



May 4, 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 #729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian vss. 2+3

Evan O'Donovan

Welcome

Reverend Ed Hoener

Call To Worship:

O God, we thank You for this day, this time together in your presence, and the gifts of your Spirit. **Everything you provide brings healing, peace, and strength to our souls.** Jesus, you are our friend and teacher. You have opened the way to new and everlasting life for all. **With love, we offer our lives to your service. With your grace, we will follow wherever you lead.**

***Hymn of Praise #667**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Reconciliation :

Loving God, in the midst of our lives your Spirit gives us grace and peace. Yet there are times when we falter and we need your mercies. Come to us now, and restore our souls. Help us, to follow you and your ways ever more nearly, day by day. Amen.

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Grace:

God's endless love will always be with us, no matter what. **God's amazing grace will support us in whatever life brings.**

***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!**

Ministry of Music #250

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Evan O'Donovan

Scripture Reading

John 21:1-19

Message

Pastor Ed

***Hymn of Faith #726**

Will You Come and Follow Me

vss. 1, 2 & 5

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

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

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 of Preparation #507 *Come to the Table of Grace

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer Following Communion

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 #743 *O God, You Are My God

Charge and Blessing

Postlude #756 *May the God of Hope Go with Us* Evan O'Donovan

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

Announcements

Thank you to *Princeton Nwosu & William Siocha* 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 Season 4

The next two meeting dates are Sunday, May 18th and June 1st. On June 1, be sure to bring your calendars to determine the dates to meet in the fall. - Diane

Are there any 2025 Graduates?

Do you know someone who is graduating in 2025? Whether it be kindergarten, elementary or middle school, high school, tech or college, send the office an email (office@1stpresrahway.org) and let us know what milestone they've achieved. Please include a picture also.

Next Town Hall meeting will be on Sunday, May 25th.

Next Manse Fireside Chat @ 7 pm is Friday, May 9th.



Online Donations

PRAYER PERSONS OF THE WEEK

Lauren Davis & family

PRAYER REQUESTS

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., Carlos Browne & family, Pat & family, Major A. & family, Helen, Logan, Harper, Helene & Diane, Dorothy R., Amy

The First Presbyterian Church of Rahway 1731 Church Street

May 4, 2025
Rev. Ed Hoener
Lauris Beam
Carol Ann Bregman
Evan O'Donovan

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

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