

# TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*Eightieth Anniversary*

**November 1, 2020**

**829 Salem Road - Union, New Jersey**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## PRELUDE

## CALL TO WORSHIP

LAY LEADER

O give thanks to the Lord, who is good.  
God's steadfast love endures forever!  
Let the redeemed of the Lord say so:  
God's steadfast love endures forever!

## OPENING PRAYER

LAY LEADER

Most astounding God,  
you lead us through deserts and grant us safe crossings.  
You save us from trouble and deliver us from distress.  
You satisfy our hunger and quench our thirst with righteousness and mercy.  
When we lose our way,  
you pull us back to you and overwhelm us with love.  
All honor and glory are yours,  
our master, our teacher, our friend. Amen.

## OPENING HYMN #352 "My Lord! What a Morning"

SONG LEADER

Refrain:

My Lord! what a morning;  
my Lord! what a morning;  
O my Lord! what a morning,  
when the stars begin to fall,  
when the stars begin to fall.

1 You will hear the trumpet sound  
to wake the nations underground,  
looking to my God's right hand,  
when the stars begin to fall. (Refrain)

2 You will hear the sinner cry,  
to wake the nations underground,  
looking to my God's right hand,  
when the stars begin to fall. (Refrain)

3 You will hear the Christian shout,  
to wake the nations underground,  
looking to my God's right hand,  
when the stars begin to fall. (Refrain)

## CALL TO CONFESSION

LAY LEADER

God turns the desert into pools of water  
and guides those who have gone astray.  
Let us confess to God the depth of our need,  
that we may be saved from trouble.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*in unison*)

**ALL**

**Lord God, only you are holy.  
Yet we imagine that we are righteous,  
excusing our own faults while pointing out those of others.  
We are quick to lay burdens upon our neighbors  
but slow to help with their own.  
We take credit and give blame.  
In spite of the grace you have shown to us,  
we are slow to show mercy.  
Forgive us, O God, and wash us clean,  
that we may serve you with joy and thanksgiving. Amen.**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**LAY LEADER**

Sisters and brothers,  
God has made a way where there was no way.  
In Christ Jesus evil and death have been vanquished,  
and we live in a state of grace.  
Believe the gospel:  
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**GLORIA PATRI**

**ALL**

**Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

**LAY LEADER**

Renewed through the gifts of God's Spirit,  
let us share our visions and dreams of peace  
by exchanging signs of Christ's peace with one another.  
The Peace of Christ be with you!

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**PASTOR**

**SCRIPTURE:** Micah 3:5-12; Matthew 23:1-12

**PASTOR**

**SERMON:** "*Servant Leaders*"

**PASTOR**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS, A TIME OF SHARING**

**PASTOR**

**OUR HISTORY**

**CLERK OF  
SESSION**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**PASTOR**

Eternal God,  
author of our past and promise of our future,  
we lay before you our private fears and our concerns for the world,  
knowing that you hear our cries.

Especially today we pray for those whom Jesus called blessed:

for the poor in spirit ...

for those who mourn ...

for the humble and meek ...

for those who thirst and hunger for righteousness ...

for the pure in heart ...

for those who show mercy and those who make peace ...

for those who are persecuted because of Christ ...

Pour out your blessings upon them and us  
that we may be strengthened in every hardship  
and joyful at the recognition of every blessing.

We call to mind before you all those who have died:  
those who taught us the faith ...  
those who spoke your truth in the face of evil ...  
those who cared for the weak and the suffering ...  
and those whom we loved and cherished the most ...

Thank you that their pain is ended  
and their joy made complete.

Covenanting God,

in baptism you claim us and show us how to live.

Keep us in your care until that day

when all creation sings your praise

and you lead all your children to the springs of the water of life.

Through Jesus Christ, our Brother, Redeemer, and Lord...  
Who taught us to pray...

**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.**

#### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**LAY LEADER**

Let God's Word be at work within you,  
offering gifts with glad and joyful hearts.

#### **OFFERTORY RESPONSE: HYMN #606**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**LAY LEADER**

Giver of all good gifts,  
how can we thank you for your never-ending love?  
Even our very lives are not enough.  
Accept these offerings as tokens of our gratitude  
and signs of our hope in the realm you have promised,  
the kingdom for which we wait.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## HYMN #515 “I Come with Joy”

## SONG LEADER

1 I come with joy, a child of God,  
forgiven, loved, and free,  
the life of Jesus to recall,  
in love laid down for me,  
in love laid down for me.

2 I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ’s communion bread,  
in Christ’s communion bread.

3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us  
share,  
each proud division ends.  
The love that made us, makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends,  
and strangers now are friends.

