

WELCOME TO THE PREAKNESS REFORMED CHURCH

February 16, 2025

10:00 AM

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



"What Luke has in mind is nothing less than an urgent call for a new evaluation of possessions and their place in the Christian life and Christian community."

Pastor Brian P. Stoffregen

 Congregation standing, as able

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

“Give Thanks”

Henry Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

 CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Jeremiah 17

The Lord says to us this day,

Don't put all your trust in human beings and lean on their strength. Watch out for those whose hearts are far away from the heart of God.


They are like trees and bushes in the desert. They do not thrive or grow.

But blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord!

They are like strong trees planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

They do not fear when the heat comes, and their leaves stay green; in the year of drought, they are not anxious, and they do not cease to bear fruit!

Let us seek the heart of God and serve God with joy this morning!

 SONG OF PRAISE **251** “The Church’s One Foundation”
verses 1,2,4 & 5

AURELIA

 SALUTATION

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE (The children are invited to Sunday school at this time.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of justice and mercy, forgive us when we place our hope and faith in other places rather than with you. Forgive our desires for revenge and our selfish ways. Forgive us when we lack sympathy and compassion for

one another. Clothe us in the righteousness of Christ today. Teach us to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with you...

(continue with silent prayers of confession)

WORDS OF GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

ANTHEM

"Blest Are They"

Matthew 5:3 -12, David Haas, Arr. Michael Joncas

MESSAGES OF LIGHT FOR TODAY

PRAYER OF BLESSING

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:17-26

(page 64)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

MESSAGE

"Keep it Level!"

SONG OF REFLECTION **127** " Jesus Heard with Deep Compassion"

PLEADING SAVIOR

RESPONDING TO GOD'S BLESSINGS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE...concluding with 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.**

 **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in one God who created all the world,
**who will unite all things in Christ and who wants all people to live
together in one family.**

We believe in God the Son who became human:
**died and rose in triumph to reconcile all the world to God, to break down
every separating barrier of race, culture or class and to unite all people
into one body.**

We believe in God the Spirit, the pledge of God's coming reign
**who gives the Church power to proclaim the good news to all the world,
to love and serve all people, to strive for justice and peace: to warn that
God judges both the individual and the nations; and to summon all the
world to accept God's reign, here and now. Amen.**

-adapted from "Declaration of Faith," Presbyterian Church, South Africa 2004

 **CLOSING SONG 689 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"** CIVILITY

 **BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" Spiritual

*Assisting God's people in worship are Pastor Eric Nichols, worship leader;
Kris Macagney, liturgist; Nancy Sindt, worship host; Tech Team; Chancel Choir;
Dan King, Director of Music Ministries.*

🌀 Calendar and Notices 🌀

Sun, Feb 16 9:15 am Sunday Scripture (Nan's Room)
10:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:10 am Sunday School
7:00 pm Youth Group (Oxbow)

Tue, Feb 18 9:15 am Helping Hands

Wed, Feb 19 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thu, Feb 20 12:00 pm Brown Bags & Bibles

Sun, Feb 23 9:15 am Sunday Scripture (Nan's Room)
10:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
10:10 am Sunday School
11:00 am Thankful Breakfast (Berdan Hall)



Today's flowers in the sanctuary are given in recognition of our dedicated Youth Group leaders who offer their time and talents to mentoring our youth.

Please include in your prayers of intercession: Cathy Tanis, June Nienhouse, Patricia Lynch, Priscilla Durkin, Peggy Carroll, Cindy Van Lunen, Pat Deleu (friend of Kim Goerg), Mick (friend of Tiffany), June Jesch, and those awaiting diagnosis or undergoing treatments.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Annie McKay and her family. Annie's mother, Jenny Sonja Petrowski, passed away on February 3. Funeral arrangements are being made through the Gaita Memorial Home in Little Falls.

Our sympathy and blessings are with Steve Williamson and his family. Wayne Bardowell passed away last week. Please keep the Bardowell family in your prayers.

