

The First Presbyterian Church in Pitman, NJ

The Second Sunday of Easter

*An Earth Day Worship Service*

Sunday, April 23, 2017 @ 10 AM – Rev. Paul Grenier

**For Prayer & Contemplation**

“The entire world is an icon, a door, a window, a point of entry, opening up to a new reality. Everything in this world is a sign, a seed... Everything and everyone, contains this dimension, bears this transparency. And so in icons, rivers assume human form; so, too, do the sun and the moon and the stars and the waters. All of these assume human faces; all of them acquire a personal dimension just like people; just like God. And if the earth is an icon, if this world is an image that reflects the presence of God, then nothing whatsoever can be neutral, nothing at all lacks sacredness. No land is terra incognita. The Christian is simply the one who discerns and encounters Christ everywhere, the one who recognizes the whole world as the dwelling-place of Christ. For if God were not visible in creation, then neither could God be worshiped as invisible in heaven.”

-Father John Chryssavgis

**Welcome & Sharing Information** Please sign the Fellowship Pad.

**Prelude** Tyler Bell Choir – “March” - J. S. Bach

**Call to Worship** (By Christine Sine)

One: For the music of our world, the divine song that sings through all creation,

**All: God our creator, we praise you.**

One: For the beauty of all you have created, a mirror of the wonders of heaven,

**All: God our creator, we praise you.**

One: For the resounding roar of thunder, your awesome majesty revealed,

**All: God our creator, we praise you.**

One: For a clouded sky splashed with sunset colors, a glimpse of heaven’s glory,

**All: God our creator, we praise you.**

One: For the fragrance of a rose, your sweet perfume of grace,

**All: God our creator, we praise you.**

One: For a riotous field of wildflowers, God’s exuberant laughter unfolded,

**All: God our creator, we praise you.**

(Continues...)

([Call to Worship] ...Continued)

One: For a snowflake, an atom, a mathematical formula, a hint of your unimagined complexity,

**All: God our creator, we praise you.**

One: For the call to steward your creation, to tend your garden and make it flourish,

**All: God our creator, we praise you.**

**\*Hymn No. 26** “Earth and All Stars!”

**Prayer of Renewal** (From the *National Council of Churches*)

**Creator God, you make all things and weave them together in an intricate tapestry of life. Teach us to respect the fragile balance of life and to care for all the gifts of your creation. Guide by your wisdom those who have power and authority, that by the decisions they make, life may be cherished and a good and fruitful Earth may continue to show your glory and sing your praises. Almighty God, you have called us to tend and keep the garden of your creation. Give us wisdom and reverence for all your plants and animals who share this planet with us and whose lives make possible our own. Help us to remember that they too love the sweetness of life and join with us in giving you praise.**

**Moment of Silence**

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

**\*Hymn No. 584** “Glory, Glory, Glory”

**“Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high! Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high! And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased. And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased.”**

**Passing of Peace**

**Anthem** Tyler Bell Choir – “Amazing Grace” - arr. Dobrinski

**Time with Children** (Dismissal to Sunday School)

Pastor: It is time for you to depart.

**Adults: God be with you there.**

**Children: God be with you here.**

**Scripture** *Romans 1:17-25* NT 152 LP 184-5

*Romans 8:18-24* NT 158 LP 192

**Sermon** “Caring for a Godly Environment” –Rev. Paul Grenier

**Presentation of Tithes/Offering**

**Offertory** “For the Beauty of the Earth” - arr. Hobby

**\*Doxology No. 606**

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

**\*Unison Prayer of Dedication** (From the *NCC*)

**Generous God, you have blessed us with the resources to share the good news of your love for all creation. We dedicate these gifts and pray that they may bring healing, wholeness, and hope to the world; that future generations may also know your graciousness and love. Amen.**

**Minute for Mission** *Presbyterian Women*

Presented by *Rosemary Salotti*

**The Prayers of the People**

*The family of Diane Taylor, Dorothy Richardson, Sabine Roecker, Kelly Graf, Nick Russo, the family of Brittany Foulk, Dave Wible, Shirley Murphy, Evelyn Gallo, Donna Dietrich, Nic Albadine, Andy Roesler, Allison Daminger, Lynda Ford, the family of Helen Taylor, Sharon Conley, Douglas Hoffman, Michael Allen, Patricia Collins, Phyllis Bullock-Beaufait, Dolores Cheesman and family, Fred & Doris Oltmann, Gary Wriggins, Cathy Russo, Marie Roberts, Deborah McLaverty, Dot Clay, Glenn Raudenbush, Erin Fitzpatrick, Montana Lovelace-LaPierre*