4 The Spirit of the risen Christ,  
unseen, but ever near,  
is in such friendship better known,  
alive among us here,  
alive among us here.

5 Together met, together bound  
by all that God has done,  
we’ll go with joy, to give the world  
the love that makes us one,  
the love that makes us one.

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

## PASTOR

Come to Christ’s table,  
and Christ’s presence will be revealed.  
As we break the bread and take the cup,  
let us discover what Christ will bring us this day.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Responsively*)

## PASTOR

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise be to you,  
most holy God, giver of all life.  
You made us for companionship and shaped us for love;  
you gave us your good earth and taught us to care;  
you established your law that we might learn justice  
and give you honor with our lives.

We forgot how to love;  
we ceased to give care  
and failed to abide by your life-giving law.  
You sent us prophets to call us back to you and,  
when that was not enough,  
you came—  
Word-made-flesh, your very being—

and overwhelmed us with love.  
And so we sing with all the saints on earth  
and all the angels in heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

In Jesus you blessed us as never before.  
Thank you for the ways he taught us in word and deed:  
he fed us in homes and on hillsides;  
he healed us in body, mind, and soul  
and showed us that true greatness is in humility  
and true power in weakness.

We remember the night before his death,  
when he took bread, blessed and broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
Take, eat, this is my body, given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.  
We remember how he took the cup, saying,  
This cup is the new covenant, sealed in my blood,  
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it, remember me.

How can we thank you for the gift he gave?  
When the world did its worst,  
he took on our death  
that we might be clothed in light and life.  
Great is the mystery of faith:

**Dying, he destroyed our death.  
Rising, he restored our life.  
Lord Jesus, come in glory!**

Raised to new life, still bearing the scars,  
Jesus promised us an Advocate and Guide.  
Thank you for the Spirit at work in us and among us,  
who strengthens and sustains,  
challenges and prods,  
gives us life and surprises us with signs of your unending grace.

Pour out your Holy Spirit now upon this bread and wine,  
that it may be to us the body and blood of Christ  
and anoint us that we might be one with him and one another.  
With thanksgiving, we offer ourselves to you now, Holy Three in One—  
our bodies to do your work and our voices to sing your praise—  
grateful, even now, that when this earthly life is ended  
you will welcome us home,  
where we will live in eternal joy with you and all the saints,  
bathed in light and lost in unending songs of praise.

**Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to you, O God, forever and ever! Amen!**

## **DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS**

## **ELDERS**

## **CLOSING HYMN #542 “God Be with You Till We Meet Again”**

## **SONG LEADER**

1 God be with you till we meet again;  
loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

2 God be with you till we meet again;  
unseen wings protecting hide you,  
daily manna still provide you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

3 God be with you till we meet again;  
when life's perils thick confound you,  
put unfailing arms around you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

4 God be with you till we meet again;  
keep love's banner floating o'er you;  
smite death's threatening wave before you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

## **BENEDICTION**

## **PASTOR**

## **POSTLUDE**

**“TIME FOR PRAYER” -- 6:00 PM on Wednesdays**  
**Praying by teleconference.** All may call in to pray and/or make prayer  
requests: Dial-in using your phone:  
1 717-275-8940 Access code: 367 0530

**NOVEMBER  
BIRTHDAYS**  
22 Edna Bailey

## **TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH A BRIEF HISTORY**

The Townley Presbyterian Church, originally organized as a church school and chapel under the supervision of the Third Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth, held its first service and church school session on January 31, 1938.

The Community Chapel of Townley (Presbyterian) was served by Theological students.

It was an expanding church school and soon needed more space. In 1940 the lecture room was added at the rear of the chapel, doubling the school capacity. IN the same year, November 3, 1940, the congregation was organized as the Townley Presbyterian church under the Presbytery of Elizabeth. There were 106 charter members. Bruce W. Evans, a student at Princeton Theological seminary, served as minister. Mr. Evans was ordained in the Townley Presbyterian Church on June 25, 1941 and was called as its first full-time minister.

To meet the needs for an expanding religious educational program, the modern brick church school building was erected in the fall of 1949.

Our church called Dwight Faust as minister in 1951 and by 1955 the chapel facilities were no longer adequate for the growing congregation and its activities. A building fund campaign was started, and in March 1957 ground was broken for the new sanctuary. The cornerstone was laid October 13, 1957. The first services were held in the new church building on April 27, 1958. Dedication took place on September 28, 1958.

In November 1965 Benjamin McLaughlin was called as our minister. Under his leadership the church mortgage was retired in 1974, and the original grant mortgage used to start the church was repaid in 1982.