Warm Feet for Warriors – Help us collect socks for service members and veterans! The mission of Soldier’s Angels is to provide aid, comfort and resources to the military, veterans, and their families. For the month of February, the PRC Sunday School will be collecting new socks in their original packaging in all colors and sizes (there will be a collection box outside Room 7). The socks will be distributed to veterans in VA hospitals and included in care packages to deployed service members.

The PRC Annual Thankful Breakfast is on Sunday, February 23rd!

Please join us right after worship service in Berdan Hall for our THANKful Breakfast, for coffee, food, and fellowship. As our hearts fill with gratitude, we ask that you please bring an item or two for our food drive to the WIN food pantry (see separate flyer). Contact Annie, Carol, or Jennie with any questions. We **THANK** you a **BRUNCH!**

An open invitation to our PRC congregation on Sunday, March 9, at 6 PM...

As the holy month of Ramadan approaches, Peace Islands Institute has extended an offer to prepare a special “iftar” dinner for PRC in celebration of this special time (iftar is the evening meal that breaks the fast during Ramadan). Before the meal, there will be a brief presentation on the significance of Ramadan, followed by a call to prayer. If you are interested in attending this opportunity for cultural exchange, community connection, and mutual learning, please RSVP on the sheet in the hallway no later than Sunday, March 2.

Ash Wednesday Schedule...We have 3 opportunities for Ash Wednesday this year. The first two services will be briefer as far as content and liturgy.

- 7 am at the First Reformed Church of Pompton Plains (Sanctuary)
- 12:45 pm at the Preakness Reformed Church (Sanctuary)
- 7 pm at the Pompton Reformed Church of Pompton Lakes

Recently, Howie H. from Alcoholics Anonymous joined us for a Second Hour conversation and spoke about his journey and AA’s 12-step program. Feel free to reach out to him at 973-476-7958 for more information (please note that he often does not answer an unknown number, but if you leave a message, he will get back to you). You can also reach out to AA 24/7 at 908-687-8566.

☞ **Assisting in Worship** ☞

	<u>Feb 16</u>	<u>Feb 23</u>
Flowers	Ken De Berry	Jessica Amato
Counter	Amanda Declet	Rich Ullman
Ushers	Charles Schmitt	Rita Janney
	Joan Vanderbush	Bob Janney

☞ **Consistory** ☞

Elders

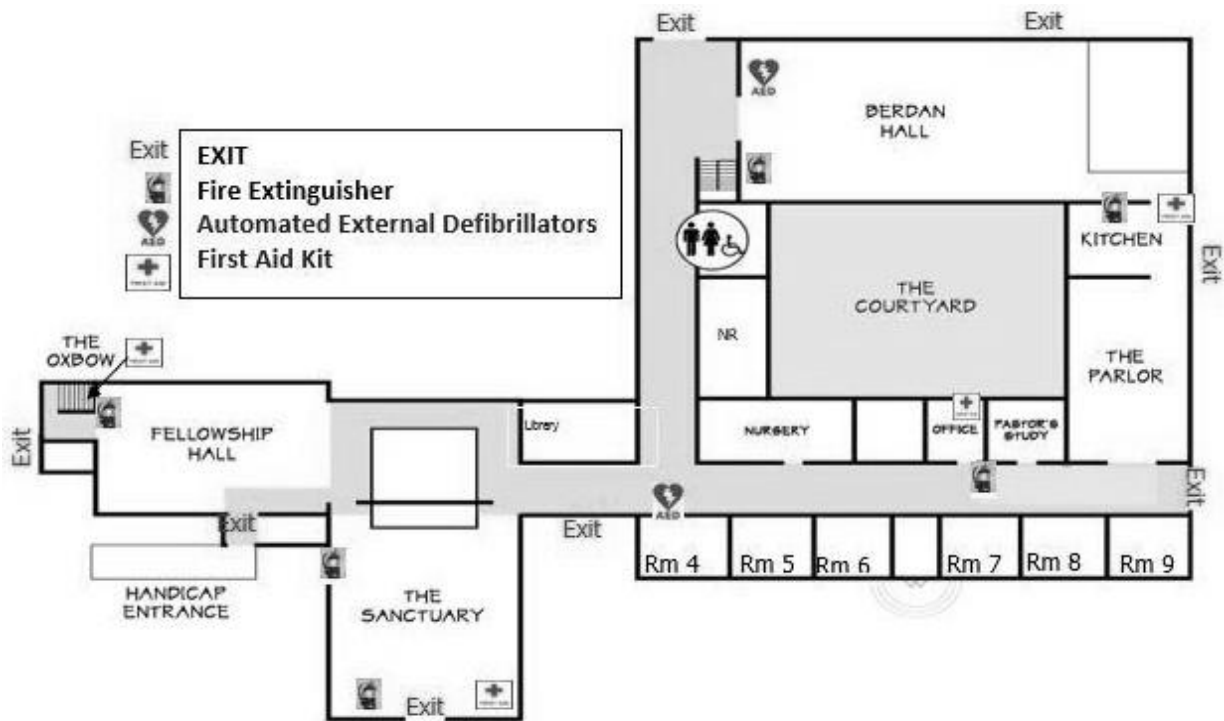
Amanda Declet	Hannah Kudrik
Priscilla Durkin	Marty Mariniello
Jennie Franklyn	David Parish
Bill Weston	

