



# First Presbyterian Church

*meets at*  
292 West Main Street · Newark, DE 19711  
302-731-5644 · firstpresnewark.org



May 5, 2024

## Sixth Sunday of Easter



*Peter at the house of Cornelius*



\*Those who are able may stand

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Thanks for joining us in worship today. Please sign the red Friendship Pad. If you are a visitor, please share with us your contact information, including your email address, so we can add you to our email distribution list.*

## PRELUDE

### \*PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

*(This is a prayer we will sing to prepare our hearts for worship)*

*To God Be the Glory*          William H. Doane

**To God be the glory great things He has done  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin  
And opened the life gate that all may go in**

**Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the earth hear His voice  
Praise the Lord praise the Lord  
Let the people rejoice**

**O come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give Him the glory great things He has done**

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

One: Sing to our God a new song.

**All: God has done marvelous things!**

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

**All: Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

One: Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

**All: Let the world and its people sing together for joy! Amen.**

\*Hymn # 839

*Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!*

ASSURANCE

### PRAYER OF THE DAY (unison)

**Loving God, help us to love others  
as Christ has loved us.**

**Bring us into the spiritual joy  
of living our lives as your friend,  
and teach us to abide in your love,  
that we may show that love to the world. Amen.**

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH MESSAGE

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Loving God, we have not loved you  
or each other with our whole hearts.  
Forgive us, we pray,  
and lead us toward wholeness,  
that we may be filled with your joy.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

#### SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

#### PASSING THE PEACE

#### ANTHEM

*Our God*

Tomlin, Reeves  
Myrin, Redman

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Fill us this day with your Holy Spirit that your Word surprise us, rejuvenate us, embolden us, and help us to preach to the world the good news of your Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURES (PAGES 878,895) *John 15:9-17, Acts 10:44-48*

Response after reading: This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON

*Can We Still Be Astounded?*

Pastor Dan McKenty

*(If you have prayer concerns or joys today,  
please use our Prayer Request Card and give it to an Usher during this hymn.)*

#### \*HYMN # 465

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### **CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Praise God*

Robert T. McAlpine

**\*SONG OF DEDICATION**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

**HYMN # 606**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God, all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

#### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

*As each group is prayed for the minister will say: Lord in Your Mercy, and the people will respond: **Hear our prayer.***

**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.**

**Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

John 6:35

**THANKSGIVING PRAYER (responsive)**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy  
to give you thanks and praise,  
eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe.

At your word the earth was made  
and spun on its course among the planets.  
Your hand formed us from the dust of the earth  
and set us among all your creatures  
to love and serve you.

When we were unfaithful to you  
you kept faith with us,  
your love remained steadfast.

When we were slaves in Egypt,  
you broke the bonds of our oppression,  
brought us through the sea to freedom,  
and made covenant to be our God.

By a pillar of fire  
you led us through the desert  
to a land flowing with milk and honey,  
and set before us the way of life.

You spoke of love and justice in the prophets,  
and in the Word made flesh you lived among us,  
manifesting your glory.

He died that we might live,  
and is risen to raise us to new life.

Therefore, we praise you,  
joining our voices with angels and archangels  
and with all the faithful of every time and place,  
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty,  
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,  
whom you sent to save us.  
He came with healing in his touch,  
and was wounded for our sins.  
He came with mercy in his voice,  
and was mocked as one despised.  
He came with peace in his heart,  
and met with violence and death.  
By your power he broke free from the prison of the tomb,  
and at his command the gates of hell were opened.  
The one who was dead now lives.  
The one who humbled himself is raised to rule over all creation,  
the Lamb upon the throne.  
The one ascended on high is with us always, as he promised.  
Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts,  
we take this bread and this wine  
from the gifts you have given us,  
and celebrate with joy  
the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ.  
Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving  
as a living and holy offering of ourselves,  
that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.  
Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God,  
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,  
that the bread we break  
and the cup we bless  
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ  
that we may be one with all who share this feast,  
united in ministry in every place.  
As this bread is Christ's body for us,  
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Nourished at this table, O God,  
may we know Christ's redemptive love  
and live a new life in him.  
Help us who recognize our Lord in the breaking of bread  
to see and serve him in all whose lives are broken.  
Give us who are fed at his hand,  
grace to share our bread with the hungry  
and with the hungry of heart.  
Keep us faithful in your service  
until Christ comes in final victory,  
and we shall feast with all your saints  
in the joy of your eternal realm.

