



# PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

Sunday, September 1, 2024  
The Sacrament of Communion  
10:00 A.M.

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## Prelude

Deep River  
Carol Wooldredge, *cello*

arr. Duane Funderburk

## Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: Every generous act of giving is a tribute to God's love for us.

*People: Let us be people of generous and abundant gifts for others.*

Leader: Be ready to listen and slow to react in anger.

*People: Let us be people of peace.*

Leader: Keep your hearts and spirits ready to serve the Lord.

*People: May our hearts be open to hear and respond to God's words of life.*

### \*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

*People: ...and also with you.*

### \*Hymn 32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

## Opening Prayer

## Call to Confession

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

## Prayer of Confession (in unison)

*God of mercy, you know us better than we know ourselves. When we think that we can hide from you, we are only kidding ourselves. You offer new life, marked by compassion, joy, and peace, but we resort to familiar and self-serving ways. You have invited us into ministries of peace and justice; but too often, we turn our backs on opportunities for service and witness to your transformational love. Forgive us our stubbornness. Help us to turn around and listen to your words of hope. Give us courage to truly be your witnesses in this world. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.*

## Assurance of Pardon

\*Hymn 581                      Glory Be to the Father              GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)

*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.*

## Prayer for Illumination

Lesson from the Hebrew Bible: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9                      Page 160

Anthem                      Lord, I Want to Be a Christian              arr. David Lantz III  
                                    Christiana Cole, *vocalist*

Lesson from the New Testament: James 1:17-27                      Page 229

Sermon "Faith in Action"                      The Reverend Thomas A. Brown

\*Affirmation of Faith (in unison)                      John Birch

*You call us to service; to be your eyes and ears,  
hands and voice in this, your world.  
To open our eyes not only to the beauty and love which you create,  
but the injustice, hate and suffering that humankind generates.  
To open our ears not only to the chattering of this coming week,  
but the searching, fears and questioning of all whom we shall meet.  
To open our hands not only to those we choose our lives to share,  
but in welcome, love and fellowship to all who you draw near.  
To open our mouths not only to speak platitudes and simple words,  
but the truths you lay upon our hearts. Your Word for this, your world.  
You call us to service, to be your eyes and ears,  
hands and voice in this, your world.*

## The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer "debts . . . debtors"

Hymnal, Page 35

### Call to Offering

Offertory

Our Father

Craig Courtney

Carol Wooldredge, *cello* and Christiana Cole, *vocalist*

\*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

*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

### The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

All who put their trust in Jesus are welcome to partake of the sacrament. Ushers will serve worshippers in the pews, first the bread, then the cup. Please hold the elements until all have been served so we may take them together. Bread in the center dish is gluten-free.

Prayer after Communion

\*Hymn 298

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

ABBOT'S LEIGH

\*Benediction

Postlude

For the Beauty of the Earth

arr. Brad Nix

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*This morning's plate offering (gifts received in cash) is designated for the work of our Board of Deacons, which coordinates important ministries of congregational care and compassion. Please remember them in your giving today and on the first Sunday in the months to come.*

Today's worship leaders are Pastor Thomas A. Brown  
and Elder and Deacon Moderator Linda Barnes.

Thank you to our ushers this morning.

Special thanks to Nathan Brown for his technical assistance today.



**THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: September 2 - 7, 2024**

**Monday** Office Closed for Labor Day

**Tuesday**

10:00 am Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room

**Wednesday**

7:30 pm Scout Adult Leader Meeting, Theos

**Thursday**

6:45 pm Sanctuary Ringers, Bell Room

8:00 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

**NEXT SUNDAY, September 8, 2024**

**Welcome Back Sunday**

**10:00 am** Worship, Sanctuary; Nursery Care A-9

**11:00 am** Welcome Back Sunday Picnic, Front Lawn

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**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP**

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# 32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,  
 2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.  
 3 There's not a plant or flower be-low but makes thy glo-ries known.

that spread the flow-ing seas a-broad and built the loft-y  
 God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them  
 And clouds a-rise, and tem-pests blow, by or-der from thy

skies. I sing the wis-dom that or-dained the sun to rule the day.  
 good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,  
 throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev-er in thy care,

The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o-bey.  
 if I sur-vey the ground I tread, or gaze up-on the sky!  
 and ev-ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

With minimal revision this text brings together six of the eight four-line stanzas in an 18th-century hymn written for children and originally headed "Praise for Creation and Providence." The anonymous German tune provides a fitting sense of breadth and wonder.

