

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God of life, we admit to you and in the presence of one another that we have not always lived lives of love. Despite your admonitions, we have lost patience and been rude. We have been irritable and insisted on our own way. There have even been times when we have even let love end. Forgive us and heal us, dear God, through Jesus Christ, your love incarnate. 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.*

Service of Ordination and Installation of Officers

(Following the Installation, Children and youth will go downstairs to their classroom.)

Prayer for Illumination

Lesson from the Hebrew Bible: Jeremiah 1:4-10

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Anthem

Walk In The Light
Chancel Choir

arr. Andre Thomas

Lesson from the New Testament: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

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Sermon "Striving for Greater Gifts"

The Reverend Thomas A. Brown

***Affirmation of Faith**

Alvin Franz Brightbill, *adapted*

*We believe in God, the giver of grain and bread,
and in Jesus Christ, the bread of life broken for us,
and in the Holy Spirit, God's nourishing power in every grain and loaf.
We believe that Christ is to be leaven in us,
so that we may offer the bread of life to the hungers of every human heart.
Amen.*

The Prayers of the People

Minute for Mission Souper Bowl of Caring Members of the Confirmation Class
Call to Offering

Offertory Wade in the Water arr. Chuck Marohnic

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 invited and encouraged to partake in Communion. Ushers will serve worshippers in the pews, first the bread, then the cup. Gluten-free elements are available in the center dish on each tray. The ministers will invite you to take the bread and cup all together after all have been served.

Prayer after Communion

***Hymn 432** How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord REPTON

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction**

Postlude Grand Jeu Jean Adam Guilain

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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 Evan Skinner.

Our ushers this morning are Julie Bliemel, Rob Eisenhardt,
Carlene Pruitt, and Carolyn Smith.

Special thanks to Nathan Brown and Lynn Apolinaro
for their technical assistance today.

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: February 3 - 8, 2025

Monday

9:30 am Next Act, Theos Room
11:30 am A New Day, Halldorson Hall
6:30 pm Boy Scouts, Mulford Hall
7:00 pm Deacons, Halldorson Hall

Tuesday

10:00 am Staff Meeting, Halldorson

Wednesday

9:30 am Bible Study, Theos Room
5:00 pm Children's Music, Choir Room
5:45 pm Chat & Chew, Mulford Hall

Thursday

6:45 pm Sanctuary Ringers, Bell Room
7:45 pm Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Friday

6:00 pm Fellowship Event, Untied Brewing
New Providence

NEXT SUNDAY, February 9, 2025

9:15 am & 11:00 am Confirmation Class, Youth Suite
10:00 am **Worship, Sanctuary;** Nursery Care, A-9
10:15 am Church School & Breakfast Club
11:00 am Coffee & Fellowship, Mulford Hall

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

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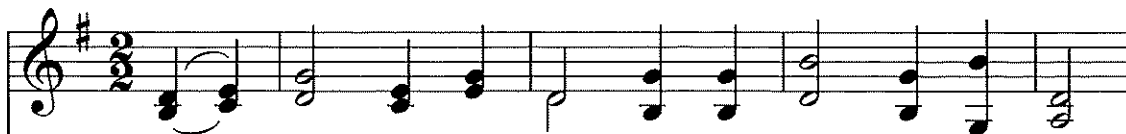
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463 How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,



is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,



to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."



It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432

Capo 1: (D) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A)(D)
 Eb Bb Cm Ab Eb Bb Eb



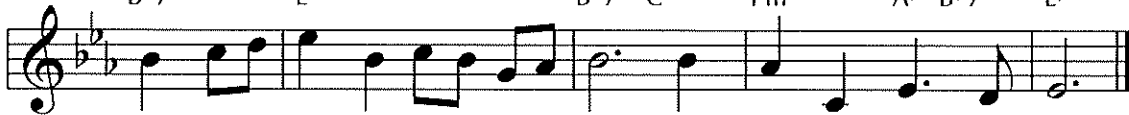
1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
 2 But if, for-get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
 3 We mar - vel how your saints be-came in hin-dranc-es more sure:
 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,

(G) (Em) (A) (F#m) (Bm) (G) (Em)
 Ab Fm Bb Gm Cm Ab Fm



to live ac-cord-ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re-freshed, re -
 if world-ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un -
 whose joy - ful vir-tues put to shame the ca-sual way we wear your
 in old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look to

(A7) (D) (A7)(B) (Em) (G)(A7) (D)
 Bb7 Eb Bb7 C Fm Ab Bb7 Eb



stored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
 wind its tan-gled skein of care: our in-ward life re - pair.
 name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure.
 you: the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav-ored, done.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This reflection on Christian vocation was written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune, and the poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 2, 2025

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

The Sacrament of Communion

Ordination and Installation of Officers

- 10:00 am** **Worship, Sanctuary;** Nursery Care, A-9
10:15 am Church School & Breakfast Club
11:00 am Coffee and Fellowship, Mulford Hall
11:15 am **Faith Forward: Interfaith Dialogue, Halldorson Hall**



CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel Flowers are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of our church officers and in appreciation for all that they do.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

To be installed as Elders: Lisa Boles*, George Shepherd, Mark Skinner, Carolyn Smith, and Dave Whitman.