In 1985 Jack Bohika was called to minister to Townley. With the generous assistance of our dedicated Woman's Association the manse mortgage was paid off in 1987.

In February 1992 Brahm Luckhoff was called as Townley's minister and under his guidance we received an endowment of \$100,000.00 from Julius and Kay Hommer. This fund continued to grow over the years. In 1884 we received the Carillon which was installed in our new steeple in memory of Selina LaMont

In the summer of 1997 we replaced the roofs on the church complex and the manse. In February 1998 Christopher Taylor was called to our church ministry. In the fall of that year a new sign on the front lawn was dedicated in memory of Charles Furlong. Our church has become Handicap accessible and Serenity Garden was begun and completed in the spring of 2000. We also recently acquired an organ in Fellowship Hall for use during the summer services and various fellowship events. In 2001 a Memorial Garden was planted by Joan Soell in memory of lives lost in the World Trade Center Disaster.

Of the original 106 charter members, one member is still active in our church. The congregation looks ahead to continued spiritual growth and expansion under the leadership of Rev. Taylor.

In 2013 Revered Howard Bryant became our interim minister. Under his guidance as Moderator of Session, he introduced an alternative way of fulfilling its ministry, by suggesting that 3 Task Forces

be formed (Support, Program, and Vocation). The session voted to accept to be involved in the program—New Beginnings to revitalize its Mission and Ministry.

The Call for a permanent minister was answered by Reverend Ronald Thompson. He provided seeds for additional worship and fellowship with several 6-week sessions of Bible study. We served the homeless through Operation Warm Heart—through the Elizabeth Coalition. The church was blessed with a new organ, and new front steps!!!

### **THE PASTORS WHO HAVE SERVED OUR CHURCH**

1941-1942	Bruce W. Evans
1942-1944	Herbert K. England (Stated supply)
1944-1946	Waldo H. Kihlstrom
1946-1951	Richard Hutchison
1951-1965	Dwight Faust
1965	John Murray (Interim Pastor)
1965-1983	Benjamin E. McLaughlin
1983-1985	Sally Campbell (Interim Pastor)
1985-1989	Jack Bohlka
1990-1991	Eugenia Johnson (Interim Pastor)
1991-1992	Barbara Aspinall (Interim Pastor)
1992-1997	Brahm Lukhoff
1997-1998	Elmer Talcott (Interim Pastor)
1998-2013	Christopher Taylor
2013-2016	Howard Bryant (Interim Pastor)
2017	Ronald Thompson

### **THE ORGANIZING OF SESSION 1940-1941**

At the organizing meeting on November 3, 1940, three elders were elected:

Clinton W. Chamberlin  
Theodore P. Hubert  
William Schmitt

The other officers of the newly formed church were elected at a Congregational and Corporate meeting held on February 7, 1941:

3 additional elders  
George W. Alber  
Wilbur Hauck  
Douglas A. Lindsay

### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

William Buckley	Carl Hesse
Walter Herbst	John Schultes

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Herbert E. Downs  
George W. Gibb  
Theodore P Hubert  
Miles C. Kunz  
Harry L Livermore

Henry E. Ludt  
Dr. Norman F. Ottley  
William Schmitt  
Harold A. Stanley  
Herbert J. Stein

Frank Thrall  
Emyrus K. Weeks  
Raymond M Welsh  
Dr. Aaron Williams

## THE ORIGINAL ORGANIZATIONS

### CHURCH SCHOOL

#### **Superintendent:**

Myles C. Morrison

#### **Ass't Superintendent**

Clinton W. Chamberlin

#### **Beginners Department**

Mrs. Walter B. Herbst

#### **Primary Department**

Mr. Theodore P. Hubert

#### **Young Peoples Advisor**

Mrs. Harold A. Stanley

### ORGANIZATION PRESIDENTS

#### **Ladies Guild**

Mrs. Henry E. Ludt

#### **Philathea Bible Class**

Mrs. Claude Morrison

#### **Brotherhood**

Raymond M. Welsh

#### **Young People**

David O. Stanley

#### **First Church Pianist**

Mrs. Marion Howell

### A Note from Our Treasurer:

Please continue to **mail your weekly offerings** to the church office. **Bill Pay and other online banking options** should also be considered. Online contributions may be made through our church's website "Give Now" button:



Our church's Donation Page can also be reached using the Quick Response (QR) Code below. A QR Code is a two-dimensional, modular barcode that, when scanned by a smart phone (most phones use the camera to do this) will connect you to our Donation Page.

