



CELEBRATING THE GIFTS OF

Women

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come." – Proverbs 31:25

May 10, 2026

Prelude

Evan O'Donovan

Welcome

Reverend Ed Hoener

Call To Worship:

O Holy Spirit, yours is the feminine face of the Holy. You are the indwelling presence of the Divine. **Whenever we gather to worship, you are here in our midst.** When we cry out for justice, you make our hearts tender. When we stand with those on the margins, you make our legs strong. **When we create works of art and parent our children and harvest our gardens, you guide and sustain us.** You are the Great Mother who inhabits the heart, and loves us best. **Your unconditional forgiveness dissolves otherness.** O Holy Spirit, we are the vessels for blessing your creation. **Be with us now as we seek your righteousness and wisdom. May we lift you up in everything, everywhere, always.**

*Hymn of Praise #696

O God, You Are My God Alone

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Reconciliation:

Love divine, we come to you, or more the truth: you find us, no matter where we roam. **When we are discouraged, you meet us with gentleness, and restore our soul. When we can't see the tapestry on which our lives are stretched, you give us patience to see the whole of which we are a part. Help us to receive your grace so that what we do weaves love, mercy and justice into the world. Amen.**

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Grace:

O God, your loving kindness restores our souls and renews our dedication. **With the Spirit's grace, we have the power to live as God's people.**

*Response of Praise #790

In Silence My Soul Thirsts

vs. 3

Sharing the Peace of Christ:

Today we are gathered in the name of the Spirit of Wisdom. All her paths are peace. **She is a source of life to all who listen to her.** We extend her peace to one another. Peace be with you. **And also with you!**

Ministry of Music

Evan O'Donovan

A Reading and Meditation

*Hymn of Faith #99

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

vss. 1, 3, & 5

*If you can stand comfortably, please do so.

Celebrating the Gifts Of the Women in Our Lives

A Time of Silent Contemplation is Observed

Giving Thanks

People may come forward to light a candle, and name the particular gifts you received from the women you name at the table.

Prayer of Gratitude:

O God, on this day set aside to honor and remember mothers, and all the women in our lives; we give you thanks. **We are grateful that you chose to give us life wisdom and nurture through them.**

We thank you for the women who raised us, whether birth mom, adopted mom, older sister, aunt, grandmother, stepmother, or someone else. **We pray that our lives may reflect the love they showed us.**

Today, O God, we thank you for the gift of womanhood. We thank you for the many examples of faithful women in the biblical stories like Sarah, Shiprah, Esther, Ruth, Mary Magdalene, and Tabitha. **We are mindful this day of these women, who had the courage in faith to say “yes” to your calling.**

God, we thank you for the qualities that our mothers and the special women in our lives have shown. We give thanks for their patience, their kindness, wisdom and understanding, intelligence and capability. **We thank you for the parts they have played in our lives, and for this special day of saying ‘thank you’ to them.**

Loving and nurturing God, as a mother protects her children, you watch over us day by day. **We thank you for your arms, which always encircle and protect us.**

O God, we thank you for your mothering heart and your tender love, **which nurtures all who feel abandoned and lost.**

May all of us have the comfort of knowing that your mothering love is constant, Your understanding is perfect and your compassion is never-ending. **We thank you that you gave birth to all of us with delight and joy. Lord, in your mercy, mother us all with your love. Amen.**

*Hymn of Praise #470

There Is a Longing in Our Hearts

vss. 1-3

Call to Offering

*Offering Song #710

We are an Offering

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are Yours, we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to You, we give to You. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering, we are an offering.

*If you can stand comfortably, please do so.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Announcements (pg. 4)

***Hymn of Response #377** *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Evan O'Donovan

*If you can stand comfortably, please do so.

Announcements

Thank you to Cheryl Anne Cammann and Rachel Remelgado for running the projector & camera!

Join our Worship Support Team! For more information; ask the pastor or the technicians or call the church office.

The Chosen Moving to a New Night

"The Chosen" gatherings are moving to a new night! We are meeting on Friday evenings at 7:00 pm at the manse. Please join in the discussion! May and June are focusing on Maundy Thursday. July begins looking at Good Friday and beyond.

May 8; June 5 and 26; July 24 and 31; August 14 and 28; September 18; October 2 and 9; November 20; December 11

Coffee Hour Sign-up

We are looking for people to host coffee hour. There is a sign-up sheet for the Sunday(s) you'd like to host on the food table in Davis Hall.

Rahway's Best Events

Enrollment for their Summer Camp is now open (registration w/fee required). For more information, please call or text: 732- 381-1933.



Online Donations

PRAYER PERSON OF THE WEEK

Mimi Zahradnik

PRAYER REQUESTS

Matthew W. & family, Shipley family, Eunice, Barbra & Dave, William S., Hoener & Pender families, Abisiji B., Damilola B., Rosemary B., Bob M., Cheryl Anne, Doug A., Patrick W., Lynn H., Michele P., Louise & Teddy, Barbara, Carol & Jake, Sue K., Agnes N. & family, Savannah B. & family, Carole H., Becky, John, Sam, Michael, Sara & Joan P., Mary "Cookie" F., Nicole, Allison, Mary R., Helen, Logan, Harper, Helene & Diane, Dorothy R., Amy

The First Presbyterian Church of Rahway 1731 Church Street

May 10, 2026
Rev. Ed Hoener
Ukoha Kalu
Carol Ann Bregman
Evan O'Donovan

10:30 A.M.
Pastor
Worship Leader
Administrator
Music Director

Church Office (732) 382-0803
Office Email: office@1stpresrahway.org
Pastoral Care: edhoener1@gmail.com