

# First Presbyterian Church of Branchville, New Jersey

*"We Welcome All as we Celebrate God's Love."*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

October 18, 2026

10:00am



## GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

**BOLD** means the congregation reading or singing

\* means the congregation standing in body or spirit

### WELCOME

**PRELUDE** "Just as I Am, Without One Plea" Bradburry, Berry  
(Please use this time to prepare your heart and mind for worship.)

### CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Sing a new song to the Lord, who has worked wonders,  
whose right hand and holy arm have brought salvation.

**PEOPLE: The Lord has made known salvation; has shown  
justice to the nations; has remembered truth and  
love for the house of Israel.**

LEADER: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of  
our God.

**PEOPLE: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, sing out your joy.**

LEADER: Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,  
with the sound of music.

**PEOPLE: With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim  
the King, the Lord.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you are infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, glorious in holiness, full of love and compassion, abundant in grace and truth. Your works everywhere praise you, and your glory is revealed in Jesus Christ our Savior. Therefore we praise you, blessed holy Trinity, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

\*HYMN 138

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we come before you in prayer, knowing that we are all sinners. We have made mistakes again and again, hurting people we love, treating our neighbors with animosity, and letting ourselves down. We have not been imitators of Christ and instead have imitated the world around us. We have acted on our greed and our selfishness instead of on love and grace. Remind us what gifts come from God and what turn our attention away from all that does not come from our Creator. (Our silent prayers continue...)

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

LEADER: Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith. Hear and receive the good news of the Gospel:

**PEOPLE: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.  
Hallelujah. Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI - HYMN 579

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

LEADER: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us share signs of reconciliation and peace with one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

**PEOPLE:** And also with you.

**LEADER:** Please greet one another with the peace of Christ.

**ANTHEM**                      *"Praise God!"*                      T. McAlpine, D. Besig  
Chancel Choir

**TIME WITH CHILDREN**    *"These Treasured Children"*    GTG 487  
Chancel Choir

## **GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**God of abundant life, your grace is our daily bread. Nourish us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit so that we may grow in faith and love. Amen**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
The words of Scripture, inspired by God. **Thanks be to God.**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Psalm 99:1-9

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble!

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.**

<sup>3</sup> Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!

<sup>4</sup> **Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

<sup>5</sup> Extol the LORD our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!

<sup>6</sup> **Moses and Aaron were among his priests,  
Samuel also was among those who called on his name.  
They cried to the LORD, and he answered them.**

<sup>7</sup> He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he gave them.

<sup>8</sup> **O LORD our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings.**

<sup>9</sup> **Extol the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain;  
for the LORD our God is holy.**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Matthew 22:15-22  
The words of Scripture, inspired by God. **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**                      *"Paying Taxes"*                      Pastor Adrienne

**\*HYMN 422**                      **God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending**

## **WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*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.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### 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.

#### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

##### OFFERTORY

*"Simple Gifts"*

C. Berry

#### \*THE DOXOLOGY – HYMN 592

#### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Holy Father, the gifts you have given us are too numerous to count. In gratitude for your generosity, we offer up our very lives to be used for your purpose. Bless the offering placed before you and guide us to be better stewards of this community. Amen.

#### \*HYMN 391

*Take My Life (V. 1-4)*

## WE GO TO SERVE GOD

#### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

#### \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

##### POSTLUDE

*"Be Still My Soul"*

J. Sibelius, C. Berry

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#### Participating in Worship & Service Today:

Adrienne Poissant, Pastor; Dawn Latincsics, Sub Organist;  
Dawn Latincsics, Music Director; Brian Dietz, Lay Reader;  
Brian Dietz, Video

#### Multiple Ways to Make an Offering:

- **Text** – Just text the word **"GIVE"** to 973-874-1277 and follow the link that will be texted back to you. You may make a donation using your credit card, your checking account, or your savings account.
- **Bill Pay** – Your bank probably offers this option to make donations one-time or on a recurring basis - it's free, and 100% of your gift is received!
- **Attend worship in person and put your offering in the plate as it's passed.**
- **Mail** in your donation to: **First Presbyterian Church, PO Box 1, Branchville, NJ 07826.**
- **E-giving** – Go to our webpage at: <http://www.fpcbbranchville.org> and click the link at the top of the page.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME!** We give you warm greetings on *Sunday, October 18, 2026*. Please join us for Coffee Hour and conversation after worship in the Fellowship Hall next door.

**DISCOVERY GROUP-** TODAY, after church, Pastor Adrienne will make a presentation on her trip to Ireland and her study of the Saints while she was there. This will be a very interesting program, so we hope you can attend!

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** — We will be holding our congregational meeting in the Sanctuary on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> to elect elders, deacons and members-at-large to the nominating committee. Followed by Potluck lunch.

