**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 Matt Melbourne

Jennifer Campbell Tonya Reese

Gayla Gerhardt Carl Stokes

Ed Marston Kathy Skerbetz

Diane Reed

**Board of Deacons**

Carole Barrett Barbara Kerekes

Sharon Beck Lorraine Sellitto

Debbie Godown Amy Verecha

Ken Gerhardt

**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**

**May 12, 2024**

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

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Minute for Mission – PC(USA) Pentecost Offering.

 **God Gathers Us in Love**

Call to Worship (from Psalm 1)

Leader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked

**People: We delight in God’s Word, we meditate on God day and night.**

Leader: Our worship grounds us in God, like trees planted by streams of water.

**People: God helps us yield good fruit. We do not wither when we spend time in God’s presence.**

\*Hymn #667 “When Morning Gilds the Skies”

Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

 **Savior God, we invite you into our lives for a season, only to forget and neglect you once again. You beckon us, calling for our attention, but we are distracted and busy taking care of other priorities. Remind us, Holy God, that you are the source of our flourishing. You are the living water by which we have been planted. Forgive our apathy. Forgive our unfaithfulness. Focus us on you, your Word, and all that your Spirit provides. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

\*Passing of the Peace

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

 *Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,*

 *and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,*

 *and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.*

 *As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

Time for Children

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

First Scripture Reading Ephesians 2:4-10

Second Scripture Reading Matthew 16:13-20

Sermon “Stake Your Claim”

**God Calls Us to Respond**

\*Hymn #686 “God of Our Life”

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Please consider donating online using our QR code (aim your phone’s camera here, then click on the link that appears):

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

Prayer of Dedication

Affirmation of Faith – (from Phil. 2:5–11) (unison)

 **Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.**

 **Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

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

\*Hymn #703 “Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me”

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

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\*please stand if able

\*Welcome Guest Organist – Josephine Marchitto

**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 –-May 13-19**

**Monday**

Book Club, 1pm at Jimmy’s Ice Cream

**Tuesday**

 AA Meeting 6:30am

 Card Games, 2-4pm in Fellowship Hall

 AA Meeting, 8pm

**Wednesday**

 AA Meeting 7:30pm

 Bible Study, 10am

**Thursday**

 AA Meeting 6:30am

**Friday**

**Saturday**

 Saturday Women's AA Group Meeting 9am

 AA Meeting 7pm

**Next Sunday**

 Opera Concert, 3pm

**Christian Ed News**

As the school year is coming to an end we will be taking a short break from Sunday School.  The last day will be Sunday, June 23, 2024 and we will start up again on Sunday, September 8, 2024. In the meantime, we will still be having a place for the children during worship over the summer.  There will be crafts, stories, and games.

Christian Education is looking for volunteers to help over the summer to take care of the children during worship.  We will be putting out a schedule next week through sign-up genius to ask for volunteers.

**Book Club**

The book club will be meeting on Monday May 13th at 1pm at Jimmy’s Ice Cream, weather permitting. The book they will be discussing is “*In Someone Else’s Shoes*” by JoJo Moyes

**Bible Study**

Bible Study: Wednesday morning study continues to meet at 10 am in the choir room. Come join us on May 15 as we study the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29-37) and our final session on May 22 when we will dig into the parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). Hope to see you there!

**Next Sunday is Pentecost Sunday**

Pentecost celebrates the renewal of the relationship between God and the community of faith. The PC(USA) Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. When donating, please write in the memo of your check that it is for Pentecost Offering. Thank you.

**Opera Concert**

Opera Concert in the Sanctuary on May 19th at 3pm. $20.00 per person at the door.