



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN

Where Faith, Families & Friends Connect

Third Sunday of Easter • April 14, 2024 • 10:00am
178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN, CT 06840 • 203-966-0002 • FPCNC.ORG

Grace and peace to you, and welcome!

As you prepare for Worship, please sign the red welcome pad found at the center of each aisle so that we will know you worshipped with us. Then pass it to your neighbor. The last person to sign the pad should pass it back to the center of the aisle. We suggest you prayerfully allow the silent, sacred space of where you are, and the quiet stirrings of the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart and mind for Worship.

**PLEASE STAND IN BODY AND/OR SPIRIT.*

THE GATHERING

Prelude: Epigramme #2, 5 and 6 Zoltán Kodály

***Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 4)** Stephanie Hare

Leader: The Lord hears us when we call:

People: **Come, let us put our trust in God.**

Leader: The Lord fills our hearts with gladness:

People: **Come, let us sing God's praises with shouts of joy!**

Leader: The Lord grants peace to our weary souls:

People: **Come, let us rest by the quiet waters of God's grace.**

***Hymn No. 634:** To God Be the Glory *To God be the Glory*

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the peo - ple re - joice!

O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,
and give him the glo - ry: great things he has done!

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Scott Herr

Blessing for our Younger Disciples

Stephanie Hare

Call to Confession

Jennifer Frazer

Leader: To repent is to rethink who we are and where we are headed in life. To repent is to turn away from sin and turn toward new life in Christ Jesus. Scripture promises that when we confess, God hears our cries and wipes away our sin (Acts 3:19). Trusting in God’s promises of new life, let us confess our sins and the sin of this world.

Confession of Sin (unison)

Jennifer Frazer

People: Crucified-Risen Christ, we are often troubled by our doubts. But You are not troubled by them. You do not require perfect understanding. Instead, You reveal Yourself to us again and again that we might come to know You. Forgive us when our doubts keep us stuck, when fear prevents us from loving all creation as You call us to do. Help us to accept the peace You so graciously offer to us. Have mercy on us when we hoard or hide it, when we fail to offer it to others. Renew us and make us whole that in this world of strife we may be bearers of your peace. In resurrection hope we pray...

(silence for further individual reflection and repentance...)

Leader: In Jesus’ name we pray.

People: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Jennifer Frazer

Leader: “See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God and that is what we are” (1 John 3:1). Beloved siblings, we are claimed by God, forgiven of our sins, and set free for love.

People: Thanks be to God!! Alleluia and Amen!

***Gloria Patri (No. 581)**

Gloria Patri

**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.**

***Passing of the Peace**

Jennifer Frazer

Leader: The first words of the risen Christ to his followers were, "Peace be with you." May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Please share that peace with one another.

Congregation greets one another and shares the peace of Christ

THE WORD

Lighting the Candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice and Peace

Stacey Arevalo

Minister: Today we light a candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice and Peace....

People – Sung response Hymn No. 757, verse 3: Today We All are Called to Be Disciples

Kingsfold

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.

First Lesson – 1 John 3:1-7

Jennifer Frazer

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Salvation is Created

Pavel Chesnokov/Files

Salvation is created in midst of the earth, O God. Alleluia.

FPCNC Choir

³⁶Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

Minister: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Joy, disbelief, and still wondering...”

The Rev. Scott Herr

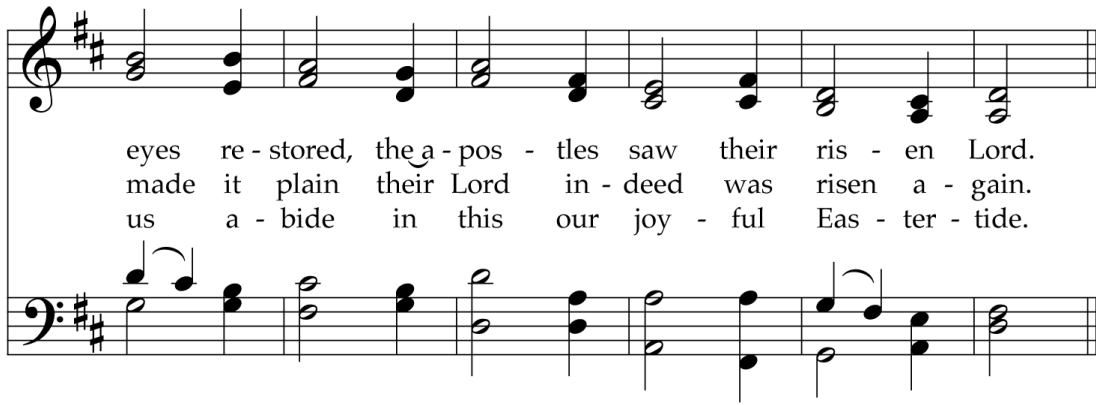
RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith – Hymn No. 254: That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

