

June 2, 2024

Morning Worship

10:30 a.m.

*Second Sunday after Pentecost
Slackwood Presbyterian Church
2020 Brunswick Avenue, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648*

GATHER TO WORSHIP

*As a consideration to all who seek to worship this morning, please
turn off or mute cell phones and other electronic devices.*

Bell of Invitation

Welcome & Announcements

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Call to Worship

L: The psalmist declares, "Lord, you have searched me and known me." Will you open yourselves to be searched by God?

P: Search us, O God, and know our hearts.

L: God searches you, knows you, and loves you, and invites you to search out God in return. Will you seek the heart of God?

P: We will search you, O God, to know your heart.

L: The Triune God who creates all and knows all is revealed in running rivers and fluttering butterflies, in warm sunshine and the smell of the earth. Will you pay attention?

P: We will pay attention, O God, to your fingerprint of love on all of creation.

L: Let us open our hearts today to encounter your love, holiness, and glory that creates and sustain all that was, is, and will be.

*Hymn #409 "God Is Here!" ABBOT'S LEIGH

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*In Unison*)

I come before God knowing that "confession is good for the soul." But the thought of opening up before you is overwhelming. At times, I cannot bear to remember how often I have gone astray. At other times, I cloud my memory, justifying what I know is wrong in your sight. I cannot trust myself to confess my sins as often as I should. I need you to help me to be honest. So, like the psalmist, I say, "Search me Lord." You know me. You know my thoughts. You know

where I have been and where I am going. Search me, Lord; and if there is any wicked way in me, deliver me and lead me into righteousness. (Time for silent prayer) Amen

*Words of Assurance

*Gloria Patri (#581)

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, amen.

(Following the time of confession, young people ages 3 to 10 may leave for a time of activity.)

HEARING OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading – Psalm 139 (*Read responsively*)

L: O LORD, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

P: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

L: Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

P: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

L: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

P: Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

L: If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

P: If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

L: If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

P: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

L: See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem “In Remembrance of Me” Buryl Red

Second Scripture Reading – 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “Fully Known” The Rev. Jill Hedlund Kitsko

*Affirmation of Faith. (The Apostles’ Creed)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn #710 “We Lift Our Voices” OFFERING

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

Call for Offering & Offertory

*Doxology (#606)

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

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #526 “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” LINSTAD

Celebration of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise....

(Prayer continues)

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

(Please hold the elements till all our served and we commune together at the direction of the officiant.)

Prayer after the Meal

*Hymn #839 “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!” ASSURANCE

*Charge and Benediction

DEPART TO SERVE

**Those who are able may stand.*

Welcome to everyone who is worshipping this morning. If you are visiting, we hope you will feel very welcome and that you will stay for refreshments and conversation.

Christ’s Ministers in the World: All members of the church

Interim Pastor: The Rev. David Bowman

Director of Music: Dr. Shelley Sanders Zuckerman

Liturgist: Shirley Hafford

Communion Servers: Carol Belles & Sandy Murray

Preaching this morning is the **Rev. Jill Hedlund Kitsko** who was ordained in Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1985 and became honorable retired in New Jersey in 2023. Her last call was to Seabrook Village where she worked with David Bowman. She and her husband Steve live in Metuchen.

Announcements

Pastor Bowman's contact information:

Email: dfbsbv@gmail.com or Telephone: 732.547.3480

The Peace Candle in the Chancel is lit to remind us of the gift of Christ's peace and our call to be peacemakers.

The **Adult Forum** meets each Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. The link to the meeting is sent in the Saturday announcements email.

The **choir** practices each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Pastor Bowman will be out of the office through June 9, 2024. In case of emergencies needing pastoral care, please contact the clerk of session.

There are a number of important **“sign-up sheets”** on the table in fellowship hall. Make sure you look at all of them and add your name to the various activities.

This summer the **Truth & Reconciliation Group** will be reading the book *Across That Bridge: A Vision for Change and the Future of America* by John Lewis. If you would like to read that book with the group, there is a sign-up sheet in fellowship hall. Sign up by June 10 and you will be provided with a copy of the book. Everyone is welcome.

Dates for your calendar:

Thursday, June 13 - 6:00 p.m. The movie "Rustin" will be shown in Fellowship Hall. Pizza and dessert will be served. Mark your calendar and sign up on the form on the table in fellowship hall.

Saturday, June 22 - 3:30 p.m. - church picnic at the farm -- home of Pastor Bowman. Hot dogs, hamburgers, and beverages will be provided. Those attending are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. You can sign up on the form on the table in fellowship hall. If you need a ride, let Beth Clark or Shirley Hafford know.

Sunday, June 30 - 12:15 p.m. - picnic at West Trenton Presbyterian Church for members of that congregation, Ewing Covenant, Slackwood, Lawrence Road and TCNJ campus ministry. Come meet LGBTQIA folks and their allies and have fun together. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Saturday, August 17 - Summer Festival - Many, many volunteers will be needed for this amazing event. Plan to be there and to help out.

Those people remembered in the prayers of the people last week are: Jill, Ebbie, Laura, Cindy, Audrey, Joann, Bill, Linda, Marilyn, Mylan, Theresa, Gwen, Francine & Troy, MaryBeth and Beth.

