

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SAYREVILLE

**Rev. Jessica Malek
Interim Minister**



**172 Main Street, Sayreville, NJ
(732) 257-6353**

Email: Churchoffice172@optimum.net

Website: www.FPCSayreville.org

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Guest Leader: Barbara Shadis

Organist: Sandy Albano

Worship Assistant: Lou Mastro

Audio & Visual Support: Alannah Bailey/Dona Lewandowski



Prelude



Welcome & Announcements

Called by God

Call to Worship (*Worship Assistant*) **(Psalm 66:16-20)**

Leader: Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what he has done for me.

People: I cried aloud to him,
and he was extolled with my tongue.

Leader: If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.

People: But truly God has listened;
he has given heed to the words of my prayer.

All: Blessed be God,
because he has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me.



Hymn 54

“Make a Joyful Noise to God”

Forgiven by God




Call to Confession (*Worship Assistant*)

This is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel, says the Lord; I will put my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. I will forgive their evil deeds, and I will remember their sin no more. In penitence and faith, let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

 **Prayer of Confession**

God, we know that you are not far from us and that you gave life and breath to all things. We ask that you help us not to be intimidated and and truly sanctify Christ in our hearts. We understand that it is better to suffer for doing good because we have the Spirit of truth to guide our path. We will keep our covenant with you all the days of our lives.

 **Silent Confession** *(A time of silence will be observed for personal confession.)* **Assurance of Pardon**

Almighty God, we are taught by your word that all our deeds without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts the most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

 **Gloria Patri Hymn 577 (All)**

Avery & Marsh

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. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. A-men. A-men. A-men. A-men. A-men. A-men. Amen.

Upheld by Christ

 **Prayers of the People -** *Sharing Joys, Concerns and Thanksgivings* **Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (debts & debtors)**

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.

 **Children's Sermon** "Bubbles"

Taught by Christ



Prayer of Illumination



First Reading Acts 17:22-31

²²Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him — though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring. ²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”



Second Reading 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was

put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God



Gospel John 14:15-21

¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.” This is the Good News of the Lord.....Thanks be to God!



Sermon

“I Swear to God!”

Barbara E. Shadis



Hymn 824

“There Is a Place of Quiet Rest”

Responding to the Word



Affirmation of Faith Apostle's Creed (Modern English)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



Committing Our Lives, Gifts and Talents



Offertory



Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessing flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above the heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**



Prayer of Dedication

We thank you, O God, for you are gracious. Grace brought me to your son Jesus Christ. We thank you, O God, for you came to us in Jesus Christ who has redeemed the world and saved us from our sins. We thank you, O God, for you send us your Holy Spirit, to comfort us and to lead us into all truth. Your mercy endures forever. Amen



Sharing the Peace of God

Pastor: Be kind to one another, and tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**


(You are invited to remain in your pew and wave to those around you as a sign of peace and reconciliation.)

(Please remain standing for the Closing Hymn)

Sent Out by The Spirit

 **Hymn 2** **“Come. Thou Almighty King”**

 **Charge and Benediction**

 **Congregational Response** God Be with you Till We Meet Again (vs 1)
**God be with you till we meet again; loving councils guide, uphold
you, with a shepherd’s care unfold you: God be with you till we meet
again.**

 **Postlude**

*** Welcome ***

We welcome you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior! We want to know you were here! Guests and visitors are invited to sign our Vestibule Guest Book or fill out the Welcome Card in the pew and put it in the collection plate. If you are interested in becoming a member of this Church, please call (732) 257-6353 and speak with the church secretary for further information. Make sure to "like" our page at www.facebook.com/FPCSayreville and check out our website at FPCSayreville.org. Donations can be made to the website.

Weekly Attendance 5/3/26:42
Weekly Offering 5/3/26: \$886.00

*** Prayer List ***

Manona Smith
Special Friends in Need
Howard Merritt
Prudy DeLap
Beth DePinto
Kim Barone
Becca & Hazel Laikowski
Joe & Marilyn Zakrzewski
David Zito
Stacia Drotar
The Haney Family
The Magee Family
Barbara Busch
Christine Brower
Kathy Walker
The Anderson Family

Martha Saltzman
Frank Martino
Vincent Prestigiacomo
Roxanne Parks
Ken Adams
The Boley Family
The Laikowski Clan
Russell Hayek
Charles Gilke
Gary & Diane Spsychalski
Jennifer Martin
Jorge Barreiro & Family
Keith Carney
Timothy Newsome
Dona Lewandowski

If you or a loved one would like to be removed from the Prayer List, please let the office know. Thank you.