Puer nobis nascitur

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the sun shone
 2 He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the
 3 From ev - ery weap - on death can wield, your own re -

out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
 glo - rious wounds a - bide, the to - kens true which
 deemed for - ev - er shield; O Lord of all, with



Welcome and Reception of New Members

Elder Jennifer Van de Graaf

**Barb Achenbaum
Michele Bergeal**

Elder: On behalf of the Session, Barb and Michele have learned what we believe and want to covenant with us to be received into the membership of this congregation.

Pastor: Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age (Matthew 28:18-20).

Remembering the words of our Lord and sure of God’s presence with us now, we do this.

Friends, in baptism you were claimed by God, marked as Christ’s own forever, and joined to His body by the Holy Spirit. You come to us then, not as strangers, but as friends in Christ and members of the household of God. We rejoice that you now desire to join this congregation in the Worship and mission of the Church. Please affirm your faith by answering these questions:

- Who is your Lord and Savior?
Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.
- Do you trust in him?
I do.
- Do you intend to be his disciples, to obey his word and to show his love?
I do.
- Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, giving of yourself in every way, and will you seek the fellowship of the Church wherever you may be?
I will.

Then asking the congregation:

Elder Bob Spangler

- Do you, the members of the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan, welcome these siblings who have witnessed to their faith in Jesus Christ, and promise to strengthen their ties with the household of God through your faithful fellowship and love?
We do.

***Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed, in Unison)**

The Rev. Scott Herr

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.

Unison Prayer

The Rev. Scott Herr

Gracious God, we praise You for calling us to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank You for choosing to add to our number these sisters in faith, and for the gift of Baptism. Together, may we live in Your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to Whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.

Welcome and Blessing of New Members

Elder Jennifer Van de Graaf

We welcome you to this ministry of Jesus Christ, and charge you to live spiritually, love inclusively, learn continuously, and leave a legacy. Go and serve the Lord with joy!

Prayers of the People

Stacy Arevalo

The Lord's Prayer (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 for the Offering

Stacy Arevalo

Leader: In response to God's abundant grace at work in our lives, let us present with gratitude our gifts of time, talent and treasure, for the building up of God's kingdom.

Offertory Solo:

XXIII Psalm

Paul Creston

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Nikolas Brannan - tenor

***Doxology (No. 606):**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

Jennifer Frazer

Living Lord, we give You thanks for the bounty of Your grace: You create us in Your image, shower us with Your love, forgive us when we turn away from You, and give us a future with hope. Bless these gifts we offer, and make us good stewards of the resources You have entrusted to us. May our gifts bring joy and peace in Your Church and our community. In Christ's holy name we pray, Amen.

SENDING

***Hymn No. 256:**

These Things Did Thomas Count as Real

Kedron

1 These things did Thom - as count as real: the warmth of
2 The vi - sion of his skept - tic mind was keen e -
3 His rea - soned cer - tain - ties de - nied that one could
4 May we, O God, by grace be - lieve and thus the

blood, the chill of steel, the grain of wood, the heft of
nough to make him blind to an - y un - ex - pect - ed
live when one had died, un - til his fin - gers read like
ris - en Christ re - ceive, whose raw im - print - ed hands reached

stone, the last frail twitch of blood and bone.
 act too large for his small world of fact.
 Braille the mark - ings of the spear and nail.
 out and beck - oned Thom - as from his doubt.

