



Welcome
We're glad you joined us.

W e , r e g l a d y o u j o i n e d u s .
W E L C O M E

November 10, 2024

“Discernment is an ever-increasing capacity to “see” the work of God in the midst of the situation, so that we can align ourselves with whatever God is doing. It is a quality of attentiveness to God, that, over time, develops our sense of God’s heart in the moment. Through prayer, stillness, and dialogue we place ourselves in alignment with God’s purpose for us.”

Ruth Barton, Sarah Beaumont

Prelude #31

Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

Evan O'Donovan

Welcome

Call To Worship

Elder Barb Sixbey

We come here today because we cannot stay away.

We come here to say "Help us," and "Thank you, God."

We come because we are in awe of your Love and care.

We come to live in your Light because it is here that we find peace.

Let us give thanks to the Spirit of Hope,

The Spirit of New Possibilities in the sunrise of our soul. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise #401**

Gather Us In

Call to Reconciliation

Rev. Deb Swift

Please pray with me as we ask the Holy Presence to be with us.

We come to you today bringing all that we have – our lives, our hopes and dreams, our fears and sorrows. We place these before you in faith and hope, knowing that no matter what has happened you are with us and blessing us.

You call us to new chances, new life and new possibilities. Open our hearts to receive your words and your Spirit, that we may find healing and comfort. Open our lives to the wondrous possibilities for service and joy that you offer to us.

Ease our minds and spirits that we may hear your words of encouragement and peace this day, for we ask this in your holy Presence. AMEN.

Silent Prayers of Reflection

Assurance of Grace

Amen. Friends, our God is a God of second, third, and fourth chances. The Living God, the Risen Christ, reminds us that we are a Resurrection People and that when we realign ourselves with God's Plan, we say YES! to the Spirit and enjoy the holy flow of life. We can dare to believe the Good News of the Gospel: Jesus invites us to join him on the Way to new life.

***Response of Praise #591**

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

Chorus only, 2x

Sharing the Peace of Christ

What does it mean to be at peace? How do we find peace in today's world?

We find peace when we offer it to others.

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Ministry of Music #839

Blessed Assurance

Evan O'Donovan

*If you can stand comfortably, please do so.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 146 (NIV) – responsive reading

Elder Barb Sixbey

Praise the one who Creates us.

Praise the Creator, O my soul.

I will praise the One all my life;

I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes,
in human beings, who cannot save.

**When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;
on that very day their plans come to nothing.**

Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in their God.

... the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them—

Our God remains faithful forever.

The one who Creates us upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.

**The One sets prisoners free,
and gives sight to the blind,**

the One lifts up those who are bowed down,
and loves the righteous.

**Our God watches over the foreigner
and sustains the fatherless and the widow,**
but frustrates the ways of the wicked.

God reigns forever ... for all generations.

Praise the Creator, O my soul.

Behold! The Spirit's message for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

“Even THEY Didn’t Get It?”

The Reverend Deborah Fae Swift

Includes *Luke 2:41-52* (MSG)

*Hymn of Faith #406

We Are Standing on Holy Ground

Celebrating Our Journey

Now is a time to share something positive that you experienced this weekend ... something that touches you or made a difference in how you look at life. Please come to the lectern so that everyone may see and hear.

Prayers of the People

Rev. Deb Swift

The Children's Lord's Prayer from the Church of England:

Our Creator God in heaven, you are awesome! Show us who you are and how you want us to be. Make earth more like heaven. Please give us what we need to keep going each day.

*If you can stand comfortably, please do so.

Help us when we are wrong and clean us up on the inside. Help us to let other people off and move on. Keep us from bad stuff. You're in charge! You're strong and powerful and always there. Forever! Amen.

Call to Offering

***Offering Song #716**

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.

***Prayer of Dedication**

All things come from you, O God, and with gratitude we share what we can with others. We are grateful for our many blessings and want to share the bounty of our lives with those in need. Bless our gifts and the lives of all they will touch, we ask. Amen.

Announcements (pg. 4)

***Hymn of Response #192**

Lord, the Light of Your Love (Shine, Jesus, Shine)

Charge and Blessing

Rev. Deb Swift

Postlude #649

Amazing Grace

Evan O'Donovan

*If you can stand comfortably, please do so.

Announcements

Thank you to **Princeton Nwosu & Cheryl Anne Cammann** for running the projector & camera!
Be a part of our Worship Support Team! For more info ask the pastor, the technicians, or call the church office.

Elder Barb Sixbey is a member of South Presbyterian Church (Rochester, NY) and part of the Firebird Spirit Team as the former Evangelism Coordinator for the Acts of Faith Model of Ministry.

Rev. Deb Swift is the Executive Director of Firebird Spirit, a 501©3 nonprofit committed to redefining "church" in the 21st century through their work with both congregations and individual online ministries. She is a retired member of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley in upstate New York.

All Firebird Spirit team members and staff are volunteers.

To learn more about Firebird Spirit, the Firebird Movement, and to help spread their Community of Hope across the country, type **#firebirdspirit** in any search engine.

Holiday Market, November 16th:

We will begin setting up on Monday, November 11 from 10 am until 2 pm & we will continue throughout the week. If you're available during that week, please come & help us. A light lunch is provided each day that week.

Collecting Pull Tabs Through November 15 for Robin Shipley's Grandnephew, Jameson:

Jameson will be testing for his black belt in karate this December. As a part of his training, he must complete a "link in the chain" project. He's decided to collect the pull tabs from cans for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. You can bring them to the church on Sunday or drop them off in the mailbox slot on the church doors (Church Street entrance). Jameson thanks you for your support!

Next Manse Fireside Gathering: Friday, November 22nd @ 7 pm



Online Donations

PRAYER PERSON OF THE WEEK

Mimi Zahradnik

PRAYER REQUESTS

Panila-Ginda families-especially Joanne, Gary, Mike-Evelyn & family, Maureen G., Eileen, Nicole, Dan, Gina C., Ross J., Hector & Jasmine, Destiny, Michele P., Miriam M., those affected by the hurricanes, Joyce B.C., Bud D., Barbara & James E., Gail G., Ali & family, German M., Bari, Bob, Carolyn & family, Eileen P., Alyne B., Chrissy, Helene & Diane, Meli, Vicky, Eunice - Barbra & Dave, Celeste & Doris, Dorothy R., Marilyn & Jasmine, Amy, Joan L., Avril Muller & family, Carlos B., Savannah B.

The First Presbyterian Church of Rahway 1731 Church Street

November 10, 2024
Rev. Ed Hoener
Various Participants
Carol Ann Bregman
Evan O'Donovan

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