



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of MADISON



January 23, 2022

ORDER of WORSHIP

Third Sunday After Epiphany

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

*** Call to Worship**

L: Our faith and hope are in the Lord.

P: God is our refuge and our rock.

L: Faith, hope, and love abide.

P: God's love never comes to an end.

L: Let us worship the living, loving God.

*** Opening Hymn No. 438**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds (v.1,2,5)

**Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.**

**Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.**

**From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.**

Prayer of Confession

God our Redeemer, we confess that we are too often reluctant to speak and live according to your truth. We grow comfortable with the way things are. We find it easier to ignore and turn away, to pluck up and pull down, rather than to build up and plant. Forgive us, God of grace. Empty us of complacency and fear, and teach us how to love in ways that are humble and patient and kind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(A moment of silence is observed.)

Assurance of Pardon

L: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* **Response** *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful* (Taize song)

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;

in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God; do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Creator of all that is in the heavens and on the earth, quiet the chatter of our minds and still the anxiety of our hearts so we can hear your wisdom in all its rich variety, and in hearing, let that deep wisdom sink into our lives, so that we may joyfully bear your light in all we do and say. Amen.

First Reading Luke 4:14-21

¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Second Reading Luke 4:21-30

²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³ He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” ²⁴ And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Sermon “God’s Honest Truth”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* Affirmation of Faith

(adapted from the Confession of Belhar)

We believe that the unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope.

The Gifts of Our Tithes and Offering

* Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ all people here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God whom we adore.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

* Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

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.

GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

* Closing Hymn No. 423

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun (v.1,3,5)

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

Let every creature rise and bring
honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen!

* Benediction

Postlude

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As our time of worship comes to an end, our time of service begins.

We are the church whether we are gathered or scattered.

We are the church, sent out in Jesus' name,

to be Christ's body in the world

*Stand in body or spirit.

Everything is said in unison.

Where possible hymn numbers are given to follow along with the tune.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Call of the Annual Meetings

The Session of the Presbyterian Church of Madison has called the Annual Meetings of the Congregation and Corporation to be held on Sunday, January 30, 2022, following Worship at 11:15am to:

- Elect Officers
- Receive the Budget
- Receive Annual Reports of the Committees of Session
- Take actions on other constitutionally appropriate matters brought before the meeting

Throw in the Towel!

For The Seeing Eye® puppies, that is! Seeing Eye puppies are raised by 4-Footed Leaders from about 8 weeks until 18 months old, and they go through a LOT of towels! So from now through the end of January, please bring your clean, used towels for the puppies and their very dedicated 4-H Leader group who have used our Fellowship Hall and parking lot every Saturday morning like clock work for about 40 years. In fact, this group was started by our own Martha Bardin! Bring your towels to worship and leave them in the red bin in the Narthex or you can leave them in the blue bin near the office.

Per Capita Sunday

January 23rd has been designated as Per Capita Sunday by the PC(USA). You probably remember seeing notices about Per Capita in prior years and may have wondered what it is all about. Of course “per capita” literally means “per head” or “for each person,” but in the PC(USA) Per Capita is the primary means of sharing the costs of being the church at the presbytery, synod, and General Assembly levels.

The purpose of the presbytery and the higher councils is to help congregations and the church as a whole in their work of mission, ministry, and transformation of the world (Book of Order F-3.01). The presbytery is a community of congregations supporting each other in mission and ministry. Per Capita is the financial expression of mutual support for each congregation’s work. As we are singing

in our opening hymn, "Blest be the tie that binds" us all together

Each mid-council sets a per capita rate, which is assessed based on the membership of each member congregation. The 2022 per capita rate for members of the Presbytery of the Highlands of New Jersey is \$40, of which the majority goes to the presbytery, with smaller amounts to the Synod of the Northeast and the General Assembly. The 2022 amount for our congregation is \$6,640, which we include in the Administration portion of our budget.

We encourage each member to make an additional donation of the Per Capita amount of \$40 as part of their giving to the Presbyterian Church of Madison.

Adult Bible Study - The Book of Ruth

Wednesday evenings in February (2, 9, 16, 23) @ 7:30pm via ZOOM

One of only two books in the Bible named for a woman. A beautiful and expressively written story revealing insight about God, as well as God's presence and work in the everyday circumstances of life. Discover what happens when individual actions - small acts of courage -- come together with redeeming grace.

Christmas White Collection

We continued the tradition of our annual Christmas White Collection (diapers and formula) in December. This mission project is a PCM tradition and as usual the congregation came thru with many donations! All items were delivered to the Interfaith Food Pantry of Morris County. With the high cost of diapers and formula, Morris county families with young children will be helped with the generous amount of formula and diapers that was given by our congregation. Thank you to all who donated.