***Benediction**

The Rev. Scott Herr

***Choral Amen**

***Ringing of the Church Bell**

***Postlude:**

Herr Jesus Christ, dich zu uns wend' Johann Sebastian Bach
 (Lord Jesus Christ, be present now! – BWV 632, from *Orgelbüchlein*)

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TODAY IN WORSHIP

Welcome to Worship on this Third Sunday of Eastertide. Today we will be reflecting on the fact that we are all at different spiritual “places” on our life journeys. We come with different emotions and perspectives. Through the lens of the two lectionary texts from Luke and the first letter of John, we will reflect on how Jesus calls us, from wherever we may be, to community, and reminds us that we are beloved of God. We are glad that you are joining us for Worship today and pray that you will be spiritually refreshed and renewed, and socially reoriented for the week ahead.

Note from Worship Committee:

During our year dedicated to exploring the search for peace, notice the over 600 cranes that grace the wall to the east of the Chancel and at the back of the Sanctuary. The crane is a Japanese symbol of peace, here in origami form. These cranes were first strung above the center aisle of our Sanctuary five years ago in conjunction with the Confirmation Class of that year although they were folded on commission.

All children from Kindergarten age on up are welcome to join us for Sunday School each Sunday! Children depart the Worship Service for Sunday School after the Blessing for Young Disciples. Sunday School is held upstairs in our dedicated room on the 2nd floor of Bliss House (enter staircase next to the Pastor’s Study, at top of stairs go straight and it’s last door on your right). Adults can meet up with their children in the Common Room immediately following Worship.

TODAY IN WORSHIP (Cont'd)

Children are warmly welcome to stay in Worship! For children who stay during Worship, the *Pray-Ground* can be found in the area in front of the back pew. The Pray-Ground is a designated place in the Sanctuary where young children can experience Worship through age-appropriate worship materials and tools that will help keep them engaged in what is happening. We will continue to rotate books and coloring materials on an ongoing basis. Although it can seem counter-intuitive to adults, children are often able to process what they hear more effectively when they have something to do with their hands.

Any child worshipping in the Pray-Ground should bring their grown-up with them to the Pray-Ground. Including young children in Worship can sometimes feel a little daunting, especially on days when they're feeling a little extra fidgety, but we don't need to be discouraged from keeping children in the Sanctuary. There are many important things that children learn while in Worship, even when we're not sure if they're paying attention. Young children learn by observing the adults around them. Children acquire the "language" of worship by listening to and observing the words the adults around them say, much like how they learn their native tongue. Quite simply, children learn to worship by regularly being in Worship. **So families with little ones should feel free to worship together in the Pray-Ground!**

FPCNC also offers **babysitting during our Sunday Service** provided by Saturnina Greeves-Cooper and Lizz Reyes from Wee Care Nanny Agency. Our Nursery is located just off our Common Room vestibule down the long hall from the Sanctuary and is available between the hours of 8:45–11:30am. **Parental and guardian sign-in is required and we do ask that you pick up your child promptly after the Service.**

Cents-ability. We're now leaving the Cents-ability jar in the hallway on the way to the Common Room. If you have any spare change, please drop it into the jar either on the way to Coffee Hour or whenever you're in Church. You can also take home a small cents-ability bank to collect change. All change collected will be donated to the New Canaan Food Pantry. Thank you for your awareness and generous response to hunger.



SIGN UP to Read, Usher or Greet <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4aaaad2aa31-sunday>

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:



DONATE:



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Sunday School is growing, and we can use your help! If you are interested in helping Steph teach Sunday School this year, please reach out to Stephanie Hare (stephanie@fpcnc.org) or by completing this short form here: <https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/Teachers2023-24>. Let's help our young disciples grow in their understanding and relationship to God!

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

This Sunday, our organ prelude is music by **Zoltán Kodály** (1882-1967), a Hungarian composer, ethnomusicologist, music pedagogue, linguist, and philosopher. He is well known internationally as the creator of the Kodály method of music education. Kodály learned to play the violin as a child. In 1900, he entered the Department of Languages at the University of Budapest and at the same time Hans von Küssler's composition class at the Royal Hungarian Academy of Music. After completing his studies, he studied in Paris with Charles Widor for a year. In 1906 he wrote a thesis on Hungarian folk song. At around this time Kodály met fellow composer and compatriot Béla Bartók, whom he took under his wing and introduced to some of the methods involved in folk song collecting. In 1966, Kodály toured the United States and gave a special lecture at Stanford University, where some of his music was performed in his presence.

