

The First Presbyterian Church in Pitman, NJ

The Sixth Sunday of Eastertide

Sunday, May 21, 2017 @ 10 AM – Rev. Paul Grenier

For Prayer & Contemplation

"I have found a fullness in the doubts and questions of my life that I once thought could only be found in the answers. Mercifully, doubts and questions have come to be so fulfilling that I find myself suspicious of answers, not because they are necessarily false or irrelevant, but because even when relevant and true they are, and can only be partial. It is doubt and questioning that always lure me on to broader horizons and deeper insights through an openness to the infinite that leave me contentedly discontent." -Darrell J. Fasching

"Any religion which prohibits doubts abandons any hope of growth or development. A religion without doubt is fixed and unchanging. Such a religion is useless to dynamic thinking individuals who are curious about the truth of reality." -Donavan Hall

Welcome & Sharing Information Please sign the Fellowship Pad.

Prelude "Be Thou My Vision" - arr. Callahan

Call to Worship

One: Friends, we come to worship our God who surpasses all human understanding.

All: As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are God's ways higher than our ways and God's thoughts than our thoughts.

One: The Lord God created the Heavens and the Earth.

All: Yet God walked among us as Jesus Christ, and left the Holy Spirit to be our comforter.

One: Our faith is strong, yet we see through a glass dimly, and cry out the prayer of the centurion.

All: Lord, we believe, but help our unbelief.

***Hymn No. 318** "In Christ There is No East or West"

Prayer of Renewal

One: Lord God, we humble ourselves before your overwhelming mystery.

All: We struggle, daily, to understand our own actions, and so we know we have no hope of understanding your ways.

One: Lord, you are mighty and mysterious, the source of all life and goodness.

(Continues...)

(...Prayer of Renewal Continued)

All: So we surrender to you with complete faith in your justice, mercy, and abundant love.

One: Lord, we know we have sinned, but our forgetful minds cannot remember all of the times we have strayed from your path.

All: So we repent and ask for your forgiveness.

One: Lord, we know you have blessed us, but we often do not appreciate all that we have.

All: So we thank you and ask for your continued blessing in our lives. Amen.

Moment of Silence

Assurance of Forgiveness

***Hymn No. 581** "Glory Be to the Father"

"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 Peace

Anthem *Sanctuary Choir* – "A Gaelic Blessing" - Rutter
David Taylor, guest conductor

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 Acts 17:22-31

NT 137-8

LP 168

Sermon "Worshipping the Unknown God" –Rev. Paul Grenier

Presentation of Tithes/Offering

Offertory "Be Thou My Vision" - arr. Carter

***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**

Lord, we give these gifts to you in faith, not knowing exactly where they will go and who they will help, but trusting that your Spirit will guide their use to reveal your love for all people.

The Prayers of the People

Please contact the church office for a copy of the prayer list.

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. 450** "Be Thou My Vision"

Benediction

Benediction Hymn No. 295 "Go to the World!"

"Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for I am with you till the age shall end, when all the hosts of glory cry 'Amen!' Alleluia. Alleluia."

Postlude "In Christ There Is No East or West" - Copes

**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 prelude is the opening movement of a set of variations by Charles Callahan on "Slane," the ancient Irish folk ballad that serves as setting for the text "Be Thou My Vision." "Slane" is named for a hill near Tara, Ireland. The offertory is also based on this tune. The postlude is V. Earle Copes' contemporary setting of the African American spiritual "McKee," which serves as an alternate tune for the text "In Christ There Is No East or West." We thank the Sanctuary Choir and our guest conductor David Taylor for sharing special music with us this morning.



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN PITMAN

"God's Open House"

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

Thank you to our Worship Servers	
Acolytes	Madeleine Enever, Will Enever
Liturgist	Jennifer Grenier
Greeters	Ginny Mitchell, Ed Mitchell
Ushers	Vicki Downing, Jeff Downing, Sue LaPierre, Peggy Price
Tellers	Jeff Downing, Nancy Stewart, Darlene Powell

<i>This Week May 21-28</i>	
Sunday 21	10 AM Worship 5 PM Jazz Vespers – Sanctuary/Social Hall
Monday 22	
Tuesday 23	7:15 PM Stephen Ministry – Upstairs Kitchen
Wednesday 24	8 AM Trustees – Church Library
Thursday 25	9 AM Weekday Preschool Graduation – Sanctuary/Social Hall 7 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 8 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Friday 26	
Saturday 27	
Sunday 28	10 AM Worship 11:15 AM Christian Education – Up Kitchen

This Week's Birthdays

- May 21 | *Steve Langlois*
- May 21 | *Brandon Shannon*
- May 22 | *Vicki Downing*
- May 23 | *Amanda Owens*
- May 23 | *Kendall Wichart*
- May 25 | *Louis Nicastro*
- May 25 | *Aaron Russell*
- May 26 | *Dawn Jurkiewicz*
- May 28 | *Jared Kowalik*



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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