

# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ISELIN

*Minds, hearts, hands and voices in Christ*

Service and Message by: Rev. Dr. Ken Macari

Liturgist: Elder Ron Stamboly

We request that you silence all electronic devices **before** service begins

***\*Please rise in body or spirit***

Sunday, September 5, 2021

10:30 A.M.

## PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR THE PROMISE

**PRELUDE**

**Alaine Bolton Director of Music**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Elder Ron Stamboly**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**Great and Mighty**  
Ps. 150  
Songs of Praise  
Words and Music by  
Marlene Bigley

D  
Great and might - y is the Lord our God,  
Em7 A  
Great and might - y in - deed.  
Em7  
Great and might - y is the Lord our God,  
A G/A D Em/A D  
Great and might - y in - deed. Lift up your  
Em7(4)D/F#  
ban-ner, let the an-thems ring; prais - es ev - er  
G D C6 B7  
sing! Great and might - y is the Lord our God,  
Em7(4) A7 1. D G/A A 2. D  
Great and might - y in - deed. deed.

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)**

**Elder Ron Stamboly**

One: Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ

**ALL: All authority in heaven and earth has been given to Me**

One: Go and make disciples of all nations

**ALL: baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

One: Teach them to obey all that I have commanded you.

**ALL: I am with you always to the end of the age!**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY (from Ephesians 4) (In Unison)**

**Elder Ron Stamboly**

**There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling. There is one Lord, one faith and one baptism. There is one God and Father of all who is above all, through all and in all.**

**\*HYMN # 263 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name**

**INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

**Elder Ron Stamboly**

With sincere hearts and minds, let us confess our sins before God and the world, trusting in God's mercy to forgive.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)**

**Elder Ron Stamboly**

**Triune God, we fail to remember that through the sacrament of Baptism we have entered Your covenant family. In the daily battle against the world, the flesh and the Devil, we fail to rejoice in Your baptismal promises. Transform us to daily drown the life of sin and selfishness. May we daily put on the shining garment of Christ's righteousness. We pray for all of this by the presence and power of Your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Merciful God, hear now our own personal confessions that we lift up to you in silence.

**PERSONAL CONFESSION**

**Rev. Dr. Ken Macari**

In the strong name of Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Rev. Dr. Ken Macari**

The Lord Jesus Christ keeps His promise of mercy bestowed upon us in Baptism. We are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

**THE RESPONSE #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.**

## **THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**Elder Ron Stamboly**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.** (*Please pass the peace of Christ to one another.*)

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

**Rev. Dr. Ken Macari**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Elder Ron Stamboly**

Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God, and prepare our hearts to accept your word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **SCRIPTURE READING      Colossians 2: 9-15 (NIV)**

<sup>9</sup> For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, <sup>10</sup> and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. <sup>11</sup> In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, <sup>12</sup> having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

<sup>13</sup> When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, <sup>14</sup> having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

## **THE MESSAGE**

**He Knows My Name**

**Rev. Dr. Ken Macari**

**\*HYMN # 482    Baptized in Water**

### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,  
The Father, the Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
Of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
The only Son of God,  
Eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
Begotten, not made,  
Of one Being with the Father;  
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
He came down from heaven,  
Was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
And became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
In accordance with the Scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven  
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
And his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
Who with the Father and the Son  
Is worshiped and glorified,  
Who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
And the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

#### **THE OFFERING**

With grateful hearts, let us bring our tithes and offerings to the God from whom they came.

#### **\*THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE #608**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

#### **\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)**

**Lord, receive these gifts for the work of your church. With these gifts we dedicate ourselves to live in the truth of your word, and follow your commandments with sincere hearts; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

**\*HYMN #264      At the Name of Jesus**

## **THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

### **THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

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.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold 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**

### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Because there is one loaf, we, many as we are, are one body; for it is one loaf of which we partake. When we break the bread, is it not a sharing in the body Christ? When we give thanks over the cup, is it not a sharing in the blood Christ? Friends, these are the gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

#### **PRAYER AFTER SUPPER**

Triune God, we thank You for inviting us to Your welcoming, nourishing table. You feed us with the bread of life and quench our thirst with the cup of blessing.

May we be ambassadors of hope and joy for those hungering and thirsting for Good News.

We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!

**\*HYMN # 275 A Mighty Fortress is Our God**

**\*THE BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION Halle, Halle, Hallelujah**

# Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Songs of Praise

Music: Unknown  
Arr. Geoff Weaver

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! jah!

## THE POSTLUDE

**Today we welcome Rev. Dr. Ken Macari to our pulpit.**

Pastor Ken Macari is an Honorably Retired Teaching Elder of the Northeast New Jersey Presbytery. He earned both a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry from Gordon-Conwell Seminary in MA. He has served churches in his native Philadelphia, PA, Buffalo, NY, and, most recently, at Community Presbyterian, Edison. Currently, Ken volunteers at the Fanwood Church where his wife, Linda, serves on session. He regularly serves as a pulpit supply minister throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania as does his wife, Linda.

# Friendly Reminders!

Rev. Chris will be on vacation from  
September 4<sup>th</sup> through September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Ron Stamboly will be leading Bible study on Wednesday, 9.8.21.

## **Woodbridge Remembers 9/11**

Woodbridge Township will hold its annual memorial service on September 10 at 6 pm.

The memorial service will be held on the stage at the concert field behind Woodbridge High School. It will begin at 6 p.m. Sept. 10 with an annual salute to Woodbridge's first responder community. The evening will be led by Woodbridge's Interfaith Clergy Council. All are welcome to attend and mark the solemn occasion.

Per Capita Apportionment for 2021 is \$40.45

As of 6/28/21, 42 members have reimbursed the church for per capita responsibilities! Thank you!

## **REGULAR ACTIVITIES**

Church Office open Monday-Friday, 9am to 1 pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry  
Tuesdays at 12 noon

Wednesdays – Bible Study in Fellowship Hall at 11 am

Rev. Chris' Congregational Call  
Every Thursday at 11 am

Men's Breakfast  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 8 am.

CLEF Ladies' Breakfast  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 9 am

Sunday Bible Study  
9:00 am

Session meeting every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month

Divine Worship: In sanctuary and on Facebook Livestream  
Sundays at 10:30 am