Our FPCNC Choir's anthem is by **Pavel Grigorievich Chesnokov** (1877-1944), an Imperial Russian and Soviet composer, choral conductor and teacher. He composed over five hundred choral works, over four hundred of which are sacred. Today, he is most known for his piece *Salvation is Created*, heard today. While attending the Moscow Conservatory, he received extensive training in both instrumental and vocal music including nine years of solfège, and seven years training for both the piano and violin. His studies in composition included four years of harmony, counterpoint, and form. During his years at the school, he had the opportunity to study with prominent Russian composers like Sergei Taneyev and Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov, who greatly influence his style of liturgy-driven choral composition. At an early age, Chesnokov gained recognition as a great conductor and choirmaster while leading many groups including the Russian Choral Society Choir. This reputation earned him a position on staff at the Moscow Conservatory. There he founded a choral conducting program, which he taught from 1920 until his death.

Our tenor, Nikolas Brannan, sings a setting of the Twenty-Third Psalm by **Paul Creston** (1906-1985), an Italian American composer of classical music. Creston was self-taught as a composer. His work tends to be fairly conservative in style, with a strong rhythmic element. His pieces include six symphonies; a number of concertos, including two for violin, one for marimba and orchestra, one each for one piano, two pianos, and accordion, and a concerto for alto saxophone; as well as a fantasia for trombone and orchestra. Also, for alto saxophone Creston wrote a Rapsodie; a suite and a sonata; and also a suite for organ, Op. 70. Several of his works were inspired by the poetry of Walt Whitman. From 1934 to 1967, Creston served as Organist at St. Malachy's – The Actors' Chapel, in NYC. It was during these thirty-three years at St. Malachy's, that Creston became the prolific composer that he was.

Our organ postlude is by **Johann Sebastian Bach** (1685-1750) and from his *Orgelbüchlein* (Little Organ Book), a set of 46 chorale preludes for organ. All but three were written between 1708 and 1717 when Bach served as Organist to the ducal court in Weimar; the remainder and a short two-bar fragment came no earlier than 1726, after the composer's appointment as Cantor at the Thomasschule in Leipzig. Bach had planned for a collection of 164 settings of chorale tunes sung during the Church year so that each part of the year was represented. However, only 46 of these were completed. Each setting takes a Lutheran chorale, adds a motivic accompaniment, and quite freely explores form.

Sunday, May 12 is Mother's Day! Last year the men serenaded our women on their special day, and we are going to do so again this year. Start singing in the shower to work on your voice and join us as we prepare to sing on May 12. Reach out to Terry if you have questions.



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome Barbara “Barb” Achenbaum!

A native of Chicago, Barb moved to New Canaan with her husband Jon and their three daughters in 2003. Barb’s professional experience in Chicago included eight years in corporate communications at the Quaker Oats Company and a decade in development work in the non-profit arena. While she was raising her kids in New Canaan, Barb was an active volunteer and ran a small book group business. From 2016-2022, Barb was Executive Director of Staying Put in New Canaan, a nonprofit organization committed to helping older adults live independently at home as they age. Following retirement, Barb joined the Town’s Health and Human Services Commission, and she is currently serving on the Boards of both Waveny Lifecare Network and the New Canaan Museum and Historical Society.



Barb is an avid reader, enjoys traveling with Jon, and loves spending summers at her family’s cottage in Michigan. She is most proud of the fact that she can frequently visit her three daughters and two grandsons – who all live in Brooklyn!

Welcome Michele Bergeal!

My husband Jean-Marie and I live in Westport, CT. We lived in NYC prior to this. I raised my family in Rye, NY and Jean-Marie raised his in Stamford, CT. We have a son and three daughters, two sons-in-law and 2 grandchildren. I have worked in the fashion business for over 30 years. Jean-Marie is an entrepreneur and founder of an energy technology company, Clairvoyame. We enjoy spending time with friends and family here and in France. Jean-Marie is an avid sailer and slowly teaching me to sail.



THIS WEEK

Wednesday Weekly Bible Studies, led by Darlene Harmon, meets every Wednesday at 10:00am and they will be studying the book of Acts. Please come at 9:45am to share a cup of tea or coffee. We hope you can come join us! Everyone is invited!