**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 No. 14** “For the Beauty of the Earth”

**Benediction**

**Benediction Hymn No. 540** “Farewell, Good Friends!”

**“Farewell, good friends! Farewell, good friends! Shalom, shalom. Till we meet again, till we meet again, shalom, shalom.”**

**Postlude**

“Soli Deo Gloria” (For the Glory of God Alone) - arr. Maxwell

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*\*Please stand as you are able.*



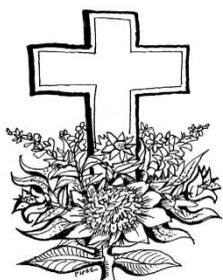
Please be advised that our worship service is filmed from the balcony. Though the camera's focus is primarily on the chancel, there are wide shots that may include parts of the congregation sitting near the front.

Please promptly pick your children up from Sunday School at the conclusion of our worship service, and join us for coffee and fellowship in the Social Hall – all are welcome!



### Music Notes

Today's offertory is based on the hymn tune "Dix," originally written by German-born Conrad Kocher (1786-1872), who studied music in both St. Petersburg and Rome. The postlude is David Maxwell's 2013 setting of a hymn by Marty Haugen. "Soli Deo gloria" is a Latin phrase meaning "Glory to God alone." Composers J. S. Bach and Georg Frederic Handel, among others, inscribed this on their original manuscripts to signify that their work was produced solely for the sake of praising God. We thank the Tyler Bell Choir for sharing special music with us this morning.



### Sanctuary Flowers

In memory of Edward J. Scheetz given by his daughter, Elaine Scheetz

#### Thank you to our Worship Servers

Acolyte	Elle Asztalos
Liturgist	Susan Burkart
Greeter	Carol Schoepske
Ushers	Peggy Price, Barbara Griffith, Carol Schoepske, John Fitzpatrick
Tellers	Carol Schoepske, Terri Lovelace, John Fitzpatrick

### This Week's Birthdays

April 24 | Alyssa Koenig  
 April 25 | Matthew Weng  
 April 25 | Alex Kowalik  
 April 27 | Marie Roberts  
 April 27 | Bob Webb  
 April 28 | Kyle Leach  
 April 28 | Jason Russell  
 April 30 | Michele Bruynell  
 April 30 | Linda Davis  
 April 30 | Michael Keehn  
 April 30 | Sue LaPierre

happy,  
happy  
birthday  
to you!



### This Week | April 23-30

Sunday 23	<b>10 AM</b> Worship Service <b>11:15 AM</b> Sunshine Singers Practice <b>11:15 AM</b> Christian Ed. Cmte. – Up Kitchen
Monday 24	Church Office Closed <b>6:15 PM</b> Music Staff Meeting – Up Kitchen <b>7 PM</b> Worship Committee Mtg. – Up Kitchen
Tuesday 25	Church Office Closed <b>7:15 PM</b> Stephen Ministry – Up Kitchen
Wednesday 26	<b>8 AM</b> Trustees – Church Library <b>6:30 PM</b> PW Salad Supper & Birthday Offering – Social Hall <b>7 PM</b> PNC – Memorial Lounge
Thursday 27	<b>7 PM</b> Bell Choir Rehearsal <b>8 PM</b> Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Friday 28	
Saturday 29	<b>9 AM</b> Woodbury Church Retreat – all facilities reserved until 5 PM <b>5:30 PM</b> Family Game Night – Social Hall
Sunday 30	Family Promise Hosting Week Begins <b>10 AM</b> Worship <b>11:15 AM</b> Sunshine Singers Practice

# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN PITMAN

"God's Open House"

10 Wildwood Avenue  
 Pitman, NJ 08071  
 (856) 589-1050



**Sunday Worship Service @ 10 AM**  
**Communion on the first Sunday of the month**  
**Sunday School every week, 10:20-11:05 AM**

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