy's father, Jim Savasta; Barbara Danser's mother, Evelyn Walton; Judy Duke's mother, Ruth Biesecker; Jean Dunham's son, Jay and family; Arlene Duran's daughter, Catherine Lepp; (CPNS family) Kathy Edwards and family due to the death of her granddaughter, Molly Anastasia Edwards; Ken and Dina Ellsworth's son, Will; Gail Geijer's son, Dan; Barbara Hannon's cousins, Donald and Lucy Teel; Jane Huff's grandson, James Huff-Miller; Joanne Hughes' parents, Cornelius and Bella Tanis; Mark Hughes' grandmother, Olga Zelder and great uncle, Peter Ewaskiw; Linda Ill's mother, Carol Scarpone; Carolyn Lee's husband, John; Beatrice Mabutho's sister, Phyllis and brother-in-law, Joe, cousin, Nomabele and co-worker, Aaron Hollis; Kathy Mitchell's friends, the Connie Jurens family; Mary Tamm due to her husband's death; and for the family of Tracy LaMana; Karen Moser and family due to the death of her father, William; Karen Moutenot's sister, Patricia Obanion; Leah Moy's friends, Irene and Marty Goldberg; Sharon Ramkishun's niece, Kaitlyn and friend's dad, John; Fran Stewart's father, Eugene Feeney; Gretchen Stults' granddaughter, Jodi Mallette and family; Cathy Vogen's husband, Mike; Doris Wiegartner's son, Brian and Walter Wright and family due to the death of his brother, James.

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!

~ CPNS ~

The children have been telling us what they are going to be for Halloween for weeks now, and this week finally the big day will arrive. Our costume parades will be on Wednesday, October 30 and Thursday, October 31 at 9:15 a.m. and in the afternoon at 12:45 p.m. During our Thursday afternoon program, the senior fellowship attendees will be some of the spectators as part of their senior program event for October. Please feel free to stop by and watch our parades, you are always welcome. It's such an exciting time for children and it's a great day for everyone. Also don't forget to stop by the church (front steps of fellowship hall) on Halloween; our outreach committee will be giving out goody bags to all the visitors.

It's never too late to join our CPNS family. If you are not currently a CPNS student or are attending kindergarten for a half day program, you are also welcome to participate in any of the enrichment classes that fit into your schedule. Many of our CPNS students are already registered, but if you haven't registered your child or want to add more enrichment classes, we still have openings, it's not too late. We also have a few openings in our regular classes as well. Details can be found on our website, www.cranburypres.org or please call Janice at 609 655-8663.

~~ DEACONS ~~

The Deacons are asking for your help to help others....As the time for filling Thanksgiving baskets draws near, we need many hands to help us achieve our goal. Please try to find some way in which you can help us.

Cash donations and food donations are welcome. We also need empty copy paper boxes and green cloth shopping bags. The week before Thanksgiving we will need people to help fill boxes and get everything ready for pick-up. There are sign-up sheets on the Deacons bulletin board in Fellowship Hall with dates and times. **PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP.**

~~ MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS ~~

October is canned fruit, pancake syrup & tuna month at Skeet's Pantry! Again, we THANK YOU for being so generous with your donations to Skeet's Pantry. We REALLY NEED FRUIT – canned, any and all varieties. In addition, we need PANCAKE SYRUP and canned TUNA FISH. If you can help us with any of those three needs, that would be absolutely great! (Just please be sure your donated food hasn't expired – we can't give out food with expiration dates which have already passed.)

As always, just leave your donations in the wheelbarrow outside church on Sunday morning, or in the front hall of our Fellowship Hall building (Parish House), with some kind of note that it's for Skeet's. We hope each donation brings you as many blessings as your help brings to the families we are serving at Skeet's Pantry.

