

Welcome to  
**The First Reformed Church**  
of Pompton Plains



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 3, 2022  
9 a.m. Outdoor Worship  
(beside Friendship Hall)



## Our Mission

*FRC stands at the intersection of faith and life in our community. Our mission is to create experiences that connect us with Christ and inspire us to serve.*

## We Live That Through...

### OPEN DOORS

*We welcome all people regardless of race, ethnicity, ability, orientation or identity. We also welcome people with different cultural and political understandings. Our unity is found not in our uniformity, but in our desire to live and learn as followers of Christ.*

### OPEN HEARTS

*We are all valued, loved and called to enter into a deep transformational relationship with Christ. We seek spiritual emotional, and relational growth, modeling our lives on Jesus' life and mission.*

### OPEN HANDS

*We guide people into a redemptive way of living, knowing that the way we behave towards one another is the reflective expression of what we believe. Our goal is to live wholeheartedly in the movement and love of Jesus Christ.*

## Welcome

### TODAY IN WORSHIP:

On this Sunday of the summer season, we welcome you! Thanks for joining us.

### WELCOME GUESTS

We are grateful for your presence and would love to connect. If we miss the opportunity to introduce ourselves, please don't hesitate to introduce yourself. For more information about our church, fill out a connection card located on the table and visit our website:

[www.firstreformedchurch.com](http://www.firstreformedchurch.com)

### WELCOME SPARK KIDZ

Activity packets for children to complete during the service will be provided. Nursery care is available during the 9 AM service throughout the summer in the Ministry Center Building for children age 4 & under.

### FUEL YOUTH GROUP SUMMER SCHEDULE

Wednesday evening FUEL youth group special events are as follows:

- July 6 - Christmas in July at FRC
- July 13 - Mini-Golf
- July 20 - No FUEL due to Mission Trip
- July 27 - Movie Night (Minions 2)

Contact Dave Sippel for information [dave@frc-pp.org](mailto:dave@frc-pp.org)

### WEBSITE & LIVE STREAM OF SERVICE

When traveling, watch the 9 a.m. service live through our website

[www.firstreformedchurch.com](http://www.firstreformedchurch.com) or on facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/frcpomptonplains>

Audio of all sermon messages are available on the website.

### FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS & ONLINE DONATIONS



You may choose to contribute an offering during our service this morning. We encourage you to consider online donations, which can be set up as one-time or recurring on our website. You can also scan the QR Code to the right.

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# God's Spirit Gathers God's People

GATHERING MUSIC

Lori Yost, Musician

WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION *Dave Sippel, Minister of Congregational Engagement*

FOCUSING OUR HEARTS (*responsive*)

The earth belongs to the LORD. And so does everything in it.

**The world belongs to God. And so do all those who live in it.** Psalm 24:1

Among these trees and under the vast sky, we are glad for God.

**We want to look at God's Son and see the God who cannot be seen.**

Christ was supreme in the beginning and – leading the resurrection parade – he is supreme in the end. So spacious is Christ, so expansive, that everything of God finds its proper place in him without crowding.

**Not only that, but all the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe – people and things, animals and atoms – get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of his death, his blood that poured down from the cross.** (*Colossian 1:15-16, 17*)

We are gathering from many places, but it the same Spirit who gathers us.

**We have a variety of questions and concerns in our hearts, but one Spirit draws us to this time and this place.**

Let us worship the Living God.

\*GATHERING SONG “Speak, O Lord”

*Emma Patrimonio, Vocals*

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your holy Word.**

**Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness-  
that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.**

**Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all your purposes for your glory.**

**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.**

**Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.**

**And by grace we'll stand on your promises, and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.**

**Speak, O Lord, till your church is built, and the earth is filled with your glory.**

ADMITTING OUR SIN & RECEIVING GOD'S MERCY (*unison*)

**God of our lives and the lives surrounding us, you know how human it is to be consumed  
by whatever is immediately before us; temptation surrounds us.**

~Self-preservation lures us to indifference.

~Fear of confrontation coaxes us to keep silent about things that matter.

~The desire to be right entices us to ignore the cries of our neighbors.