Knobloch Scholarship: Thanks to the generosity of one of our distinguished members, Bill Knobloch, the First Presbyterian Church is offering to any Fall 2024 matriculated college student who is a member of the congregation the opportunity to apply for a \$2,500 scholarship to be used for college or university study costs. Application forms are available by contacting Wendy at the church office (wendy@fpcnc.org). **Application deadline is April 30th.**

 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

Wednesdays At The Well

Join us April 10th through May 15th.
We will practice loving God, our neighbor, and our enemy.

Wednesdays at the Well are midweek, intergenerational opportunities to learn and grow in faith together - and all ages are invited to participate.

Dinner will be served and all are invited!

6:30-7:45 pm

All Are Welcome
Visit fpcnc.org or call us at 203-966-0002 ext. 1

NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday, April 21 we welcome Mark Labberton who will preach at our 10am Worship Service and then lead our next Adult Forum at 11:30am where he will discuss: **The Wisdom and Tyranny of Fear**. We hope you can join us.

Mark Labberton, an ordained PC(USA) pastor and president emeritus of Fuller Theological Seminary, is a writer, preacher, and leader. He hails from Washington State, graduated from Whitman College (BA), Fuller Theological Seminary(MDiv), and Cambridge University (PhD). Most of his pastoral ministry was spent as the Senior Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley, CA. He has authored four books and many articles, and is currently writing another book on fear. He is married to Janet Labberton and they have two adult sons. Mark and Janet live in the San Francisco Bay Area.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

MARK LABBERTON

AN ORDAINED PC (USA) PASTOR &
PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF FULLER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

APRIL 21ST, 2024

178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN CT

10 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
11:30 AM ADULT FORUM

DISCUSSING:
THE WISDOM
AND
TYRANNY OF
FEAR.

ALL
ARE
WELCOME!

WWW.FPCNC.ORG

CALENDAR-AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesdays at the Well	(April 10–May 15 at 6:30-7:45pm)
Sunday, April 14, 10:00am	Welcome New Members
Sunday, April 21, 11:30am	<u>Adult Forum</u> – Mark Labberton
Saturday, April 27, 11:00am	Louise Warren Higley John Memorial Service & Reception
Saturday, May 4, 11:00am	Ruth Swanberg Memorial Service & Reception
Sunday, May 5, 10:00am	Scottish Heritage Sunday 50th Anniversary
Sunday, May 5, 4:00pm	Charis Chamber Voices Concert
Saturday, May 18, 11:00am	Anne MacKenzie Memorial Service & Reception

Calling All Children for The Kìrkin' O' the Tartan

Calling ALL CHILDREN! to participate in the KIRKIN' O' the TARTAN, a procession into the Sanctuary, on Sunday, May 5th for the Annual Scottish Sunday Service.

All interested, please email Nancy LaBadie (nancydllabadie@gmail.com) or the Church Office by Tuesday, April 30. There will be a brief rehearsal for the kids on Sunday, May 5 in the sanctuary at 9:30am.



We encourage (but don't require) all to wear the tartan in whatever form of one's choice.

A ceilidh will follow the Service, featuring songs of Scotland, Mt. Kisco Pipes and Drums, Purple Heather Scottish Dancers along with servings of shortbread made by the Scottish Heritage Committee.

Please Sign up by April 30.

SAVE THE DATE



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

Great Scot!

**Celebrate With Us On Sunday, May 5!
50th Anniversary of Scottish Heritage
Sunday at FPCNC**

**Mark your calendar and invite family and friends to this year's big event. Come share the pageantry of the Mount Kisco Scottish Pipes & Drums, the grace and joy of the Purple Heather Dancers, the tartans and the kilts, the shortbread and haggis, and all the fun for young and old.
Great Scot!**



All Are Welcome!
Every Sunday - Worship/Sunday School @ 10am
Visit fpcnc.org or call us at 203-966-0002 ext 1

MISSION & OUTREACH

March-April 2024 - THANK YOU 2024 VOLUNTEERS!

Where your donations went this month and how you can help!

-**Meals on Wheels:** We are continuing to find monthly volunteer opportunities to deliver meals in New Canaan besides our annual financial gift of \$1000 a year to MOW. Volunteer slots can be found on their website.