Our Calendar of Events can be found on our website FPCSayreville.org

Monday, 5/11	5:30pm	Office Open
	7:00pm	Session & Confirmand Dinner
Tuesday, 5/12	7:00pm	Troop 777 (Sunday School Area)
Wednesday, 5/13	7:00pm	AA (Hall)
Thursday, 5/14	7:00pm	Troop 96 (Sunday School area)
Friday, 5/15	5:30pm	OFFICE CLOSED
Sunday, 5/17	9:30am	Sunday School
		OFFICE CLOSED
	10:30am	Worship Service
	1:00pm	Ghana Church (Sanctuary)

**** Announcements ****

Per Capita \$42: The per capita assessment this year is \$42 per active member. In a family of four confirmed members, that would be \$168 for that family. Children baptized but not yet confirmed are not assessed.

Fundraiser: We have a fundraising initiative called Spiral through Amboy Bank. You can now donate to First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville by using a digital banking account, you can access the Giving Center, locate the church's name and make a donation. If you are not an Amboy Bank account holder, check with your bank and see if they are associated with Spiral. All donations are tax deductible and you will be able to get a statement of your contributions.

Food Pantry: We have a separate phone and email address for the Deacons Food Pantry. The phone number is (848) 280-1927 and the email is FPCShelpinghand@gmail.com. If you or someone you know is in need, please contact the Deacons to arrange assistance. Our food pantry is available throughout the year for any community member in need.

**** FOURTH OF JULY – The Deacons are collection gift cards for the Fourth of July this year, instead of handing out food baskets. We are in need of \$10, \$20 & \$30 Shop Rite gift cards. ****

Headphones: There are headphones available for anyone wishing to enhance hearing during worship services. Please see Gary Spychalski or the Pastor for more info.

Join the Choir! Choir rehearsals are held on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the sanctuary. No experience is necessary, and training will be provided. Not only will you build long-lasting friendships with other choir members, but you also build your relationship with God through worship music.

Pastoral Care Emergencies: If you have a pastoral care emergency, please call (732) 403-4160. This is a dedicated phone line for emergencies. You can also contact Rev. Malek by emailing her at revjessicamalek@gmail.com. This is a confidential email that is read only by the pastor.

We ask that ALL FOOD PANTRY requests be made by contacting FPCShelpinghand@gmail.com or (848) 280-1927 only.

General Church Information: The office is generally open Mondays & Fridays at 5:30pm and Sunday mornings from 9:30-11:30am. PLEASE CALL before you stop to verify if someone is here. Emails and phones will be checked on Wednesdays when the office is closed. You can reach the office by using the church's email churchoffice172@optimum.net, or by calling the office at (732) 257-6353.

**** Online Giving ****

We have online giving available through the Presbyterian Foundation and Vanco Giving Solutions, on our website FPCSayreville.org! Simply click on the "Give Now" button, and you will be directed to our giving page. Once there, create a profile and you can then make a one-time donation or schedule auto-payments monthly, weekly, etc. to major church accounts.

You can also donate through the app "Give Plus". Download the app, enter the church zip code of 08872, and click on our church. You can make either a onetime donation or set up recurring donations, depending on which you prefer.

You can also scan the following code with your smartphone camera to be connected to our giving page.



PENDING CHURCH IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

CAPITAL PROJECT

	Estimated Cost
1.AC for CE Hall	\$20,000
2.Steeple Refinish	\$60,000
3.Kitchen Commercial Refrigerator	<u>\$ 2,200</u>
	\$82,200

OPERATIONS MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

1.Replace door and frame to church office	\$7,000
2.Repalce Door to CEB	\$2,500
3.Replace One AC Unit Upstairs CEB	<u>\$ 600</u>
	\$10,100

GRAND TOTAL \$92,300

The above list is revised from our prior posting since a number of its projects have been completed. Thank you one and all for your ongoing and continuing support of our church. Without you, none of this would be possible.

