



January 5, 2025

“The call to Jesus’ followers is to be sign producers for God’s kingdom. We are to set up signposts; *actions*, symbols, *not just words* - which speak of new creation: healing the sick, food for the hungry, and so on. These are rewarding tasks, but they are also demanding. To do them we will need the presence of Jesus, and the powerful breath of his Spirit. That is what we are *promised*.” N.T Wright

Prelude

Evan O'Donovan

Welcome

Reverend Ed Hoener

Call To Worship:

God of light and truth, we come, seeking your Word for our lives. **We come, longing for renewal and restoration.** You come to us with light to show us Your ways. **You come with strength to make our steps steady as we follow You.**

***Hymn of Praise #147**

The First Nowell

vss. 1, 3 & 4

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Reconciliation :

Lord Jesus, you welcome us into your realm with mercy, when we lose our bearings. You meet us with grace, to create a new and right spirit within us. Open our eyes to see your path before us each day. Help us to rely on your Spirit to guide and strengthen us in your service. Amen.

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Grace:

God's Spirit makes us new, and gives us strength. **She leads us into growth, and fruitful ministry, to further God's mission.**

***Response of Praise #155**

Raise a Song of Gladness

Sharing the Peace of Christ:

A new day has arisen! Christ, the light of the world has come; breathing peace and grace for us to receive! God is here to bestow the peace that comes from being in the center of God's will. **May the peace of Christ be with us day and night!** Let us bless one another with Christ's peace saying, The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

Ministry of Music

Evan O'Donovan

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Message

Pastor Ed

***Hymn of Faith #94**

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

Celebrating Passion Enterprises

Now is a time to share something that happened, or that touched someone, or made a difference in some way. It is recounting how God's presence, love, and care are experienced in one's life. Please come to the lectern so that everyone may see and hear.

**If you can stand comfortably, please do so.*

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer:

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.

*Hymn of Preparation #533

In the Singing

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer Following Communion

Special Offering Meditation

*Offering Song #710

We are an Offering

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are Yours, we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to You, we give to You. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering, we are an offering.

*Prayer of Dedication

Announcements (pg. 4)

*Hymn of Response #742

We Will Walk With God

(sing 3X)

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Evan O'Donovan

*If you can stand comfortably, please do so.

Announcements

Thank you to Cheryl Anne Cammann & Susan Krivenko for running the projector & camera!

Join our Worship Support Team! For more information, ask the pastor or the technicians or call the church office.

Consecration Sunday is Coming – January 12

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world. Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events! – FPC Finance Team

Souper Bowl of Caring Coming in February

We will be holding the Souper Bowl food collection in February. You can begin bringing in items the 1st Sunday in February; the collection will continue through the month. More details to follow during our worship service's announcements.

Congregational & Corporation Meeting: January 26, 2025

We will be holding our annual meeting on Sunday, January 26, following our worship service. We invite you to participate/get involved in this important meeting as we review the church's accomplishments in 2024, elect officers, and conduct other church business. We hope to see you there!

There will be one gathering in January on Friday, the 10th, and one in February on Friday, the 28th.



Online Donations

PRAYER PERSON OF THE WEEK

Gladys Bond

PRAYER REQUESTS

Carole H., LJ & Corinne, Helen, Logan, Harper, Eileen P., Alyne B., Helene & Diane, Eunice - Barbra & Dave, Dorothy R., Amy, Avril Muller & family, Carlos B., Savannah B.

**The First Presbyterian Church of Rahway
1731 Church Street**

January 5, 2025
Rev. Ed Hoener
Lauris Beam
Carol Ann Bregman
Evan O'Donovan

10:30 A.M.
Pastor
Worship Leader
Administrator
Music Director