



Welcome
we're so glad you're here

May 25, 2025

“Common wisdom has it that doubt is the opposite of faith, but what if that’s not accurate? What if doubt is simply the warping of the faithful imagination or making conditional statements that limit God’s activity within certain prescribed barriers as it was with (doubting) Thomas? We need reminding that resurrection isn’t about us and what we’re doing. It’s about God and what God is doing. So, be open. Be patient. Cultivate an apostolic imagination and let it carry us somewhere that isn’t even on our map.” Ann Carter Florence

Prelude #701

Lord, Prepare Me (2x)

Welcome

Reverend Ed Hoener

Call To Worship:

O God, You look upon us with great love and affection. You bolster our daily lives with grace. **From you, we receive strength to cope with life's challenges.** Your Spirit heals and renews us. You call us to live according to your will. **From you, we receive the resources we need to pursue our mission in the world.**

***Hymn of Praise #402**

How Lovely, Lord

vss. 1 & 3

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Reconciliation :

O God, You regard us with ever new and everlasting mercy. We are always welcome in Your presence. Your mercy helps to face ourselves and our situations. Your grace helps us to love You and our neighbor. Come, Lord Jesus, and remove everything between us and Your peace. Equip us anew in this Sabbath time to be Your followers. Amen.

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Grace:

Every day God is with us watching over us with love and grace. His ministry within our hearts transforms our lives. **Each day, we experience forward movement towards growth in faith and service.**

***Response of Praise #469**

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Sharing the Peace of Christ:

The resurrection life rises upon the world like the dawn! God guides our feet in the way of peace! Let us share the peace of Christ with each other. The peace of the Lord be with you! **And also with you!**

Scripture Reading

Psalm 67

Ministry of Music

Scripture Reading

John 5:2-9; 16-17

Message

Pastor Ed

***Song of Faith**

**You are here among us, for we have gathered in your name.
We can feel your presence in this place.
You are here, among us, you are enthroned upon our praise.
You are here; here to heal, and here to save.**

**If you can stand comfortably, please do so.*

You are here, in our midst, how we've waited for moments like this.

**Have your way in this place,
Holy Spirit come do as you wish;
we are changed as you move in our midst.**

Celebrating Passion Enterprises

Hearing about what God has done in each other's lives is a source of encouragement, and affirms the reality of faith, and prayer and grace. Please come to the lectern and share your testimony so that everyone may see and hear.

Prayers of the People

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.**

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.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Announcements (pg. 4)

***Hymn of Response #240**

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Charge and Blessing

Postlude #745

Now Go in Joy

*If you can stand comfortably, please do so.

Announcements

Thank you to Sara Pender & Susan Krivenko for running the projector & camera!

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

Childcare is available today.

Through the summer months, the childcare room is available if requested, however, we ask that a parent stay with their children while using the room.

The Chosen Season 4

The last meeting until the fall is June 1st. Be sure to bring your calendars to determine the dates to meet in the fall. - Diane

Book Study: God Didn't Make Us to Hate Us

We are starting a Book Study Group! Selva Villahermosa is leading a book discussion of the book entitled "God Didn't Make Us to Hate Us" by Rev. Lizzie McManus-Dail. This book is about deconstructing the fear-based faith many Christians have been handed, toward embracing Jesus' heart-healing grace. The book offers 40 devotions designed to unravel toxic theology and reveal the abiding love of a joy-full God. Please sign the sheet on the table in the narthex, OR contact Selva ASAP. The books will be ordered when the full number of participants is counted. She is planning to meet on Friday evenings, and the times and place will be announced!

Rahway Gallery Space Tour Invitation

On Sunday, June 8th, at 1 p.m. Please join us for a tour of the Rahway Gallery Space. The current exhibit is **Black Wings: American Dreams of Flight**. The Rahway Garden Club members will be joining us for the tour. All are welcome!

Next Town Hall will be on Sunday, June 29th.

Next Manse Fireside Chat @ 7 pm is Friday, June 27th.



Online Donations

PRAYER PERSON OF THE WEEK

Kevin Crowley

PRAYER REQUESTS

Gary Jameson, Louise Campanelli, Carlos Browne's family, Logan, Linda, Evelyn, Linnea & Roger, Diara, Antoine, Becky, John, Sam, Benjamin, Jarod B., Michael, Sara & Joan P., Mary "Cookie" F., Savannah B., Cameron, Nicole, Allison, Zia L., Mary R., Jane B., Pat & family, Major A. & family, Helen, Logan, Harper, Helene & Diane, Dorothy R., Amy

**The First Presbyterian Church of Rahway
1731 Church Street**

May 25, 2025
Rev. Ed Hoener
Scott Nwosu
Carol Ann Bregman
Evan O'Donovan

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

Follow us on social media!