-**April 21 is Earth Day** celebration and opportunity to volunteer. Wherever you can help mother earth, do so! Wear a FPC New Canaan t-shirt to remind others of our love for God's creation. They will be located in the back of the Church beginning April 20/21.

-**New Covenant House:** Buying and preparing meals for over 100 families. 5-7 volunteers are always welcome, sign up for April, May, and August, Sept, Oct for the first Saturday of the month using Sign up Genius or contact the Church office to sign up. **NEEDED: volunteers and cooks for May 4! If you have an interest in going to COSTCO to purchase food, please reach out to Cindy. We can shop together to learn how.**



-**Pacific House:** \$1000 for March Mattress and the purchase of four new mattresses at the shelter. A donation box will be placed in the back for: White washclothes and Twin Bed Sheet Sets. Also: April help is needed to take inventory in the basement of one of their shelters. We have three people signed up to help for a 4-hour shift – specific date in April or May to follow. Please join in if you are free that day.

-**Women Empowerment Women, New Canaan:** \$2500 donation for an 8-week Skills Program beginning this spring for women struggling with family or personal challenges. Conducted by a licensed Social Worker, the program has been credited for literally changing the direction of a woman's life whether it is in the area of personal addictions or that of a family member.

-**Lent Food Drive:** Thanks to all that were able to give! We collected over 60 bags of food. We will need 2-4 cars to help load up and deliver the bags to the New Canaan Food Pantry at St. Mark's this week. Call the office if you can help.

-**Toiletry Kits for the Homeless:** We prepared over 75 toiletry kits for the homeless before the Maundy Thursday Service in commemoration of Jesus' washing the feet of his Disciples and his mandate to "...love one another; even as I have loved you..." Thanks to everyone that came to help and a special thanks to the members of the Latter-Day Saints Church in New Canaan.

UPCOMING CONCERTS @ FPC

2024 marks the 300th anniversary of Bach's beloved masterpiece, the St. John Passion. **Charis Chamber Voices** will present this masterwork featuring Grammy-nominated British vocalist Ryland Angel as the Evangelist and former FPCNC bass Christopher Grundy as Jesus. Accompanying them will be a Baroque Orchestra including our own Terence J Flanagan playing continuo/harpsichord along with many of the same instrumentalists who performed with our choir in our last Cantata Sunday! Choose from one of two performances: Saturday, May 4 at 7:00pm at O'Byrne Chapel on the Manhattanville College campus in Purchase, NY and **Sunday, May 5 at 4:00pm at First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan.** There will be a free pre-concert lecture at 6:00pm before the Saturday evening performance. Learn more at www.charisvocals.org or by scanning the QR code.

CHARIS CHAMBER VOICES
JEREMY WIGGINS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
TERENCE J. FLANAGAN ACCOMPANIST

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH
ST. JOHN PASSION
WITH BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

MAY 4 & 5

This concert is made possible in part by a grant from the Westchester Community Foundation, a division of The New York Community Trust

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COMMUNITY



Waveny Lifecare Network's

NAVIGATOR

Alzheimer's at Home for New Canaan

Providing support and guidance to those impacted by Alzheimer's in New Canaan

All Communications Confidential

- » Personal Alzheimer's Navigation Specialists
- » 24/7 accessibility
- » Complimentary grant based program
- » Exclusive respite apartment
- » Access to adult day programming
- » Assistance with trusted affiliated resources outside of the Waveny Network
- » Wellness checks
- » Alzheimer's-specific caregiver support groups
- » Expedited access to Waveny's continuum
- » Dedicated mobile app

Contact us for a consultation

Phone: 203-594-5289

Email: Navigator@waveny.org

In collaboration with



NEW CANAAN
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

Domestic violence doesn't take a break for the holidays.



If you or someone you know needs help, call DVCC's 24-hour hotline at 203.588.9097 or visit the website at DVCCCT.org for more information.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Please keep the following people in your hearts.