To be installed as Deacons: Laura Birdsall*, Brandon Magill*, Rob Meyers*, Dana Nall, Linda Patten*, and Kristin Winter.

**Signifies those being ordained as well as installed. Those who are not present today will be installed at a later date.*

FAITH FORWARD: INTERFAITH DIALOGUE AND SHARED WORSHIP EXPERIENCES

This morning, we welcome friends from Congregation Beth Hatikvah to our worship service. Following the service, please join us for special Faith Forward program of interfaith dialogue in Halldorson Hall. Facilitated by Rev. Tom Brown and Rabbi Allyson Zacharoff from Beth Hatikvah, this time of casual conversation is intended to open doors toward greater mutual understanding. Save the evening of Friday, March 7 for a gathering and Shabbat service at Beth Hatikvah in Summit.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Why We need Your Help Now

Our 64-year old building is in need of urgent repairs. Critical infrastructure like our HVAC system, flat roof, and boiler components have exceeded their lifespans, leading to escalating repair costs and unsafe conditions for staff, volunteers, and children. Your support will allow us to replace outdated HVAC units, repair our flat roof, and upgrade boiler components. By acting now, we'll avoid unnecessary expenditures and ensure PCCT remains a safe, functional space for years to come. To give, please go to our website at pcct-nj.org and select the "Give Now" tab. Thank you.

FELLOWSHIP DROP-IN EVENT

Friday, February 7, 6:00 pm at Untied Brewing Company in New Providence

Start off the New Year spending a casual evening with PCCT friends. This will be a "drop-in" event - no RSVP required. BYOF (Bring Your Own Food. Outside alcohol is not permitted.) Friends are invited! For questions, contact Rob Eisenhardt at rob.eisenhardt@gmail.com. The brewing company is located at 140 Spring Street Unit C in New Providence.

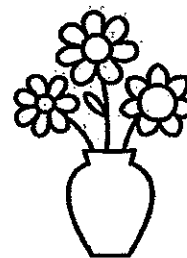


SOUPER BOWL OF CARING: Sunday, February 9

This year's Confirmation Class is sponsoring PCCT's participation in the *Souper Bowl of Caring* in conjunction with the big game. To date, almost \$200 million has been raised nationwide for local charities to make a difference as they collect food, raise money and volunteer with charities that provide shelter to the homeless and food to the hungry. On Sunday, February 9th, the Confirmation Class will collect donations for the *Souper Bowl of Caring* following the 10 am worship service, both monetary and donations of canned soup will be gladly accepted!

FLOWER MINISTRY: Many dates are open!

Thank you to everyone who dedicates flowers each Sunday. Your continued support allows us to continue the care and connection of the Deacons' flower ministry by delivering flowers to members of our congregation as a sign of appreciation, celebration, or concern on behalf of the church. To place a dedication for 2025, you can sign up on the board in the Upper Lobby or on our website (click on the "News" tab). If you have any questions, please contact Gloria in the church office at 973-635-2340.



BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY MEN'S CHORUS

Saturday, March 1, 7:00 pm in the sanctuary

The BGSU Men's Chorus is an auditioned ensemble open to all tenor and bass students, faculty and staff at Bowling Green State University. Established in 1971, the chorus' motto and reputation as "America's Finest Singing Machine" is well deserved, emanating decades of musical excellence. The ensemble encompasses students from all majors; over half are non-music majors, representing all seven colleges at the university. Host families are needed! The last time the collegiate mixed chorale was here, our host families had a wonderful time and everyone enjoyed each other's company. Contact Matt Zabiegala for more information. Please consider hosting! You can scan the QR code to sign up.



SAVE THE DATE: BLOOD DRIVE
Sunday March 9, 9:00 am-2:00 pm in Halldorson Hall
You can scan the QR code to register early.



SIGN-UP TO RECEIVE TEXTS FROM PCCT

Sign-up today to receive occasional texts from PCCT! We'll send reminders about upcoming events to keep you in the know! In this busy world, a gentle nudge is helpful. Instructions are below:

1. Use the QR Code
2. Fill out the Form
3. When you click "Text me with news and offers" an option to enter your mobile number will appear
4. Once you've filled out the form completely, click the "sign-up" button and a "Thank you" page will appear
5. NEXT you will receive a text to the mobile phone number you submitted, asking you to confirm your interest in receiving SMS messages from PCCT. When you respond "Yes" to the text message, you are opted into SMS messaging, and sent a confirmation text message.



**PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE
FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES**

Our hearts are with all our siblings who have been affected by the devastating wildfires that have affected thousands of people and multiple communities across California. The PC(USA) affirms our commitment to accompany those affected by this disaster. As people of God, once again we are called to stand with our neighbors. PDA is in communication with the affected presbyteries to offer resources in the aftermath of the fires. We pray for all lives affected. To learn more and to help by giving, go to <https://www.pcusa.org/disaster-assistance/active-responses/national-disaster/southern-california-wildfire>