**Too often we ignore the call to move forward, in favor of staying stuck in our attitudes and behaviors. Too often, we are the ones who refuse to welcome you into our intimate space, resisting the processes of transformation, remaining unresponsive.**

**Spirit of Gentleness, keep us from being afraid of the hard questions:**

**Rather, let us fear the pre-cast answers with which this world's exploiters would enslave us. Redirect us back to the path of life, the way of justice, and the hope of peace. Amen.**

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# The Spirit Breathes Life Into God's Word

## SCRIPTURE LESSON 2 Kings 5: 1-15b (CJB)

5 Na'aman, commander of the king of Aram's army, was highly respected and esteemed by his master; because through him God had brought victory to Aram. But although he was a brave warrior, he also suffered from a skin disease. 2 Now on one of their raids into Israel's territory, Aram carried away captive a little girl, who became a servant for Na'aman's wife. 3 She said to her mistress, "I wish my lord could go to the prophet in Samaria! He could heal his skin disease." 4 Na'aman went in and told his lord, "The girl from the land of Israel said such-and-such." 5 The king of Aram said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel."

He set out, taking with him 660 pounds of silver, 6,000 pieces of gold and ten changes of clothes. 6 He brought the king of Israel the letter, which said, "When this letter reaches you, you will see that I have sent my servant Na'aman to you, so that you can heal his skin disease." 7 When the king of Israel finished reading the letter, he tore his clothes. "Am I God, able to kill and make alive," he asked, "so that he sends me a man to heal of skin disease? You can see that he is only seeking an excuse to quarrel with me." 8 But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king: "Why did you tear your clothes? Just have him come to me, and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel."

9 So Na'aman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha's house. 10 Elisha sent a messenger to him, who said, "Go, and bathe in the Yarden seven times. Your skin will become as it was, and you will be clean." 11 But Na'aman became angry and left, saying, "Here now! I thought for certain that he would come out personally, that he would stand, call on the name of God his God and wave his hand over the diseased place and thus heal the person with skin disease. 12 Aren't Amanah and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the water in Israel? Why can't I bathe in them and be clean?" So he turned and went off in a rage. 13 But his servants approached him and said, "My father! If the prophet had asked you to do something really difficult, wouldn't you have done it? So, doesn't it make even more sense to do what he says, when it's only, 'Bathe, and be clean'?" 14 So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, as the man of God had said to do; and his skin was restored and became like the skin of a child; and he became clean.

15 Then, with his whole retinue, he returned to the man of God, went and stood before him, and said, "Well, I've learned that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; therefore, please accept a present from your servant." This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God**

SPECIAL MUSIC "River in Judea" Lyrics by Linda Marcus, Music by Jack Feldman, Arr. by John Leavitt  
Vocalists: Kim Lampe, Joyce Forde Muller, Emma Patrimonio, Johanna Hathaway, Lew Shafer

MESSAGE "Faith is a Muscle"

Rev. Mary L. Marcus

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

SONG DURING COMMUNION "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"

**Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.**

**Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.**

**Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.**

**Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.**

Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!  
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!  
We your people stand before you, water washed and Spirit born.  
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us: God transform!

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## The Spirit Energizes Us To Serve

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION FOR CONNECTION & CONTRIBUTION

*The communion offering for July is Market Street Mission*

\*SENDING SONG "This Is My Song"

This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine;  
this is my home, the country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy  
shrine: but other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high  
as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;  
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover, and skies are everywhere as blue as mine:  
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms: Thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be  
done. Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him, And hearts united learn to live as one.  
O hear my prayer, thou God of all the nations; Myself I give thee, let thy will be done.

\*BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

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## Prayers & Concerns

For Those Who Need Healing

**Eddie Wilson**, hospitalized this past week with a kidney stone. Cards 260 Sunset Rd. PP 07444

**Andy Rienstra**, is in rehab at Cedar Crest Mountain View Gardens. Cards to 609 Hillside Crossing PP 07444

**Ruth Spellman**, at home with hospice care. Cards c/o Kim Quigley 11 Lincoln Ave., PP 07444

**Eunice Bird** is in Lakeview Rehab Center in Wayne. Cards to 13 Kent Pl., Apt. 20, PP 07444

**Dave Rayner**, recovering from a procedure. Prayers that his treatments are successful. Cards to 603 Chatfield Dr. PP 07444

**Dee Patrick**, recovering from back surgery. Prayers for pain relief. Cards to 31 F Lancaster Court, Wayne NJ 07470

Long Term Illnesses

**Jeanine Tedeschi**, **Rose Chara's niece**, treatments for ovarian cancer. She has had 2 treatments and will complete a third. She is responding well. **Charles Cunningham**, Pat's husband, recurring bladder cancer. He will have a series of six treatments. **Maggie Bowsher's brother Jake**, undergoing radiation treatments. **Adrien Dontje**, **Barbara Ball's 2-year-old great-grandson**, liver transplant.