As you can see, we have a number of costly projects left that we need to fund. If you or anyone you know would be willing to support any of these important items, please let the Pastor or any of the church officers know.

Make a Joyful Noise to God! 54

(Psalm 66)

1 Make a joy - ful noise to God! All cre - a - tion sings your praise!
 2 Come and see what God has done, great the bless-ings to the just:
 3 Bless the Lord, our ref - uge sure; let our songs of praise be heard!

Great your won-ders here dis-played, un-ex-celled through-out our days.
 walked the cho - sen through the sea, brought their en - e - mies to dust.
 By whose jus - tice, we are tried; by whose grace, our guilt de-ferred.

Glo - rious is your sa - cred name, a - ges old, yet still the same.
 Let us lift a thank - ful voice for God's mer-cies, and re - joice!
 When our life's sure end shall come, bring us to your heaven-ly home.

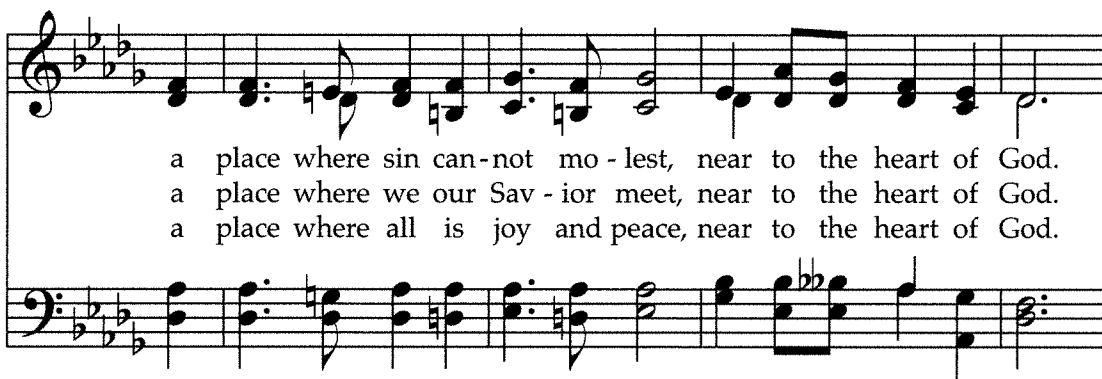
This paraphrase of Psalm 66 maintains a corporate tone more suitable for congregational singing than does the original psalm, which moves to a personal narrative in its latter part. The reference to "all creation" is strengthened by the associations of the tune (see no. 14).

There Is a Place of Quiet Rest 824

Near to the Heart of God

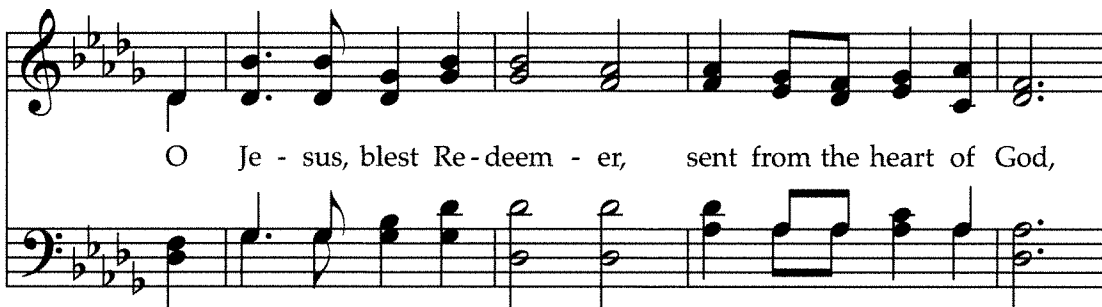


1 There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God,
 2 There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God,
 3 There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God,



a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.
 a place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God.
 a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.

Refrain



O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,



hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.

A Presbyterian campus pastor and choir director in Missouri wrote this simple but moving hymn in response to the death of two young nieces from diphtheria. By distilling such personal grief into the shared assurances of faith, these words have brought comfort to many.

2 Come, Thou Almighty King

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful,
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred
 4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal

name to sing; help us to praise:
 might - y Lord, our prayer at - tend.
 wit - ness bear in this glad hour.
 prais - es be, hence ev - er - more!

Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
 Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;
 Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,
 Thy sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

come, and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.
 and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power.
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

The author of this Trinitarian text is unknown, but this hymn has proved popular since the middle of the 18th century, partly because of its effective use of biblical metaphors, but also because of the strength of this tune, which was composed especially for these words.

First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville

Annual Flea Market

Space Rental Agreement

e-mail churchoffice172@optimum.net call 732-257-6353

Saturday June 6th, 2026 8am-2pm

Rain Date 6/13/2026

Rain out will be determined on Thursday by 7pm prior to flea market.

Date ___/___/___

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ cell phone _____

E-Mail _____

Please make checks payable to **First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville**

#of spaces (_____) space \$25 or 2 for \$40 Total \$_____

#of table's (____) \$8ea limited to one per/space depending on availability Total \$_____

Payment Check _____ or Cash _____ Total payment \$_____

What type of items are you selling _____

I _____ have received and accepted the rules and regulations from the First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville as outlined on attached page.

Signature _____ Rental fees are not refundable after May 22, 2026

First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville

Annual Flea Market

Space Rental Agreement

e-mail churchoffice172@optimum.net call 732-257-6353

Saturday June 6th, 8am-2pm

Rain date Saturday 6/13/2026

Rain out will be determined on Thursday by 7pm prior to flea market.

We will call you and post it on our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/FPCSayreville>.

Rules and Regulations

One space = 1 parking spot

- 1-Alcohol is not allowed on church property.**
- 2-you may not sell any food items during flea market** (unless you have a food handler's license)
- 3-you may arrive at 7am to set up your space**
- 4-You need to provide your own table unless prior arrangements have been made (\$8/table).**
- 5- All items must be cleaned up and removed from the rental space upon departure.**
(no dumpsters service available)
- 6- DO NOT block any fire lanes (use only parking spaces)**
- 7- no vehicle traffic in lot after 7:50 am**
- 8- if you must leave before 2pm see the church associate to safely assist you out of lot**
- 9-Rental space fee is not refundable after May 22nd (all refunds are by church check only- no cash)**

Each vendor will get one spot to park a car next to space (please avoid parking across the street to give buyers ample places to park. If you need another car to park, see church associate. We have limited parking spaces available.



Sing a New Song!

“Glory to God” hymnals have been placed back in the pews, thanks to a very generous donation from the Plainsboro Presbyterian Church.

The Worship Committee would like to invite you to help us obtain additional hymnals which you can dedicate in memory or honor of a special loved one.

The cost of each hymnal will be \$30.00, covering the purchase cost of the hymnal as well as shipping and handling.

If you are interested in donating a hymnal or hymnals, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate. Checks may be made out to First Presbyterian Church, Sayreville for the total amount of your order. Any questions may be directed to John or Mary Beckhusen at 732-651-5952.

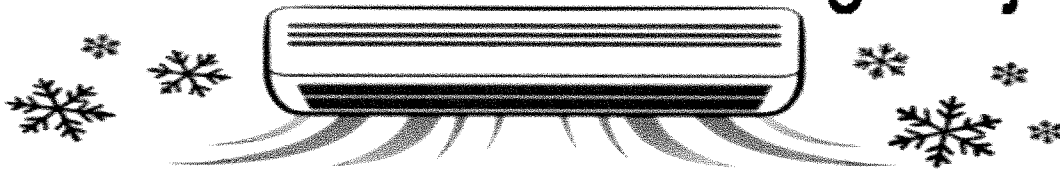
Name: _____

Contact information (email or phone #): _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

FPC Deacon's Fundraising Project



SUPPORT OUR AIR CONDITIONING PROJECT

Help Us Cool Our Church Hall!

A comfortable hall helps us host meals, events, and community gatherings all year long.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Your donation will go directly toward installing air conditioning in our church hall.

ENVELOPE DONATION GAME

\$15.00, \$20.00, \$25.00 Amounts

RULES

1. Choose an envelope
2. Inside is your donation amount
3. Put the amount card along with your donation back into the numbered envelope
4. Place your numbered envelope into the collection plate

EVERY CONTRIBUTION MAKES A DIFFERENCE

- All amounts welcome
 - 100% goes to the A/C project
 - Together we can reach our goal
-

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Your generosity helps keep our church a welcoming place for all.