**Frenchtown Presbyterian Church**

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

908-996-2227

Website: [www.frenchtownpres.org](about:blank)

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**

**October 29, 2023 – Reformation Sunday**

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

Prelude

Bagpiper – Nick McAllister

Welcome & Announcements

**God Gathers Us in Love**

Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus says, ‘I am the Way for you.’

**People: And so we come to follow Christ.**

Leader: Jesus says, ‘I am the Truth for you.’

**People:** **And so we come to dwell in the light.**

Leader: Jesus says, ‘I am the Life for you.’

**People: And so we come, leaving behind all else to which we cling.**

\*Hymn #475 “Come, thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Prayer of Approach

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Creator God, gladly we live and move and have our being in you. Yet always in the midst of this creation-glory, we see sin’s shadow and feel death’s darkness: around us in the earth, sea and sky, the abuse of matter; beside us in the broken, the hungry and the poor, the betrayal of one another; and often, deep within us, a striving against your Spirit. God of love, forgive us that we may forgive one another, heal us that we may be people of healing, and renew us that we also may be makers of peace. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Musical Offering - Children's Choir

\*Passing of the Peace

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

Time for Children

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

Scripture Reading Psalm 90

*Hymn #399 Refrain: God welcomes all,*

*strangers and friends;*

*God's love is strong*

*and it never ends.*

Second Reading Matthew 23:1-12

Sermon “How’s Your Phylactery?”

**God Calls Us to Respond**

\*Hymn #172 “Blest Are They”

Remembering Those Who Have Gone Before Us

David Griffith Alex Bellick Chris Liberatore

Invitation to the Offering

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



Offertory

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

Prayer of Dedication

Affirmation of Faith (unison) (from the Iona Community)

**We believe in God whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom. Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, in God we trust. And so, in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God’s goodness, to live in the freedom of forgiveness and by the power of the spirit of love and, as the company of the faithful, to be the church for the glory of God. AMEN.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

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

\*Hymn #543 “O Christ, Surround Me”

Charge and Blessing

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** – **Oct. 30-Nov. 5**

**Today**

Mission and Outreach Meeting

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

AA Meeting 6:30am

Card Games, 1-4pm in Fellowship Hall

Halloween Pit Stop, 6-8pm

AA Meeting, 8pm

**Wednesday**

Bible Study, 11am in Memorial Parlor

AA Meeting 7:30pm

**Thursday**

AA Meeting 6:30am

Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

**Friday**

Alanon Meeting 12-1pm

**Saturday**

Saturday Women's AA Group Meeting 9am

AA Meeting 7pm

**Next Sunday**

Food pantry Sunday

**New Member Class**

If you are interested in becoming a member of FPC, there will be a new Members class on November 12 and 19th after worship. Contact Pastor Meredith for any questions or to sign up.

**QR Code! Donating made easy**

Invitation to the Offering

Please consider making your donation online using our QR code.

Aim your camera here and click on the link that appears. If you have any questions please call the church office at 908-996-2227.



**Pantry Sunday**

Next Sunday is Food Pantry Sunday. The first Sunday of the month has been designated as Pantry Sunday. As well as regular items needed we will also be collecting for the Thanksgiving Dinner baskets.

Thank you for your help!

**Thanksgiving Dinner donations for the Food Pantry**

The food Pantry is now accepting donations for Thanksgiving dinner boxes to hand out to our patrons.  Items needed are stuffing mix, instant potato, canned corn, green beans, sweet potato, cranberry sauce, applesauce, fruit cocktail or other fruit, gravy (jars, cans or packets) corn muffin mix, biscuit mix, cream of chicken, or mushroom soup, pumpkin pie mix, pie crust, evaporated milk, cooking oil, cake or brownie mix, crispy onions and holiday napkins.

There will be designated boxes for the Thanksgiving dinner donations.  Also, please keep us in mind for your free holiday item if you qualify from Shop Rite. Thank you for your help!

**Halloween Pit Stop**

Join us on Tuesday October 31 from 6-8pm for our annual Halloween Pit Stop! We are asking for candy donations. All donations can be left in the church kitchen. Thank you!