**Jim**, Lynn Rayner's brother, has numerous serious chronic health conditions. **Candace**, Jane Young's sister, metastatic breast cancer. **Patti Moffa**, Alyse Cafasso's friend, breast cancer. **Amy Griffith**, prayers for ongoing issues with breast cancer.. **Adele Ebert**, Shell's mom, breast cancer.

**Paul**, Susan De Bell's brother, cancer. **Michael Clark**, Sharon Hollick's son in law, melanoma

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# Announcements

**\*This Morning\* July Mission of the Month Will Support Market Street Mission:** Since 1889, the Market Street Mission has been helping surround our homeless, hungry and those struggling with addiction with God's love and everything they need to get back on their feet – food and shelter, counseling and job training, spiritual guidance and Bible study – to live stable, productive lives in our community. You can donate through July by mailing in a check, placing your donations in the collection kiosk after worship or donating online securely through the website on the line item: "Mission of the Month." Make checks payable to FRC and note "July Communion" in the memo line.

**Welcome Basket for Steven Clark:** Our Ministry Intern, Steven, will be starting mid July and we would like to have a welcome basket for him. Please select a tag from the board. Donations may be placed in the basket on Sunday mornings or dropped in the church office during the week. Items Due by Wednesday July 13

**Consistory Nominations Being Received Beginning July 3:** Hayley Bundz (E) and Rich Rossow (D) will be completing their terms this year. We ask that you nominate people for one Deacon and/or one Elder position. Those individuals will serve a three-year term. If you have a member of FRC in mind who has a heart for Christ, a love for the church, and has the leadership skills to serve in this way, let us know. Submission Forms are available July 3- July 24. A nomination committee of the consistory will evaluate the nominations, determine the best individuals for this season in our congregation's life, and ask the individuals to serve. The names of those candidates will be published for three consecutive Sundays, as required by the RCA, our denomination, providing time for any concerns about their leadership to be raised. Then, on Sunday, August 28th at the end of both worship services, the congregation will vote.

**Save the Date for FRC Church Picnic & Splash Party:** Sunday, July 10th at 11:30 am. Sign up online or call church office if you need assistance by July 7th with your RSVP so we can plan accordingly. Bring a side dish to share if possible. (please double your recipe and no desserts needed). Burgers, dogs, beans, chips, drinks and watermelon will be provided by the Congregational Life Team. Water activities and games will take place so bring a towel. Don't worry if you don't want to get wet for there will be a "dry zone".

**VBS Donations Needed:** If you can help with a few supplies for our week long VBS desert adventure, be sure to check the board with the cactus tags available at the back of both worship spaces or during the week by the church office. Contact Janet at [janet@frc-pp.org](mailto:janet@frc-pp.org) if you would prefer to make a monetary donation for someone else to do the shopping.

**Spark Kidz Leaders Needed for the Fall:** As we prepare for our fall kick off of classes, additional leaders and helpers are needed. All materials and instructions are provided. If you are interested in serving in our classrooms, please contact Janet for more details.

**Cemetery Update:** Members may have noticed that the Boulevard gate at the rear of the Cemetery has been periodically closed in recent weeks. This has occurred at the discretion of the Cemetery Manager for maintenance and safety reasons, including storm debris cleanup, tree removal and pruning, burial services and vandalism. The gate has been re-opened and will remain open until or if the Cemetery Manager deems it necessary to close. Visitors will be informed if the Boulevard gate is closed via a sign posted alongside the Cemetery road near the rear of Grace Chapel. While we appreciate that the community uses the grounds, the First Reformed Church Cemetery is an actively operating private entity and not public property. We expect visitors to be respectful of the property and of any gravesite visitors. Visit the church website for contact info for the Cemetery Mgr. *Please see the full article in the Go Forth*