# 298 Lord, You Give the Great Commission

1 Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the sick and  
 2 Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my name bap -  
 3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This, my bod - y;  
 4 Lord, you show us love's true mea - sure: "Fa - ther, what they  
 5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you

preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion, and the  
 tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise, life a -  
 this, my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry, dai - ly  
 do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure all that  
 to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing, may we

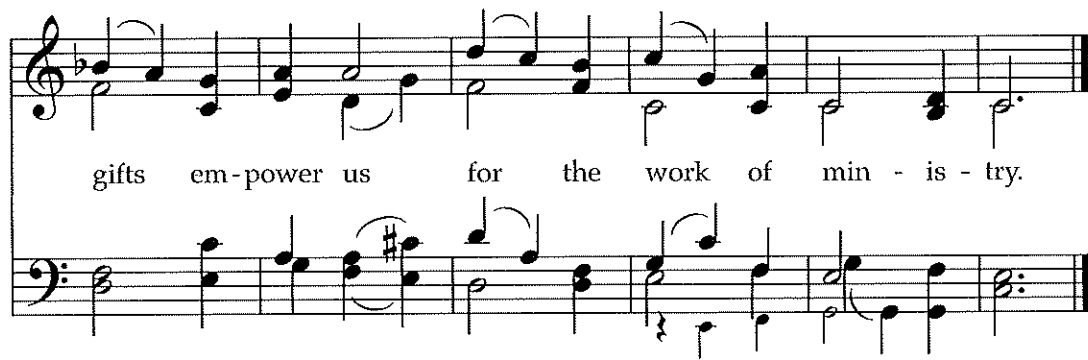
gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness to your  
 bun - dant meant for each, give us all new fer - vor,  
 lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the world a -  
 you so free - ly give. May your care and mer - cy  
 serve as you in - tend, and, a - mid the cares that

United by the refrain after each stanza, this text relies on passages from Matthew and Luke to highlight various dimensions of the church's mission and ministry in the world. It was written for use with this tune, composed in the village near Bristol, England, for which it is named.

THE CHURCH



pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:  
draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:  
round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty: with the Spir - it's  
lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:  
claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:



gifts em - power us for the work of min - is - try.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**September 1, 2024**

We are delighted you've chosen to worship with us today.  
Please let an usher or minister know if we can assist you in any way.

### **TODAY AT CHURCH**

**The Sacrament of Communion**

**10:00 am** Worship, Halldorson Hall

**11:00 am** Lemonade & Fellowship, Mulford Hall



### **CHANCEL FLOWERS**

The Chancel Flowers are presented to the Glory of God  
and in loving memory of son David Gesell and husband Jack Gesell,  
by Marcia Gesell and family.

### **WELCOME BACK SUNDAY: September 8**

Next week is our annual kickoff to the program year. Join us for a special worship service followed by a picnic on the front lawn. Reconnect with church family and friends over a picnic lunch and experience the joy of children enjoying games, face painting, and a bouncy house. There's so much to look forward to – we can't wait to see you! Please find the link in our weekly eblasts to sign up to help.

### **DINNER CHURCH: Wednesday, September 11, 6:00 - 7:15 pm, in Mulford Hall**

Save the date for our first Dinner Church, an informal, all-ages worship service to be held on occasional Wednesday evenings. This month's theme, "Cast your Cares upon the Lord" acknowledges the anxieties each of us carries, with a special focus on those starting back to school and facing new challenges. Through prayer, music, and a brief message, we'll together seek to relieve some of the burdens we are carrying through the week. Come as you are for a casual dinner and time to center your week around the sustaining presence of God.



**CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS: September 15 at 10 AM**

Join us during our regular worship to celebrate the start of the Church School year with the commissioning of Teachers and Confirmands. Afterwards, please stay for our Parent and Children Meet & Greet in the Lower Lobby with coffee and donuts. Hope to see you there!

*For more information about Church School and Confirmation as well details about Sunday worship, please go to our website at [pcct-nj.org](http://pcct-nj.org) You can also register your child online for church school this fall by filling out the form on Breeze via our website.*

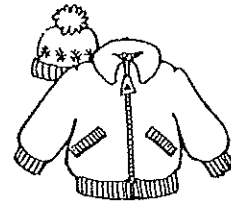
**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: Monday, September 16, 7:00 pm**

Calling all knitters and crocheters – beginners, experts, and anyone in between are welcome! The prayer shawl ministry will be meeting in Griswold Parlor on Monday, September 16 at 7 pm. Refreshments will be provided, so we can sip, stitch, chat, and learn to knit. Yarn and needles will be provided if you're a beginner or don't have a project in the works. Please contact the church office for details.