Deacons

Ken De Berry	Jessica Amato
Jennifer Graf	Gaye Servideo
Tom Powers	Vicki Lefelar
Tim Coyne	

☞ **Preakness Reformed Church Staff** ☞

Rev. Eric Nichols, Senior Pastor
Rev. Kim Pavlovich, Associate Pastor
Daniel King, Director of Music Ministries
Kevin Lynch, Accompanist
Christina Collucci, Office Manager
Rev. Mary Marcus, Minister Emerita



Please note: If you need to exit the sanctuary during our worship services for any reason, you may exit thru the front of the sanctuary (the door beneath the cross), preferably during a transition time in worship (e.g. the beginning of a song, passing the peace, etc.).



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 131 Church Lane, Wayne, NJ 07470
 973.694.5481
 CCLI#11100448
www.preaknessreformed.org

The Church's One Foundation

251

1 The chur-ch's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth;
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der the world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more,

From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.

- 5 Yet she on earth has union with God the Three in One,
 and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
 O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
 like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

127 Jesus Heard with Deep Compassion

F B^b F B^b C7 F B^b F/C C7 F

1 Je - sus heard with deep com - pas - sion pleas for heal - ing, cries of pain;
 2 Je - sus touched the lives of out - casts, weak or sin - ful, scorned or poor;
 3 Je - sus, Lord, our true ex - am - ple, you have shown how we must live.

B^b F B^b C7 F B^b F/C C7 F

cured the lame and cleansed the lep - er, gave the blind their sight a - gain.
 gave them self - re - spect and cour - age, trust and faith and hope se - cure.
 Teach us how to share with oth - ers ev - ery - thing we have to give.

B^b F/C C F B^b Csus C

At his voice, tor - ment - ing spir - its fled a mad - man's tor - tured mind;
 Tru - ly hear - ing, tru - ly see - ing deep with - in each trou - bled soul,
 Let our days be spent in ser - vice; bring us by your grace to know

F B^b F B^b C7 F B^b F/C C7 F

clothed and healed, he went re - joic - ing, home and fam - i - ly to find.
 Je - sus healed their wound - ed spir - its, sent them forth with lives made whole.
 heal - ing is the chur - ch's call - ing, and the path that we must go.

689 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

D A/C# Bm G

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
 2 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures of the mind;

D A/C# Bm F#m

there's a kind-ness in God's jus - tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
 and the heart of the e - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.

A D F#m Bm G

There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven;
 Make our love, O God, more faith-ful, let us take you at your word,

A D A/C# Bm G

there is no place where earth's fail-ings have such kind - ly judg - ment
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good-ness of the

D G D 1 Gmaj9 2 Gmaj9 D

given.
 Lord.