



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

Sunday, September 15, 2024
Commissioning of the Confirmation Class of 2025
10:00 A.M.

Prelude

Lasst uns erfreuen

arr. Matthew Zabiegala

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We have gathered in this place to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ, our savior.

People: *May we also proclaim in our lives, in acts of generosity, gifts of love, and with our presence in times of need.*

Leader: On this day and each one to come, may the words of our mouths,

People: *the meditations of our hearts,*

Leader: and the actions of our lives

All: *proclaim our faith for all the world to see.*

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

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

***Processional Hymn 15 All Creatures of Our God and King**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Call to Confession

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

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

You have called us, O God, but we have refused to listen; you have stretched out your hand, and we have not taken it. We have taken what you have given us and used those gifts to hurt others and defy you. We have refused to be instructed by your wisdom. Forgive our inability to recognize you and live out the values of your gospel. Give us the insight we need to understand your place in our lives so that our words and actions reflect the glory of God in the lives of others. In the name of the Messiah, we pray. 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.*

Commissioning of the Confirmation Class of 2025**Prayer for Illumination****Lesson from the Psalms: Psalm 19**

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AnthemLet All Creation Sing His Praise
Chancel Choir

Joseph Martin

Lesson from the Gospels: Mark: 8:27-38

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Sermon "The Knowledge of God"

The Reverend Thomas A. Brown

***Hymn 726**

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

***Affirmation of Faith** (in unison)

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: September 16 - 21, 2024

Monday

9:30 am Next Act, Theos
7:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry,
Griswold Parlor
Boy Scouts, Mulford Hall

Tuesday

10:00 am Staff Meeting, Halldorson Hall
7:30 pm Dev. & Comm. Mtg. (off-site)

Wednesday

9:30 am Bible Study Organizational
Meeting, Halldorson Hall
5:45 pm Chat & Chew, Mulford Hall

Thursday

6:45 pm Sanctuary Ringers, Bell Room
8:00 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Saturday

6:00 pm Caring for the Community
Concert, Front Lawn

NEXT SUNDAY, September 22, 2024

10:00 am **Worship**, Sanctuary; Nursery, Room A-9
10:15 am Church School & Breakfast Club
11:00 am **Faith Forward: PCCT Financial Update, Halldorson Hall**
Coffee & Fellowship, Mulford Hall
6:00 pm Youth Mission Trip Reunion, Zehner's Home

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

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15 All Creatures of Our God and King

Unison

1 All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice
 2 O broth - er wind with clouds and rain, you nur - ture gifts
 3 O broth - er fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shad -
 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain

Harmony

and with us sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 of fruit and grain. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 ows of the night. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 or sor - row grieve, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

O broth - er sun with gold - en beam, O sis - ter moon
 O sis - ter wa - ter, flow - ing clear, make mu - sic for
 Dear moth - er earth, who day by day un - folds such bless -
 Christ bears your bur - dens and your fears; so, e - ven in

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Sometimes called "The Canticle of the Sun," this cosmic roll call allows human beings to give voice to all creation. One of the earliest religious poems in the Italian language, it is made even more expansive by this broad, repetitive melody with interspersed "Alleluias."

Harmony

with sil - ver gleam, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 your Lord to hear. Sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 ings on our way, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 the midst of tears, sing prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!

Unison

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,
 waiting to hush our final breath:
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
 fair is the night that leads us home.
 Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
 and worship God with humble heart.
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
 and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 Sing praises! Alleluia!
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be - hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus)(A)
 Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

815 Give to the Winds Thy Fears

1 Give to the winds thy fears; hope, and be
 2 Through waves and clouds and storms God gent - ly
 3 Leave to God's sov - ereign sway to choose and
 4 Let us in life, in death, thy stead - fast

un - dis - mayed. God hears thy sighs and
 clears the way. Wait pa - tient - ly; so
 to com - mand, So shalt thou, won - dering,
 truth de - clare, and pub - lish with our

counts thy tears; God shall lift up thy head.
 shall this night soon end in joy - ous day.
 own God's way, how wise, how strong God's hand!
 fi - nal breath thy love and guard - ian care.

This text uses selected stanzas from sixteen four-line English stanzas based on the original German text, which was twice as long. The German hymn was constructed as an acrostic on Martin Luther's translation of Psalm 37:5, and much of the spirit of that psalm is retained here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 15, 2024

We are delighted you've chosen to worship with us today. Please let an usher or the minister know if we can assist you in any way. Our Sanctuary is equipped with an induction loop system for those with hearing difficulties.

TODAY AT CHURCH

- 9:00 am Orientation with Confirmands, Halldorson Hall
- 10:00 am **Worship**, Sanctuary; Nursery, Room A-9
Commissioning of Confirmands
- 10:15 am Church School & Breakfast Club
- 11:00 am **Parent & Children Meet & Greet, Lower Lobby**
Coffee & Fellowship, Mulford Hall
- 7:00 pm Compassionate Friends, Halldorson Hall



CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel Flowers are presented to the Glory of God and in honor and appreciation of our pastor Tom Brown, by Pamela and Alex Fairley.

