



September 29, 2024

***Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost***

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FREEHOLD**

118 WEST MAIN STREET

FREEHOLD, NJ 07728

Rev. Dr. Alan Olson

Pastor's Office Hours: Mon-Thur. 9:30am-12pm

Director of Music: John Cavicchio

Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri. 9am-12pm

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\*Please stand if you are able

**Prelude** *Melodie de Orfeo, Gluck* Piano/Organ Duet

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

**People: The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.**

Leader: We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple.

**People: We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**People: Teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always.**

**\*Hymn #30 O God, in a Mysterious Way**

**Call to Confession** (*Spoken by worship leader*)

God's Word assures us:

If we say that we have no sin,

we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins,  
he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins  
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.  
In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

O God, in your goodness you “defend the weak”  
and “uphold the cause of the poor.”

In our unholy carelessness,  
we let the poor struggle on their own,  
not seeing them, not caring about them,  
seldom asking about them.

O God, friend of the helpless, you sent  
your Son to “proclaim good news to the poor.”  
But we care much more about those who already  
have enough and ignore those who lack even the simplest essentials of life.  
Holy judge of all, convict and correct us, we pray. Amen.

*(Please take a moment for silent confession.)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

God the Creator brings you new life,  
forgives and redeems you.  
Take hold of this forgiveness,  
and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

*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 the Peace**

**A Time for Children**

**Anthem** *O Lord, We Pray*

**Prayer for Illumination** (*unison*)

Lord God,  
may your Word be a lamp to our feet  
and a light to our path  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Scripture Reading: Mark 9:38-50** (*New Testament pg. 45*)

**Scripture Reading: James 5:13-20** (*New Testament pg. 231*)

**Sermon** *Growing Together* Pastor Alan Olson

**Responding to the Word**

**\*Hymn #188 Jesus Loves Me!**

**The Apostles' Creed** (*unison*)

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

**Offering**   ***O God, Your Goodness***   *Matthew DeMarco*  
*Beth Chen, Piano*

**\*Doxology**

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

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving** (*unison*)

We give our thanks through our talents, our time, and our treasure. Thanks be to God; whose love creates us!  
Thanks be to God; whose mercy redeems us! Thanks be to God; whose grace leads us into the future! Amen.

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**\*Hymn #815** *Give to the Winds Thy Fears*

**Benediction**

**Postlude**   *Praise to the Lord*



*Flowers are given by the family of  
Frank L. Hugus III in his memory.*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Inquirers' Class:** The second Inquirers' Class will be held today following worship in Room A/B.

**Grant Writer:** The church is looking for someone in the congregation (or maybe outside) who is familiar with searching for, and filling out applications for grants that the church may be eligible for. If you feel that you can help us with this, or if you know someone else who can, please contact Larry Moran and let him know. Thank you!



**World Communion Sunday  
Peace & Global Witness Offering:  
Sunday, October 6, 2024**

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<b>LITURGIST</b>	Yvonne Lindner
<b>USHERS</b>	Bill Canning
<b>Next Week</b>	Mike Mancuso & Bob DiSogra
<b>OPENER</b>	Chris Pilla
<b>Next Week</b>	Pat Kirk
<b>CLOSER</b>	Chuck Stapp
<b>Next Week</b>	Samantha Daesener
<b>COUNTERS</b>	Berwin & Peggy Guttormsen
<b>Next Week</b>	Beth Nadolny & Samantha Daesener

**Today's Music Guests:**  
*Beth Chen, Pianist*  
*Matthew DeMarco, Soloist*

<b>SESSION</b>	
Bill Canning	Finance Commission (Co-chair, Rick Baptista)
Berwin Guttormsen	Clerk of Session
Julie Heinsohn	Personnel Commission
Carol Matino	Worship Commission
Larry Moran	Property Commission
Vera Musser	Christian Education
Susan Pascullo	Worship Commission
Chuck Stapp	Mission/Outreach Commission
Sandra Whitehill	Mission/Outreach Commission, Nominating Commission

### **BOARD OF DEACONS:**

Judi Cavicchio, Lenora Chu, Robin Fox, Peggy Guttormsen, Barbara Jean Keune,  
Jean Pennett, Marie Schlechtweg & Michele Williams