**Through Christ,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,  
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church,  
now and forever. Amen.**

#### **SACRAMENT OF OUR LORDS' SUPPER**

*The table of the LORD is open to all believers who accept Jesus Christ as Lord  
and Savior, and all children who have been instructed in the meaning of the  
Sacrament.*

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**\*HYMN # 375**

*Shall We Gather at the River*

HANSON PLACE

#### **\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**\*SONG OF SENDING**

*We Will Go Out with Joy*

WE WILL GO OUT WITH JOY

**We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God.  
All: We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God.**



**Alleluia! We will go out with joy.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

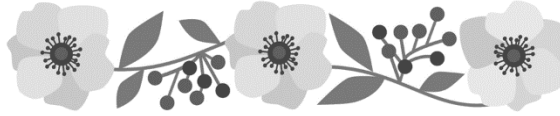
**Now anyone who's born of the Spirit,  
sing a new song of joy.**

**All: Now anyone who's born of the Spirit,  
sing a new song of joy. (Refrain)**

**We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God.**

**All: We will go out with joy in the Spirit;  
we will go out with God. (Refrain)**

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED  
*To the Glory of God*



**THIS Week's Worship- May 5, 2024**

**USHERS:** Carol Aftosmis, Marianne Piser, Jim Annett, Joe Kowalski

**LITURGIST:** Jim Annett

**CLOSER:** Greg Hills

**COUNTERS:** Ron Olson, Mimi Lovelace

**GREETERS:** Sandy Wenner,  
Melanie Sipko

**Next Week's Worship- May 12, 2024**

**USHERS:** Paul Biddle, Willee Short,  
Vickie Pierson-Perry, Sarah Huckleberry

**LITURGIST:** Bob Wenner

**CLOSER:** Paul Biddle

**COUNTERS:** Kevin Thomson, Joe  
Huggins

**GREETERS:** Mallory Kowalski,  
Marianne Piser

**CHANCEL FLOWERS** Cost \$31.00 Flowers can be dedicated in honor or memory of family, friends and loved ones. You may keep or donate the flowers. A sign-up form is located in the Narthex. Checks *clearly identified for chancel flowers* may be placed in the offering plate or brought to the church office.

**ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE THROUGH PAYPAL** - or you can mail or drop your offerings off at the church office. Visit our website giving page for details.

<https://firstpresnewark.org/giving-at-fpc-n/>

**THE CHURCH CALENDAR** can be accessed on our website using the FPC-N Calendar tab on the top of the homepage.

*This Spring, be sure to come out  
and see....*



## ***The Songbirds!***



*The Songbirds are a musical group, formed more than 25 years ago, from the Newark Senior Center and are open to all who enjoy singing. Some members add skits, dancing and props to enhance performances. They travel to local venues (nursing homes, churches) and do complimentary concerts in the Spring, Summer, and Christmas time.*

**Tuesday, June 4th, 2024**

**Doors open at 6:45, Event to begin at 7**

**6:45** Refreshments (Punch and Cookies)

**7:00** Music by the Songbirds

**7:45** 15 min break- Refreshments – New Circles posted

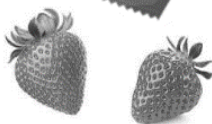
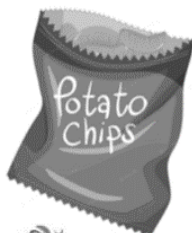
**8:00** PW General Meeting-Election/Installation of  
Officers for '24-'25, Circle Leaders '24-'26

**Memorial Hall**

**First Presbyterian Church—Newark  
292 W. Main St., Newark, DE 19711**

# STRAWBERRY PICNIC

JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup> @ 11:30



**Come, eat and enjoy some fellowship.  
Bring a friend or neighbor  
to enjoy the fun.**

## Sunday, May 5, 2024

10:00 am Worship- Communion

10:15 am- Children dismissed to Sunday School

11:30 am Adult Spiritual Development

## Monday, May 6, 2024

## Tuesday, May 7, 2024

10:00 am PW CT

## Wednesday, May 8, 2024

9:00 am Prayer Group

10:00 am Admin/Communications Meeting

12:00 pm Band of Brothers

## Thursday, May 9, 2024

7:00 pm Choir Practice

## Friday, May 10, 2024

## Saturday, May 11, 2024

## Sunday, May 12, 2024

10:00 am Worship

10:15 am- Children dismissed to Sunday School

11:30 am Adult Spiritual Development

As you know, Leia Gibson will be graduating soon and leaving her position here as choir director to pursue her Master's Degree. Many of us are interested in gifting her some financial assistance as she travels and pursues her advanced degree.