INSTALLATION OF REV. THOMAS A. BROWN AS PASTOR OF PCCT

Congratulations to our Pastor Tom who was officially voted in as our new Pastor by Presbytery on 9/10. Join us on Sunday, October 20 at 4:00 pm for the Installation of Rev. Thomas A. Brown as Pastor of PCCT. This service of worship and celebration is led by a commission of elders and pastors from the presbytery and is open to the community and congregation. The service will feature our chancel choir and some special guests. A reception will follow the service.



COUNT ME IN!

A new chapter is waiting to be written this fall and there are more reasons than ever to get engaged in the many ways we are changing lives and supporting one other along life's journey. As seasons change in your own life, with a recent retirement or an empty nest, the conclusion of other volunteer commitments, or simply from a renewed interest, please consider making a renewed investment of your time and energy in this beloved congregation. With a broad range of volunteer spots needing to be filled, we can find something to do for just about anyone. Scan the QR Code to find the Count Me In! Interest Form online – it takes just a couple of minutes to complete.



CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS TODAY!

Today during our regular worship, we are celebrating the start of the church School year with the commissioning of Confirmands. Afterwards, please stay for our Parent and Children Meet & Greet in the Lower Lobby with coffee and donuts. Hope to see you!

THE NEXT ACT: Monday, September 16, 9:30 am in Theos

Please join us as we navigate the next phase of our lives through prayer, fellowship, discussion, and healthy doses of laughter. This group also occasionally does church-sponsored mission projects. Coordinators: Deb Ahsler and Lisa Boles. Contact the church office for additional information.

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.

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY: Wednesday Morning, 9:30 am, beginning September 18

Members and friends interested in an opportunity for regular bible study are invited to an organizational meeting on Wednesday, Sept 18 at 9:30 am in Halldorson Hall. We'll discuss format, topics, and planning for the fall. Led by Pastor Tom, this group will meet regularly on Wednesday mornings.

COMMUNITY GARDEN: Volunteers Needed in September!

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

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.

FAITH FORWARD: PCCT Financial Update

Sunday, September 22, 11:00 am, Halldorson Hall

As part of its ongoing efforts at transparency and keeping the congregation informed, Session members will share a financial update to the congregation in early September followed by a special Faith Forward presentation on Sunday, Sept 22. Topics will include a report on current year finances, a preview of the 2025 Stewardship Campaign "Strength for Today, Bright Hope for Tomorrow" and financial goals for 2025, and plans for addressing significant building infrastructure needs over the next 6 to 9 months. A Q&A session will follow the presentation.

CHATHAM COMMUNITY FOOD DISTRIBUTION AT CUMC: During September

PCCT will be collecting food quarterly for the Food Pantry housed at the Chatham United Methodist Church. We will be collecting food throughout September. Please place your donations in our "Food Collection Bin" in the Upper Lobby or bring to church with you on Sunday, September 29. Bags and a list of most wanted items will be available inside the glass entranceway.

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. The big collection box will be in the upper lobby.

PASTOR IN THE PEWS: Sunday, October 13

Be sure to join us Sunday, October 13 for the first in a quarterly series we're calling "Pastor in the Pews", when church will be led by you, the members! All aspects of the service, including the sermon, will be planned and led by members of PCCT. If you are interested in being part of a 4-5 person design team to work - with Pastor Tom's assistance - on developing the service, please contact the church office or Pastor Tom.

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

The pumpkins are coming! 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!

CHILDREN'S CLUB CHAT & CHEW

Please join our mid-week Church school program for student fellowship and dinner. Parents are requested to donate \$125 per child for the Fall to cover the cost of the dinners and craft supplies. Our Fall session begins on Wednesday, September 18 from 5:45 pm – 7:00 pm for lessons, crafts, activities and dinner. Please contact our Director of Family Ministries Yvonne Anderson for more information.

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY CONCERT!

Saturday, September 21st 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 burgers, 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 (see below for a list of most needed items). 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. Since the inception of **Helping Hands, NJ** in March of 2020, it has been and continues to be a community of "neighbors helping neighbors" committed to ending food insecurity and supporting self-sufficiency. *Donations Needed: 1. baby wipes, 2. ShopRite gift cards, 3. toiletries, 4. toothpaste, 5. toilet paper/paper towels*

SPECIAL OFFERING

In the pews this morning, you will see an envelope for the Peace and Global Witness Offering. This will be collected on **World Communion Sunday, October 6**, and the money goes to supporting peace-building activities and to providing relief, shelter, and hope to families and to reaching out to those in crisis and recovering from natural disasters.