



August 22, 2021 • 10:00 AM

PRELUDE Prelude in B Minor Cesar Franck

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Senior Pastor Ellen Clémot

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Megan McCann

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts.

People: *My soul longs for the House of the Lord.*

Leader: My heart sings for joy to the Living God.

People: *Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise!*

All: *Let us worship God! Alleluia, amen.*

***HYMN 307** (vv. 1-2, 4) God of Grace and God of Glory CWM RHONDDA

*(1) God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.*

*(2) Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.*

*(4) Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.*

TEXT: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

OPENING PRAYER

*Indicates that the congregation will please rise, in body or in spirit.

LORD'S PRAYER (in 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; 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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Watchful God, you know our plight. We have not believed your words. We did not heed the warnings. Now our planet is on fire, your people are consumed by pandemic. We are weak, wandering, and lost. Seeking to stand in our own strength, we fall. Strangers to your holiness, we wander. Defenseless against evil, within and without, we are lost. Shine your light in our darkness and guide us back to our place in you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***HYMN 582 (v. 1)** Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me GLORY TO GOD (VASILE)

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text; adapt. Paul M. Vasile, 2008
MUSIC: Paul M. Vasile, 2008
Text Adapt. and Music © 2008 Paul M. Vasile

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALTER Psalm 84:1-4

Page 543

How lovely is your dwelling place,
O LORD of hosts!
My soul longs, indeed it faints
for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy
to the living God.
Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.
Happy are those who live in your house,
ever singing your praise.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet, put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

SERMON “Standing Firm”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison)

From the Confession of Belhar, Sec. 10.5

We believe that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

*HYMN 175

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

(1) Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

(2) Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

(3) You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia!

TEXT: Stanza 1, Karen Lafferty, 1971, alt.; stanzas 2-3, anon.
MUSIC: Karen Lafferty, 1971

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THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Nun danket alle Gott

Georg Friederich Kaufmann

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 757

Today We Are All Called to Be Disciples

KINGSFOLD

*(1) Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free, make plowshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.*

*(2) God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race
to live as stewards of the earth, responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud; we sow not peace but strife.
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.*

*(3) Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for a harmony of peace.*

*(4) May we in service to our God act out the living word,
and walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.*

TEXT: H. Kenn Carmichael, 1985
MUSIC: *English Country Songs*, 1893; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
Text © 1989 H. Kenn Carmichael

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata in F

Dietrich Buxtehude

Today's preacher is Senior Pastor Ellen Clémot
and our liturgist is Megan McCann.

Thank you to our guest organist, Gordon King.

Our cantors this morning are Carol L. Sargent, Gayle Hendrix, Rae Wade and Carl Woodward.

Our ushers this morning are Phyllis and Ken Basmadjian.

Jack and Joslin Ruffle are our greeters this morning.

Special thanks to Craig Duke, Bruce Hoppe and Carlene Pruitt.
today for their technical assistance.

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The Session of PCCT encourages everyone eligible and able to get vaccinated against Covid-19 for the good of all. Please do your part to stop the spread of this disease by mask-wearing, social distancing, and careful hand hygiene when vaccinations are not an option for you. In Person Registration is no longer required. However, we encourage you to stay home and join us for online worship if you aren't feeling well, or answer "yes" to any question on our health questionnaire [HERE](#). Masks are still required as an expression of care for those most vulnerable.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

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THE CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel Flowers today are presented to the Glory of God and in appreciation for the PCCT congregation and for all that they do in serving, giving, and volunteering at church and in their community.

We thank Virginia Hofler for the gorgeous arrangement from her garden.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, August 22, 2021

To protect the more vulnerable,
Masks are required when inside the building.
Thank you

WE'RE HIRING: DIRECTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRIES!

We are hiring a new Director of Family Ministries (DFM) as we transition to a more missional focus in our ministries, finding new ways to include our families in community service outreach and education. We are looking for a leader who is energized by the opportunity to build something awesome and relevant for our times. To learn more about this new, part-time position, please click here for more details [DFM Job Description 2021](#).

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS AND ASSISTANTS NEEDED!

Please consider being a church school teacher and/or assistant this year. You will be provided with the lesson early in the week prior to Sunday and all materials will be ready for you in the classroom on Sunday morning. We will offer teacher training prior to the kick-off of Church School formally beginning on September 26th. Please consider giving your time to this important ministry of PCCT. Please contact khoffman@pcct-nj.org if you are interested!

CREATE A PCCT MEMBER ACCOUNT

We are so excited to have the opportunity to roll out “Breeze”, an online membership database and online giving system. We would like to invite you to create an account by [clicking here](#). To find out more about this exciting opportunity, click [HERE](#).

NOURISH.NJ

If you are looking for a fun and meaningful way to get together and give back before summer wraps up, consider helping nourish.Nj provide healthy, home cooked meals to our guests by getting involved in our #purpleapronmealkit program! It's easy, it's fun, and it's extremely important to the work we do to take care of our neighbors in need. For more information on how to participate, please go [HERE](#).

We also received word that there is a guest in need of a car. Her car recently broke down and it's going to cost more to fix it than the car is worth. If anyone has a car they'd be willing to donate that's in working order, will be reliable and doesn't require more than \$1,000 in repairs, please email [Terry Connolly](#).

UPDATE ON HAITI

Many have asked about our friends in Haiti and if they were impacted by the earthquake that occurred on Saturday. Thankfully, Pastor Valentin, his family, FFP staff and children at the CAD orphanage are all safe. The Men nan Men school and Sanctuary of Grace church that PCCT Mission Teams helped to build sustained no damage. Foundation for Peace is working to assist others who are in great need of food, water and supplies. You can get more information and learn how you can help [here](#) (write EARTHQUAKE in Comments Box). Please keep the people of Haiti in your prayers.

REFUGEE WELCOME

Welcoming our neighbor also includes welcoming people who are refugees - especially the people who were always friends to us in their home countries. We have all seen the terrible plight of the Afghani interpreters and aides who helped our U.S. troops now being killed or threatened by the Taliban. The U.S. government is doing its best to evacuate these people as refugees to our country and help keep them safe. But once they arrive here, they need help getting settled. There are local community organizations that are poised to help. One of them is our mission partner called RAMP: Refugee Assistance Morris Partners. We heard about them from Maury Gately in our Faith Forward meeting last June. If you would like to help refugee resettlement efforts, please contact me or Carolyn Smith if you would like to get involved.

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

If you are worshipping from home and would like to include someone in Prayers of the People during the service, please email both [Ellen](#) and [Tom](#) with your prayer requests during the week and before 9:00 AM on Sunday morning.

GREETERS, USHERS AND TABULATORS NEEDED

If you are interested in serving as a greeter, usher, or tabulator, please reach out to the [church office](#) and let us know. We can provide you with all the instructions and details you will need. Please consider serving and being part of these important parts of our worship service each week which help the church run smoothly and fulfill its mission.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Chatham Emergency Squad will be hosting a blood drive on Saturday, August 28th. The drive will be located at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church - 300 Shunpike Road, Chatham and will run from 8:30am - 2:30pm. Appointments are recommended and can be made on-line @ nybc.org/njdrive - sponsor code 61961. Please consider making a donation. Supplies run low in the summer but the demand for blood continues.