Continued prayers and concerns: Tim and Kate Albert (friends of the Holden family); Sherman Bull; Judy and Tom Duncan (Lisa Flanagan's parents); Coco (4th grader) and her mother Jennifer and father Logan who experienced a trauma recently; Peter Findlay (Mimi Findlay's brother-in-law); Family of Jack Fonss; Amy Granato (Julie Fowler's sister); Mark Harmon (Darlene's husband); David Johnson (Elsbeth Johnson's son); Denise Lynch; Sandy Nissley; Marlene Powers; Devon Reich (Wendy Starr's friend's daughter); Joan Scherman (Mark Magnusen's friend); Kathy Ullerich (Wendy Starr's friend); the Abo Noktah family (the Syrian family FPCNC sponsored): father Khaldoun, mother Khawla Alzob, daughters Hanin, Zain and Hayat, and sons Yaman and Ahmed, and Khaldoun's mother, Nam Abo Noktah.

We continue to pray for the families and friends of the victims who have been affected by all the mass shootings.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is our presence around the world when disasters happen. Through them we are on the ground around the world, responding to the enormous needs following wildfires and earthquakes and during war.

For First Presbyterian Church, Stamford, its Members, Session, Seekers, and the Community of Stamford, CT.

GROW IN FAITH

 SILVER HILL HOSPITAL If you know of someone in urgent need of mental health support, please remember the resource that our town has in the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. The town, in partnership with Silver Hill Hospital, is prepared to offer psychiatric assessment and tailored referral for ongoing care. The Program serves children, teens and adults who are New Canaan residents free of charge. To schedule an intake call, email NCUA@silverhillhospital.org or call Silver Hill Hospital admissions at 1-866-542-4455 and indicate that you are asking about the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. For more details use this link: <https://silverhillhospital.org/new-canaan-urgent-assessment-program/>

Pastoral Care Team: Do you know of someone who needs a visitor or a phone call? Our congregation is fortunate to have a team of people who are ready to reach out to church members who are facing a life crisis. They may be in declining health, shut-ins, living in a care facility, grieving, or struggling with a significant change in their circumstances. Our Pastoral Care Team, made up of Stacy Arevalo, Peg Bull, Carole Clarkson, Debera Prosek, Ellen Sisson, and Mary Thies, is ready to provide pastoral care to church members who are dealing with such a situation. If you know of someone who could benefit from this ministry or if you have questions about the work of the Team, please call the church office 203-966-0002 (ext 1).



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of NEW CANAAN

SUNDAY, April 14

9 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Worship Service (in-person/LocalLive)
11 am Coffee Hour
11:30 am Welcome New Members

MONDAY, April 15

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Tate Barn)
2-8 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons (Choir Rm)
8 pm Purple Heather Dancers

TUESDAY, April 16

9 am St. A's Walking with a Purpose
9:30, 10:30, 11:30 Jumpin' Jams (Tate Barn)
10:30 am Staff Leadership Meeting
7 pm Session Meeting
7 pm Deacon Meeting (Zoom)
8 pm Men's A.A. Group (closed)

WEDNESDAY, April 17

10 am Weekly Bible Studies
4:30 pm English Handbells Rehearsal
6:30 pm Wednesday at the Well

THURSDAY, April 18

3:30 pm Special Church
6-7, 8-9 pm Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, April 19

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Tate Barn)
3-8 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons

SATURDAY, April 20

9:15 am A.A. Group (closed)
10:30 am A.A. Group (open)

SUNDAY, April 21

8 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Worship Service (in-person / LocalLive)
11 am Coffee Hour

THOSE PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

The First Presbyterian Church Choir
with:

Lisa Flanagan – soprano, Jamie Ratcliffe – alto, Nikolas Brannan – tenor, Liam Fitzpatrick and James Turner – bass

Greeters: Sue Benko and Debera Prosek

Lay Readers: Jennifer Frazer, Stacy Arevalo and Stephanie Hare

Ushers: Jennifer Van de Graaf and Margaret Cooper

Cross Bearer: Bob Spangler

MINISTERS

The Entire Congregation

OUR PASTORS

The Reverend Dr. R. Scott Herr, Senior Pastor • The Reverend Mary Marple Thies, Parish Associate

OUR STAFF

Terence J. Flanagan, Director of Music and Fine Arts • Stephanie L. Hare, Director of Family Ministries
Jim Riehl, Business Administrator • Wendy Starr, Office Manager
Stacy Arevalo, Seminary Intern • Kate and Matt Ziance, Operations Managers

SIGN UP to Read, Usher or Greet <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4aaaad2aa31-sunday>

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