



First Presbyterian Church of Branchville, New Jersey

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

February 01, 2026 10:00am



GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

BOLD means the congregation reading or singing

* means the congregation standing in body or spirit

WELCOME

(Please use this time to prepare your heart and mind for worship.)

PRELUDE

"FWV 29"

César Frank

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord

PEOPLE: **For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.**

LEADER: God chose what is low and despised in the world,
so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

PEOPLE: **God's weakness is stronger than human strength.**

LEADER: He is the source of our life in Jesus Christ.

PEOPLE: **Let us worship God together.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

You are the Sovereign One, O God, and rightly to be blessed. Your name shall ever be on our lips. You have heard the poor and saved them from trouble. You have enlightened believers; their faces reflect your radiance. Aglow with the splendor of your promised redemption, we gather to worship you, ruler of nations. Amen

*HYMN 358

Help Us Accept Each Other

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, we seek your forgiveness for our sins. For the times we did not comfort those in mourning. For the times we did not give food to the hungry or water to the thirsty. For the times we did not show mercy. For the times we sowed conflict and not peace. Forgive us, and help us to walk in your light. (Our silent prayers continue...)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

LEADER: The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

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

*GLORIA PATRI - HYMN 581

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. Amen.

*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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Bruach Na Carriage Baine"
Mike Osborne

M. Black/S. Begley

TIME WITH CHILDREN

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord God, you have declared that your kingdom is among us. Open our eyes to see it, our ears to hear it, our hearts to hold it, our hands to serve it. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Micah 6:1-8

The words of Scripture, inspired by God. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 15

¹ O LORD, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy hill?

² **Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;**

³ who do not slander with their tongue,
and do no evil to their friends,
nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;
⁴ **in whose eyes the wicked are despised,**
but who honor those who fear the LORD;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;
⁵ **who do not lend money at interest,**
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be moved.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 5:1-12

The words of Scripture, inspired by God. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"One in the Spirit"

Mike Opilla

*HYMN 374

Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*The Heidelberg Catechism Q. 27 & 28*)

The almighty and ever present power of God by which God upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures, and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty- all things, in fact, come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.

Therefore, we can be patient when things go against us, thankful when things go well, and for the future we can have good confidence in our faithful God and Father that nothing in creation will separate us from his love. For all creatures are so completely in God's hand that without his will they can neither move nor be moved. 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*"Offertory in F Major"*

Edouard Batiste

***THE DOXOLOGY - HYMN 593**

*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 THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

Loving God, bless our offering of time, talent, and tithes. Use them to let yourself be known in the world, and to spread hope to all who seek it. Amen.

HYMN 540**God Be with You till We Meet Again*****WE GO TO SERVE GOD*****CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*****BENEDICTION RESPONSE****POSTLUDE***"A Festive Postlude"*

Harold De Cou

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Participating in Worship & Service Today:

**Mike Opilla, Leader; John Gagliardi, Organist; Dawn Latincsics, Music Director;
Patrick Murphy, Lay Reader; Demetrious Savopoulos, Video.**

Multiple Ways to Make an Offering:

1. **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.
2. **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!
3. **Attend** worship in person and put your offering in the plate as it's passed.
4. **Mail** in your donation to: First Presbyterian Church, PO Box 1, Branchville, NJ 07826.
5. **E-giving** – Go to our webpage at: <http://www.fpcbranchville.org> and click the link at the top of the page.



Announcements

February 01, 2026

WELCOME! We give you warm greetings on this First Sunday of the month. We hope you feel welcome here and have been inspired by our worship. Please stay for fellowship and refreshments following worship.

1ST QUARTER LOCAL MISSION - HUNGER! Our first quarterly Local Mission once again focuses on helping to feed the hungry in two local "soup kitchens": Manna House and Harvest House. Both of these long-running programs have adapted to the changes that come with time as they continue to provide a solid meal to those in need. Your donations will ensure the food and supplies that are needed will be available in order to serve our local population in need. Please help us continue to support these well-established organizations with a check made out to FPCB with "1st Quarterly Mission" in the memo line. If you are in the sanctuary, you can use the special envelopes in the pew. Your donations really make a difference!



THE 2026 SOUPER BOWL OF CARING offering will be NEXT Sunday, February 8th, the day of SUPER BOWL!! Donations this year will be added to our 1st Quarter Mission - Manna House and Harvest House. We will have "Soup Pots" in church that day where you can drop your donation to help feed the hungry folks in our community. Checks may be made out to First Presbyterian Church of Branchville with "Souper Bowl" on the memo line. You can also give through e-giving by checking the fund list for Souper Bowl of Caring and checking the box next to it. As always, thank you for your support!

SUNDAY SCHOOL — Teachers are needed for March and April. Weekly teacher's assistant slots are open for most Sundays throughout the school year, so we need you!! Please remember that by state law we must have 2 people in every class, so please consider helping us out and sign up on the sheet in FH. On behalf of our kids, thank you!