Session has voted to allow Nancy Lewis and Mimi Lovelace to collect checks and cash donations until Sunday May 19th. Kindly make out checks to Nancy Lewis and she will combine them into one gift. However, if you prefer you may certainly make the checks out to Leia herself. The gifts will be presented once we are made aware of her last Sunday with us.

Thank you all!

Worship Services are in compliance with U. S. Copyright Act in accordance with CCLI License Number 3116658. Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-735612. All rights reserved.

**PASTOR:** Dan McKenty

Email: [pastor@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:pastor@firstpresnewark.org)

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:** Grace Laughinghouse

Email: [officemanager@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:officemanager@firstpresnewark.org)

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY:** Harvey Conner

Email: [finansec@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:finansec@firstpresnewark.org)

**TREASURER:** Bob Black

Email: [treasurer@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:treasurer@firstpresnewark.org)

**CHOIR DIRECTOR:** Leia Gibson

**PRAISE TEAM LEADER:** Larry Benson

Email: [praiseleader@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:praiseleader@firstpresnewark.org)

**VIDEO/MEDIA TEAM:** Andre Corbitt, Kaitlin Douglas, Dave Evers, Ted Koser, Beth Marshall, Jim Pierson-Perry, and Laura Sievert

**WEBSITE:** [www.firstpresnewark.org](http://www.firstpresnewark.org)

**PHONE:** 302-731-5644

**EMAIL:** [fpchurch@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:fpchurch@firstpresnewark.org)

**PRAYER EMAIL:** [prayers@firstpresnewark.org](mailto:prayers@firstpresnewark.org)

**ONLINE GIVING:** <https://firstpresnewark.org/giving-at-fpc-n/>

(Copy link to your web browser)

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:** First Presbyterian Church of Newark

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday-Friday 9:00 am- 1:00 pm

### LIST OF OFFICERS BY CLASS

#### SESSION

**CLERK** —Nancy Lewis

**Class of 2024:** Jim Annett, Melody Bock, Pat Nelson, Bob Wunder

**Class of 2025:** Joe Kowalski, Nancy Lewis, Ron Olson, Mark Sisk

**Class of 2026:** Mimi Lovelace, Jim Pierson-Perry, Don Tancredi

#### DEACONS

**MODERATOR:** Jane Moore

**Class of 2024:** Rosemarie Beron, Jane Moore, Darlene Newsom, Nancy Stevens

**Class of 2025:** Judy Agnello, Stephanie Birdsall, Jan Huckleberry, Bob Wenner

**Class of 2026:** Julia Blair, Clinton Nanji, Vickie Pierson-Perry, David Angel Trujillo



**Join Pastor Dan for *The Parables of Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes***

In this course we will hear the parables of Jesus as his disciples, the crowds, and the religious authorities heard them. New and amazing perspectives await us as the parables are revealed in an entirely new light. Join us as we journey back in time to hear our Lord's stories as he first told them.

There is no book to buy, and you need only read the parable beforehand and ponder its meaning to prepare for the class. Classes will be held directly following Sunday worship in Memorial Hall.

May 5 – The Good Samaritan – Luke 10:26-37

May 12 – The Rich Fool – Luke 12:13-21

May 19 – The Great Banquet - Luke 14:15-24

May 26 – The Two Builders – Matthew 7:24-27

June 2 – The Unjust Steward – Luke 16:1-13

June 9 – No Class (Strawberry Picnic)

June 16 – The Pharisee and the Tax Collector – Luke 18:9-14

June 23 – The Compassionate Employer – Matthew 20:1-16

June 30 – The Serving Master – Luke 12:35-38

July 7 – Lazarus and the Rich Man – Luke 16:19-31

July 14 – Parable of the Pounds – Luke 19:11-27

July 21 – The Parable of the Tenants – Luke 20:9-18

\*The New Revised Standard Version [NRSV] or the New International Version [NIV] are the preferred translations for this course.