Navigating Hope Mobile Outreach Program

Navigating Hope is inspired by the Morris County Sheriff's Hope One Mobile Addiction and Recovery vehicle and is a partnership between Morris County Human Services and Family Promise of Morris County. They utilize a van to provide case management, advocacy, and a variety of services, including benefits eligibility screenings and application assistance for low-income and homeless individuals. The van travels across Morris County,

specifically targeting towns on the outskirts of the county where community members may not have traditional access to social services offices. Navigating Hope can be reached through navigatinghope@co.morris.nj.us.

RAMP Quarters to Double!

Thank you to all of YOU who save your quarters and drop them in the RAMP collection tube each Sunday! Starting September 1st, the Mission Team is doubling the quarters you give through a quarter-for-quarter match! Simply put, a full quarter tube equals \$40. The Mission budget will match this with another \$40 for a total donation of \$80! With Afghani refugees arriving in NJ as we speak with only the clothes on their backs, these donations are more critical than ever. Stay tuned to see how Mission will support RAMP in the days ahead.

If you wish to make a direct donation, you may do so online at <https://cfnj.org/ramp/>, or mail a check made payable to CFNJ, with RAMP clearly indicated in the memo line, to Treasurer, RAMP, PO Box 1544, Morristown, NJ 07960. Community Foundation of New Jersey (CFNJ) is RAMP's 501(c)(3) affiliation partner.

PRAY FOR:

Jerry Brown "JB", the son-in-law of Cooky Dowling who has been deployed this month for his 3rd tour of duty; and for his family (Cooky's daughter and grandsons), wife Stephanie, who has also just been called back to work as a pilot for Southwest Airlines, and sons, Max, Ty, and Leo.

Molly Grace Young and her family, daughter of Revs. David and Nancy Young, as she undergoes surgery and treatment at Walter Reed Medical Center for a recurrence of cancer.

The families of the adults and children who died in the recent multiple dwelling fires in the Bronx and Philadelphia.

The people of Tonga as they deal with the aftermath of a recent tsunami; for the lives lost and those forever changed.

Peace and stability for people and nations around the world, remembering especially the peoples of the Ukraine and Afghanistan.

John Flynn, father-in-law of Suzanne Flynn.

All those continuing to deal with COVID, especially the Omicron variant, here and around the world.

Fran (co-worker of Jim Burnet) and her boyfriend who suffered a stroke.

Jim Burnet recovering from a torn ankle tendon.

A neighbor dealing with cancer.

Lucinda Gursky, at home on hospice care.

Courtney (niece of Becky Moody) undergoing treatment for breast cancer.

A woman member having health issues.

Henri (co-worker of Bev Spagnola) recently diagnosed with a serious illness, undergoing treatments; for healing and strength.

Sarah (colleague of Kathleen Underwood) as she deals with her father's Alzheimer's and a difficult home situation.

Asher (brother of Melissa Dewhurst) as he continues healing slower than hoped for from skateboarding accident and recent surgery on his ACL and post implants.

Denise, (Asher's wife and sister-in-law of Melissa Dewhurst), as she waits after her breast cancer diagnosis for her next surgery scheduled in new year.

Johnny, a 12 year-old boy (on Brody Fleming's football team); back in school full time; took first walk without brace in PT 3 months earlier than expected.

Eric (neighbor of Melissa Dewhurst) returned to working full-time (including taxiing his children to activities), but learning his limitations.

Nick and his family as he receives treatment for bladder cancer.

Arlene, (friend of Louise Kacerek) who is living with leukemia.

Carol and her family (cousin of Kathleen Underwood) as she lives with stage 4 brain cancer.

For adult children having to make difficult decisions for aging parents.

The families of crime victims dealing with court systems in the ongoing pandemic.

Our new RAMP family as they adjust to this new beginning.

THANKSGIVING FOR:

God's presence in the midst of continuing challenges here and around the world.

VISION

To see lives transformed, families strengthened, and our community renewed through intentional relationship with Jesus Christ.

OUR VALUES

*Renewed Lives | Community Positive | Intergenerational Family
Joyful Service | Presbyterian Roots*

Staff

Jacqui Van Vliet
Pastor

Cathy Baillie
Office Assistant

Mike Callahan
Student Ministries & Outreach

Anna D'Achille
Director of Musical Arts

Worship

10:15AM Sunday Service

Session

Bob Baisch
Melissa Dewhurst
Kathleen Underwood

Corinne Bowen
Jennifer Groller
Becky Moody, Clerk

Jim Burnet
Brian Peterson

session@pcmadison.org

The Presbyterian Church of Madison is part of the PC(USA) Denomination
pcusa.org

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