**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**

**October 8, 2023**

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

Prelude: Dvorak Slavonic Dance in E minor, Op. 72 No. 2

Welcome & Announcements

 **God Gathers Us in Love**

Call to Worship

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God

**People: And the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.**

Leader: There is no speech, nor are there words;

**People:** **Their voice is not heard.**

Leader:  Yet it goes out through all the earth;

**People: And to the end of the world.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

\*Hymn #35 “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, we confess that our confidence is often misplaced. We put our confidence in our abilities rather than in your love. We put our confidence in our belongings rather than in your generosity. We put our confidence in ourselves rather than in you. Forgive us for our misgivings. Redirect us according to your Spirit and your will. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

\*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**

First Scripture Reading Psalm 19:4-14

Refrain Hymn #820*: Nothing can trouble;*

 *nothing can frighten.
 Those who seek God
 shall never go wanting.
 Nothing can trouble;
 nothing can frighten.
 God alone fills us.*

Choral Anthem – Let There Be Peace

Scripture Lesson Matthew 20:1-16

Sermon “Whatever is Right”

**God Calls Us to Respond**

\*Hymn #749 “Come! Live in the Light!”

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

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

Prayer of Dedication

\*Affirmation of Faith (from Book of Common Worship) (unison)

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Musical Offering:The Lord’s Prayer       Shari Bethman-Bjellquist

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

\*Hymn #765 “May the God of Hope Go with Us”

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

**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** – **October 9-15**

**Monday**

 Book Club, 1pm

**Tuesday**

 AA Meeting 6:30am

 Card Games, 1-4pm in Fellowship Hall

 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**

 Membership Meeting, 11:30am

**October 29 Reformation Sunday & Kirkin O’ the Tartans**

As Presbyterians with our roots in Scotland, we have a colorful cloud of witnesses hovering over us. Some of them are likely still arrayed in bright tartans of every color and plaid.

Tartans have a rich history that originate with the pagan clans of Scotland, dating back to the third century AD. In the sixth century, when St. Columba converted the Scottish tribes to Christianity, a new tradition around the ancient tartans emerged; at a special worship service every year, clansfolk dressed in their finest tartans and rededicated themselves to God and to each other. The service became known as the Kirkin' o' the Tartans.

In honor of our Scottish ancestors in the faith you are invited to wear plaid on October 29, 2023 Reformation Sunday. We will be drawing from the Celtic tradition in our liturgy and hymns. Please join us!

**Super Senior Program is back**

Super Senior Group will meet in Fellowship Hall every 1st and 3rd Tuesday from 11:15 to 1:15 starting on 10/17 lunch will be included.

Yoga will start at 11:15am, then lunch and either a program or activity. All seniors are welcome!

**Mission and Outreach Meeting**

There will be a brief Mission and Outreach Meeting on Sunday 10/29 after church.

**Food Pantry Thank you**

Thank you to all who donated to the Food Pantry on Pantry Sunday this past weekend.  Everything was greatly appreciated and will be put to good use.

As a reminder, the first Sunday of the Month has been designated as Food Pantry Sunday.