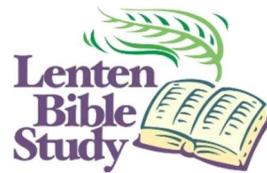
Food pantry **THE FOOD PANTRY** is in need of peanut butter, jelly and ramen noodles. Please consider donating to this continuous need in our community. The Pantry will be open every Wednesday from 10am – 12pm.

JOYS & CONCERNS OF OUR CHURCH — Please use the "Thinking of You" box on the coffee hour counter or Sanctuary where anyone can submit for The Deacons attention, a name, address (if not a member in the directory), and perhaps a reason (if appropriate.) You can also send information to Alycia who will relay it to the Deacons. We look forward to connecting with more of you because who doesn't enjoy getting a card in the mail?!



MANNA HOUSE \$5 SPAGHETTI DINNER - Indoor dining or take-out, First Presbyterian Church, 54 High St., Newton (Church Street Entrance), February 10th 5:00 to 6:30pm. Adults \$5.00, Children 5-12 \$3.00, and under 5 Free. (Included are Spaghetti, Salad, Bread, Cookies)

ADULT EDUCATION — Please take note and mark your calendars for our Lenten Bible Study of Mark to start on Thurs. Feb 19th at 5:30. Bring your own snack.



Feb. 19th: 1:1-3:12 Introduction to Jesus and the Gospel of Mark

Feb. 26th: 3:13-6:6 Parables

March 5th: 6:6-8:21 Disciples and Ministry

March 12th: 8:22-10:52 Miracles and Predictions of Death

March 19th: 11:1-13:37 Jesus in Jerusalem

March 26th: 14:1-15:47 The Death of Jesus

April 2nd: 16:1-20 The Resurrection

CHURCH WEEKLY CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES AND MINISTRIES

<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
Today	10:00am	Worship
Wednesday	10am-12pm	Food Pantry
Thursday	7:00pm	Chancel Choir
Friday	4:00pm	Music & Worship Meeting
Next Sunday	10:00am 11:00am	<i>Worship – Communion & Souper Bowl</i> <i>Bell Choir Rehearsal</i>

(Pastor Adrienne will be away 1/19/26 – 2/4/26)



Fred Kaan, 1975

Doreen Potter, 1975

1. Help us ac - cept each oth - er As Christ ac - cept-ed us;
 2. Teach us, O Lord, Your les - sons, As in our dai - ly life
 3. Let Your ac - cep - tance change us, So that we may be moved
 4. Lord, for to - day's en - coun-ters With all who are in need,

Teach us as sis - ter, broth-er, Each per - son to em-brace.
 We strug - gle to be hu - man And search for hope and faith.
 In liv - ing sit - u - a - tions To do the truth in love;
 Who hun - ger for ac - cep-tance, For righ - teous - ness and bread,

Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us And bring us to be - lieve
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, For all, not just for some,
 To prac - tice Your ac - cep-tance Un - til we know by heart
 We need new eyes for see - ing, New hands for hold-ing on:

We are our - selves ac - cept-ed And meant to love and live.
 To love them as we find them Or as they may be - come.
 The ta - ble of for - give-ness And laugh - ter's heal-ing art.
 Re - new us with Your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!

374 Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace

DICKINSON COLLEGE LM

Francis of Assisi (1181/2-1226)
Para. James Quinn (b. 1919)

Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr., 1962

1. Lord, make us ser - vants of Your peace: Where there is
 2. Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; Where all is
 3. Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek To be con -
 4. May we not look for love's re - turn, But seek to

hate, may we sow love; Where there is hurt, may we for -
 gloom, may we sow hope; Where all is night, may we sow
 soled, but to con - sole, Nor look to un - der - stand-ing
 love un - self - ish - ly, For in our giv - ing we re -

give; Where there is strife, may we make one.
 light; Where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 hearts, But look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 ceive, And in for - giv - ing are for - given.

5. Dying, we live, and are reborn
 Through death's dark night to endless day:
 Lord, make us servants of Your peace
 To wake at last in heaven's light.

♩=104-112

540 God Be with You Till We Meet Again

Jeremiah Eames Rankin, 1880; alt.

RANDOLPH 9.8.8.9

Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Unison

1. God be with you till we meet a - gain; Lov - ing coun - sels
 2. God be with you till we meet a - gain; Un - seen wings pro -
 3. God be with you till we meet a - gain; When life's per - ils
 4. God be with you till we meet a - gain; Keep love's ban - ner

guide, up - hold you, With a Shep-herd's care en - fold you:
 tect - ing hide you, Dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you:
 thick con - found you, Put un - fail - ing arms a - round you:
 float - ing o'er you, Smite death's threat-enning wave be - fore you:

God be with you till we meet a - gain.