Christmas Wreaths for Sale! Christmas Wreaths will be sold at coffee hour today through Sunday, December 1. The price is \$12.50 per wreath. Checks can be made out to the First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury. If there are any questions contact Heidi Knowlton on 609-799-1724

Snippets from The Year Book of Prayer: The contrast between the schools in Cranbury and surrounding communities and those in Malawi is extreme! For instance in one primary school with 2500 students, from kindergarten through seventh grade, there are only 15 classrooms taught by 35 teachers, leading to 70 students per classroom. The classrooms are the size of an average bedroom and numerous classes meet under the trees or in the corridors. Younger students are on split schedules, and are seated in rows on the floors. Oldest students, preparing for exams that will determine whether they are able to proceed to secondary school, start at 6:00 a.m., break for lunch and then work until late afternoon. For the last few months seventh graders become boarders, sleeping in the empty classrooms, bathing in open air, and doing their own cooking (some without sufficient food) so they can get instruction at night and on the weekends. The school struggles to supply paper and pens and there are no textbooks available--students hand copy their own! Nevertheless, out of 203 students from this school, 192 passed this past year. Teachers receive no extra pay for these preparatory sessions; they just want their students to succeed!

~~ SENIOR FELLOWSHIP ~~

Senior Exercise Schedule

October 28, October 31 (No Class),
November 4, November 7

Upcoming Event

Senior Fellowship will have a Halloween Party on Thursday, October 31 at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Bring a brown bag lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided. After lunch, we will be joined by the children of CPNS. The children will sing for us and parade around the room in their costumes. Of course there will be candy. **If you are not on our calling list and wish to attend, please RSVP to the church office (609-395-0897) by Monday, October 28.**

~~ STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE ~~

Counting Teams: 10/27 (Team #1) - 11/03 (Team #2)

The 2014 Stewardship campaign has started. Your Stewardship packet, including a pledge card, time & talent survey and Stewardship brochure has been mailed to your home. Please review these materials and prayerfully consider making your pledge of financial support, time and talents to our Church.

Commitment Sunday is November 3, so please return your pledge at that time (or before) so Session can begin their budget planning with as complete information as possible.

~~ YOUTH MINISTRY ~~

Fall Junior and Senior High Retreats: It is hard to believe that Fall is upon us. Registration has begun for the Fall Junior and Senior High Johnsonburg Retreats.

The Senior High Retreat will be held from November 22-24, 2013, and the Junior High Retreat will be held from December 6-8, 2013. The cost totals \$99.00 per person which is due by the day of the retreat. Please pick up and complete the Senior or Junior High permission form, as well as, the last page of the Johnsonburg Youth Retreat Packet.

IMPORTANT: In order to register the correct number of students due to limited space at the retreats, please email Mike Kasper at cwcollector@aol.com or Brett Butler at bbutler532@gmail.com as soon as possible if you plan to attend!

~~ CALENDAR ~~

October 27, 2013 – November 3, 2013

Sunday 27	(Reformation Sunday) 9:15a Christian Education for all ages (Classrooms/Lib./FH/McKnight Rm) 10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour 1:45p Youth Mission @ Miller Chapel- (VAN) 4:00p–5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice – upstairs classroom 6:00p-7:30p Jr. High Youth Group-McK Rm 7:30p-9p Cranbury Men's Bible Study at the Inn
Monday 28	7:30p Brass Choir 7:45p Nominating Committee Meeting – Church Office (downstairs) 8:00p Al-Anon-McK Rm
Tuesday 29	9:00a Bulletin Material Due 9:30a Staff Mtg.-Church Office 7:30p The Chorale - Sanctuary 7:30p AA – McKnight Room
Wednesday 30	9:15a CPNS Costume Parade-FH 12:45p CPNS Costume Parade-FH 7:30p Bell Choir 8:30p APNC meeting - Library
Thursday 31	9:15a CPNS Costume Parade-FH 10:30a Sr. Fellowship set-up for Halloween Party - FH/Kit/VAN 11:30a-3:00p Sr. Fellowship Halloween Party-FH/Kit/VAN 12:45p CPNS Costume Parade-FH
Friday 1	(All Saints' Day) 9:00a Bulletin Assembly-Church Office 8:00p-9:00p AA (Promises 12 Steps)McK Room
Saturday 2	
Sunday 3	(All Saints' Sunday/Stewardship Commitment/Daylight Saving Time Ends) 9:15a Christian Education for all ages (Classrooms/Library/McKnight Rm) 10:30a Worship with Communion followed by coffee hour 4:00p–5:00p Cranbury Scout Band Practice – upstairs classroom 7:30p-9p Cranbury Men's Bible Study at the Inn