

Service of Divine Worship – April 25, 2010
4th Sunday of Easter

Bible Memory Verse: “God, the Lord is my strength; He makes my feet like hinds feet, he makes me tread upon my high places.” Habakkuk 3:19

PRELUDE
(Please take this time for quiet reflection and prayer.)

We Gather To Worship our God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ELDER, RICH HOPKINS

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST AND COLLECTION OF PRAYER REQUESTS

+ GLORY BE TO THE FATHER #813
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.

We Enter into God's Grace

CALL TO WORSHIP #538 MY FAITH, MY HOPE ELDER, RICH HOPKINS

PRAYER OF WELCOMING ELDER, RICH HOPKINS

+ HYMN OF PRAISE #539 “MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE”

Ministry of Prayer and Grace

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (SILENT) REV. DR. PETER W. GREGORY

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND OUR LORD'S PRAYER REV. DR. PETER W. GREGORY
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.

We Are Attentive to God's Word

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING PSALM 23

ANTHEM “JESUS CHRIST, FOREVER, AMEN” DENNIS ALLEN

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES REV. DR. PETER W. GREGORY

BRINGING OUR GIFTS TO GOD
OFFERTORY
+ DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SECOND SCRIPTURE OF THE DAY ACTS 8: 26-40

+ HYMN OF PREPARATION #688 “SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US”

GOSPEL LESSON JOHN 10: 11-18
PASTOR: The Word of the Lord
ALL: Praise be to God

MESSAGE “THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD?” REV. DR. PETER W. GREGORY

We Respond With Prayer and Thanksgiving

+ HYMN OF RESPONSE #581 “’TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS”

WORDS OF BLESSING AND BENEDICTION REV. DR. PETER W. GREGORY

+ Please Stand if you are Able
WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
“Welcome! We pray that as you worship this day you will be strengthened by His love and Grace.”

VISITORS: We welcome you. If you would like a visit from Pastor Gregory, please fill out the card in the pew or the one in your visitor's bag and place in the offering plate. Thank you.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERMON *"In the sheep-Shepherd paradigm there are two things required. Of course a person willing to lead a group of sheep about with nothing more than a staff and maybe a trusty dog. And of course, sheep willing and able to lead. What happens when either the Shepherd sleeps in, or goes into town and forgets about the flock in the field. Bad things usually happen. And what happens when the sheep do not wish to be lead, and sort of follows the cunning fox or wolf to the next hill over, or just plain want to strike out on their own path. Again, bad things usually happen. Success in faith and life require that if we are sheep or Shepherd we know our roles and place, and know when to lead, and when to follow. So is the Lord our Shepherd?" --Pastor Gregory*

If you are in need of pastoral care please call the church office (during office hours) 609-397-0650; 8 – 12 Tuesday through Friday. If it's after office hours please call one of the Elders on call for month of April are George Warner at 215-794-0160 or Bob Holland at 609-397-2688.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TODAY

Lay Leader, Rich Hopkins
Greeting today Miss Joanne DiBlasi
Grace Hendricks is the **Deacon** on stair glide duty
Nursery for church hour is provided for infants and children up to five years old. Jim and LaNelle Gallagher are the Nursery helpers this morning.
NO Coffee Hour after worship

MONDAY

7:30 PM, Scouts
9:30 PM, Soccer

TUESDAY

7:15 PM, Praise Band
9:00 PM, AA

WEDNESDAY

7:00 PM, Women's Bible Study
9:30 Soccer

THURSDAY

6:15 PM, Bell Choir
7:30 PM, Adult Choir Rehearsal
7 PM, Famalias De Hoy
9:30 PM Soccer

FRIDAY

5:30 PM, AA

NEXT SUNDAY

9:00 AM, Sunday School
10:30 AM, Morning Worship
Coffee Hour
7 PM, Famalias De Hoy
9:30 PM, Soccer

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Joint Spanish and English Praise and Worship Service: We will once again host our brothers and sisters in the Lord, Famalias De Hoy on Sunday May 16 in the 10:30 AM service. We are one in Christ, those who confess His name, regardless of where we came from, or the language we speak. Let us honor our Lord God together.

We will also be opening up the grill for the season on May 16 for a special care and share in the church yard, weather permitting.

Couples Relationship Enrichment Retreat: Does your relationship need a tune-up? Would you like to enhance your relationship with your beloved? Would you like to know how to solve everyday communication issues about marriage and family. Pastor Gregory will be leading a couples retreat at Harvey Cedars Bible Conference Center, Long Beach island, NJ – **Friday to Sunday, November 19-21**. Total cost for a couple, including private accommodations, bath and 4 meals is \$300 a couple. Payments of \$150 will be requested in July and October. This will be open to 6 couples from the church on a first come, first served basis.

The Summer Season, June 20th to September 12, Pastor Gregory will once again preach on your requested themes and topics. The request form is in the April *Light*, and included as an insert today. Please return to the church office by May 15.

PRAYER CHAIN If you have any prayer needs during the week that you want the prayer chain to pray for please call Karen Seymour at 215-862-9359 or e-mail the church office.

PRAYER CONCERNS: our senior saints; our military at home and abroad; Naomi (daughter of Ursula Chirico) undergoing cancer treatment; Barbara Hendricks (sister-in-law of Grace Hendricks) recuperating after hip surgery; Marian Hartpence, Health issues; Joyce Hayes (mother of Pat Buchanan), health issues.

HOME BOUND: Mr. Lowell Hunter, at home; Theresa Castle, at home

SCHEDULED FOR NEXT SUNDAY: May 2

Greeting: Miss Joanne DiBlasi

Deacon scheduled for stairglide: Ken Kusant

Church Hour Nursery: Dana Garrenger

Hymn Tyme

"Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus"

Louisa Stead (1850-1917)

Out of one of the darkest hours of her life - the tragic drowning of her husband - a young mother proclaimed through her tears, "Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus... and I know that thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end." As Louisa Stead, her husband and their little daughter were enjoying an ocean side picnic one day, a drowning boy cried for help. Mr. Stead rushed to save him but was pulled under by the terrified boy. Both drowned as Louisa and her daughter watched helplessly. During the sorrowful days that followed, the words of this hymn came from the grief stricken wife's heart.

Soon after this Louisa and her daughter left for missionary work in South Africa. After more than 25 years of fruitful service, Louisa was forced to retire because of ill health. She died a few years later in Rhodesia. Her fellow missionaries had always loved "Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus" and wrote this tribute after her death:

We miss her very much, but her influence goes on as our 5000 native Christians continually sing this hymn in their native language.