**Frenchtown Presbyterian Church**

PO Box 114, 22 Fourth St. Frenchtown, NJ 08825

 908-996-2227

 Website: www.frenchtownpres.org

Pastor Cell - 609-303-0500

**Worship 9:30AM**

**Clerk of Session**

Kathy Skerbetz – 908-720-6533

**Session (Elders)**

Maureen Breiner Bill Penyak

Shari Bethman Bjellquist Paul Pfisterer

Jennifer Campbell Tonya Reese

Gayla Gerhardt Carl Stokes

John Fiebig Kathy Skerbetz

**Board of Deacons**

Carole Barrett Barbara Kerekes

Sharon Beck Lorraine Sellitto

Debbie Godown Eileen Warkala

Ken Gerhardt Amy Verecha

**Pastor**

Rev. Dr. Merideth Mueller-Bolton

pastormerideth@gmail.com

**Church Secretary**

 Lea Raymond

 office@frenchtownpres.org

**Financial Manager**

 Mary Ann Hampton

 finance@frenchtownpres.org

**Music Director**

 Hugh Sung

hughsung@gmail.com

**FRENCHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**July 16, 2023**

**Welcome to all who worship with us this morning!**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

 **God Gathers Us in Love**

Call to Worship (Leader, **People**)

Arise, people of God, to greet the one who calls us.

**God awakens us and restores our souls.**

The Shepherd is calling us to new ventures.

**We do not fear to walk through shadowed valleys.**

Come to drink from springs of living waters. Come to worship the living God.

Prayer of Adoration (unison)

**Gracious and merciful Lord, thank you that you promise us that where two or three are gathered you are there in the midst. Lord, we welcome you amongst us today and celebrate the gift of life that you have lavished upon each of us. Amen.**

\*Hymn #634 "To God be the Glory"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Nurturing God you provide us with green pastures and still waters. You seek to restore us to wholeness. We confess our desires for fields that do not feed us and pools that cannot sustain us. In our failure to trust you, we succumb to fear. We depend on our own cleverness to safeguard our security, even at the cost of hurting our neighbors. We prefer the futility of our individual ways, which betray a lack of confidence in your promised future. Forgive us and draw us back to your eternal peace. Heal and anoint us with your joy that we may live forever in your presence. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon (Leader, **People**)

Beloved the One whose light illumine our defects and flaws is the same One who died regardless of them.

**It is God’s light shining on our hearts that makes us children of light.**

 Friends, hear and believe God’s good news. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

\*Passing of the Peace

Gloria Patri #582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

Time with Children

**God Speaks to Us Through God’s Word**

First Scripture Reading Psalm 23

Second Scripture Reading John 10:11-18

Sermon "Prepositions"

**God Calls Us to Respond**

\*Hymn #803 “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Doxology #606 “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

 Prayer of Dedication

\*Affirmation of Faith - The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick**

**and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

**God Sends Us Out to Reflect God’s Love**

\*Hymn #187 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Charge and Blessing (Leader, **People)**

Go out into the world in peace; have courage;

**Hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted;**

**Support the weak, and help the suffering;**

Honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And may the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you now and forever.

Benediction

Postlude

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

We are a body of believers in Jesus Christ the Lord that strives to be a living reflection of God’s love. We come together to confirm our individual faith while spreading the message of hope and love by serving those in need through mission and outreach.

**NEWS AND EVENTS**

**EVENTS DURING THE WEEK – July 17-23**

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

 AA Meeting 6:30am

 Card Games, 2-4pm in Fellowship Hall

 AA Meeting, 8pm

**Wednesday**

 AA Meeting 7:30pm

**Thursday**

 AA Meeting 6:30am

**Friday**

 Alanon Meeting 12-1pm

**Saturday**

 Saturday Women's AA Group Meeting 9am

 AA Meeting 7pm

**Trenton Thunder Baseball Game**

FPC 5th Saturday in Frenchtown event is on July 29th for a Trenton Thunder Baseball Game and Fireworks Compliments of the Deacons.

Trenton Thunder will take on The Williamsport Crosscutters. Game time 6:30pm with fireworks after the game. Please call Maureen Breiner for info and tickets at 908-235-8431.

Tickets will be handed out at church the Sunday before the game.

It’s a fun night out!! So, sign up early to make sure you get a ticket.

**Vacation Bible School**

FOOD TRUCK PARTY VBS!  August 14-18th, 9:00am-11:30am at the Frenchtown Presbyterian Church. Ages preschool (must be toilet trained) through 5th grade invited. It will be combined with Milford Presbyterian and Alexandria Presbyterian Church. More info and registration to come.  Contact Kathy Skerbetz at 908-720-6533 for questions or if you would like to help.

All are welcome!

**Blood Drive**

Blood drive at FPC on August 10th from 1-6pm.  To make an appointment visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: FrenchtownPresby or contact Jennifer Campbell at 908-502-2575.