**THRIFT SHOP** — Our last date for REGULAR donations will be October 10<sup>th</sup>. Only Christmas donations will be accepted October 10<sup>th</sup> – November 7<sup>th</sup>. Daisey Roe thanks you for your donations and support. See you in the Spring!

**CHRISTMAS PARADE** — In preparation for the holiday season the Fellowship Committee is planning to continue with the hot chocolate stand in front of the Fellowship Hall again this year. All are welcome to volunteer to help with the hot chocolate stand or simply join us in watching the parade. If any church members are interested in taking charge of creating an entry to march in the parade, please see Sandy Carlisle before 10/23.

**TRICK OR TREAT CANDY** — The Fellowship Committee will be collecting candy donations for Branchville's Trick-or-Treating. Those who are interested in joining us to give out candy can meet in front of the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, October 31st at 3pm.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL/NURSERY** – Teachers have been scheduled through the end of the year, but Teacher Assistants are needed! Please remember that 2 people are required in the classroom by State mandate. Would you be willing to be a "substitute" for the Nursery or Sunday School? If so, please sign up in the FH.

**FOURTH QUARTER LOCAL MISSION** - Family Promise of Sussex County works to eradicate homelessness in Sussex County and provides resources to strengthen children and families. They provide emergency shelter, meals, counseling, and intensive case management services. You may mail a check made out to "First Presbyterian Church of Branchville" with "Family Promise" in the memo. Thank you!

**PER CAPITA REMINDER** – Just a friendly reminder for those who have not yet paid their Per Capita this year. It is \$44.00/person and helps our church a great deal when we don't have to take such a large sum from our already tight budget. Thank you for your anticipated generosity!

## CHURCH WEEKLY CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES AND MINISTRIES

| <u>DAY</u>         | <u>TIME</u>    | <u>ACTIVITY</u>                     |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Today              | 10:00am        | Worship – Communion                 |
|                    | 11:30am        | Discovery Group                     |
| Tuesday            | 7:00pm         | Deacons Meeting                     |
|                    | 7:00pm         | Session Meeting                     |
| Wednesday          | 10am-12pm      | Food Pantry                         |
| Thursday           | 5:30pm         | Bible Study                         |
|                    | 7:00pm         | Chancel Choir                       |
| Saturday           | 9am–1pm        | Daisey Roe Thrift Shop              |
| <i>Next Sunday</i> | <i>10:00am</i> | <i>Worship</i>                      |
|                    | <i>11:30am</i> | <i>Congregation Meeting/Potluck</i> |



# 138 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

NICAEA 11.12.12.10

Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

As in *Hymns Written and Adapted*, 1827

John Bacchus Dykes, 1861

Desc. David McKinley Williams, 1948

*Descant*

4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore Thee,  
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark-ness hide Thee,  
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to Thee;  
 Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 Though the eye of sin - ful-ness Thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth and sky and sea;

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore Thee,  
 On - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 Who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 Per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

# 391

# Take My Life

HENDON 7.7.7.7

Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874

H. A. César Malan, 1827

1. Take my life, and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee.  
 2. Take my hands, and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love.  
 3. Take my voice, and let me sing, Al - ways, on - ly, for my King.  
 4. Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with-hold;

Take my mo - ments and my days; Let them flow in  
 Take my feet, and let them be Swift and beau - ti -  
 Take my lips, and let them be Filled with mes - sa -  
 Take my in - tel - lect, and use Ev - ery power as

cease - less praise, Let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 ful for Thee, Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.  
 ges from Thee, Filled with mes - sa - ges from Thee.  
 Thou shalt choose, Ev - ery power as Thou shalt choose.

# 422 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7 D

*The Sacred Harp, 1844*

Harm. James H. Wood, 1958

Robert L. Edwards, 1961

1. God, whose giving knows no ending, From Your rich and  
2. Skills and time are ours for pressing Toward the goals of  
3. Treasure too You have entrusted, Gain through powers Your

end - less store, Na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom,  
Christ, Your Son: All at peace in health and free - dom,  
grace con - ferred; Ours to use for home and kin - dred,

Cost-ly cross, grave's shat - tered door: Gift-ed by You, we turn  
Rac-es joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly  
And to spread the gos - pel Word. O - pen wide our hands, in

to You, Of - fering up our - selves in praise; Thank-ful  
la - bor, Lest we strive for self a - lone; Born with  
shar - ing, As we heed Christ's age - less call, Heal - ing,

song shall rise for - ev - er, Gra-cious do - nor of our days.  
tal - ents, make us ser - vants Fit to an - swer at Your throne.  
teach - ing, and re - claim - ing, Serv-ing You by lov - ing all.