**MARKET STREET MISSION COAT COLLECTION:**

**September 6 – October 23**

PCCT will be collecting gently used coats and homemade or new hats/gloves/scarves to be distributed to those in need in our community and surrounding area. Donations will be accepted at PCCT from Sept. 8 through October 23. The big collection box will be in the upper lobby.



**NOURISH BREAKFAST BAGS: September 16 - 25**

A great way for the whole family to help someone in need. Purchase the items, assemble the bags at home and drop them off at Mulford Hall at the church between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm between September 16 - 25. You can sign up on our website or on the board in the Upper Lobby. Contact our PCCT member liaison Story Savage with any questions.



**MUSIC REHEARSALS ARE BACK! - Beginning Sept. 5**  
*Sanctuary Ringers - Thursdays at 6:45 pm in the Bell Room*  
*Chancel Choir - Thursdays at 8:00 pm in the Choir Room*  
*Please contact Matt Zabiegala for more information*

**COMMUNITY GARDEN: Thank You!**

Big thanks to everyone who helped produce an abundant harvest this year! We still need volunteers for September – the more the merrier! You can sign up on our website.

**INTERFAITH DIALOGUE TO BEGIN THIS FALL**

Do you like talking with people of different faiths? Are you interested in dialogue with your neighbors? PCCT is starting a new interfaith partnership for discussion, learning, and growth with members of Congregation Beth Hatikvah, a Reconstructionist Synagogue with several ties to our church. As a first step, we are looking for anyone who might be interested in joining a small group meeting later in the fall to meet with Pastor Tom and Rabbi Allyson Zacharoff to talk about the project and get to know members of the other community. Please hold the evening of Saturday, Nov 16, as a likely first gathering and email Pastor Tom by Sept 15 if you are interested, regardless of availability for that particular date.

**PUMPKIN PATCH DELIVERY AND SET-UP: Sunday, October 13**

The pumpkins are coming! The pumpkins are coming! And we need all hands on deck! Sunday morning after worship we need help unloading the truck and setting up the tent. The Pumpkin Patch is a major mission fundraiser with 100% of the proceeds going to local hunger relief efforts. Additional details and timing will be shared in e-blasts and other announcements – stay tuned!





### **CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY CONCERT!**

**Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm! Help Needed!**

Save the date for our "Caring for the Community Concert" on the lawn to be held on September 21st with music provided by Blue Soul, a beloved local band that will play a two-hour concert from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The event is free of charge and we will be grilling hotdogs and offering chips, water, and ice cream. Bring your lawn chairs, picnic blankets, and your favorite picnic foods, or appetizers and BYO beverages of choice. We want to celebrate our community, and especially lift up a mission partner that cares for the community with us. To this end, all attendees are encouraged to bring a donation item for the Helping Hands of Chatham non-profit charity that stores its donated goods in our church. We are grateful to the anonymous donor that made this concert possible, and for all of our volunteers who will be helping that night. Please sign up to be part of the helping team on our sign-up genius link on our website at [pcct-nj.org](http://pcct-nj.org).

### **HELPING HANDS OF CHATHAM**

Since its inception in March of 2020 Helping Hands, NJ has been and continues to be a community of "neighbors helping neighbors" committed to ending food insecurity and supporting self-sufficiency. In partnership with our growing network of individuals and partner organizations throughout New Jersey, Helping Hands, NJ distributes essential items including grocery store gift cards, nutritious food, and resources to inspire confidence and hope to local families in need.



We hope you are all enjoying a wonderful summer. Here are some upcoming dates to put on your calendar.

More details to come!



**Save the Dates!**

*Sunday, September 8*

Welcome Back Sunday

*Wednesday, September 11, 6:00 pm, Mulford Hall*

Dinner Church - All Welcome!

*Sunday, September 15*

Church School Kick-Off with Parent Meet & Greet

Commissioning of Confirmands and Teachers

*Wednesday, September 18, 5:45 pm, Mulford Hall*

Children's Chat & Chew Kick-Off

*Saturday, September 21, 6:00 – 8:30 pm*

Caring for the Community Concert

*Sunday, September 29*

Faith Forward: Hands On Mission Project

*Sunday, October 13*

Pumpkins Arrive!



*Sunday, October 20, 4:00 pm*

Pastor Tom's Installation Service & Reception