

The United First Presbyterian Church
of Amwell at Larison's Corner



The Reverend Courtney B. Cromie, Pastor

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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 1, 2022, 11:00 AM

Minister: The Reverend Courtney B. Cromie

GREETING AND WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

People: **Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.**

Leader: Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us and we are his;

People: **we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

People: **For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

HYMN O MASTER, LET ME WALK WITH THEE

O Master let me walk with Thee in lowly paths of service free; Tell me Thy secret, help me to bear the strain of toll, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love; Team me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in a homeward way.

Teach me Thy patience, still with Thee in closer, dearer company, in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray Far down the future's broad'ning way. In peace that only Thou canst give, with Thee, O master, let me live.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Our Father, we confess that our faith is weak and inconsistent. One moment we sing your praise; the next we complain about the circumstances you have ordained and the people you have chosen. We move so quickly from peaks of worship to valleys of sin. But we confess that You do not change, but remain perfectly glorious forever. Deliver us from our sin and folly. Lift us from the misery of disobedience through the grace of the One who was lifted up on the cross for us. For we pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA PATRI 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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS / WAVING THE PEACE

A TIME FOR THOSE WHO ARE YOUNG

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Psalm 51:1-14 - Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. ²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. ³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. ⁴Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. ⁵Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. ⁶You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. ⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. ⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. ¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. ¹¹Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. ¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. ¹⁴Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

HYMN: AMAZING GRACE (MY CHAINS ARE GONE)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

My chains are gone, I've been set free, my God, my Savior has ransomed me. And like a flood, His mercy rains, unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures, He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

My chains are gone, I've been set free, my God, my Savior has ransomed me. And like a flood, His mercy rains, unending love, amazing grace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like now, the sun forbear to shine. But God, who called me here below, will be forever mine. Will be forever mine.

FIRST NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Acts 9:1-9

¹Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

SECOND NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Acts 9:10-20

10 Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." 11 The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision[a] a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." 13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; 14 and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; 16 I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." 17 So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, 19 and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, 20 and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

MEDITATION – "A New Way of Life: The Story of Paul"

HYMN SAUL LEFT FOR DAMASCUS (Tune: Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise)

Saul left for Damascus, his orders were clear; to send folks to prison and leave them in fear. He searched for the people that followed the Way, but found someone else when he ventured that day.

A bright light from heaven! Saul fell to the ground! A voice boomed around him, a voice most profound; "Saul why do you murder and persecute me?" Saul saw only darkness; his eyes could not see.

His friends had to lead him for now he was blind. They came to Damascus by God's own design. God sent Ananias to tell Saul God's plan. Saul's sight was restored and he was a new man!

No more would Saul murder, he grew in God's grace. In all he would serve he would see Jesus' face. Lord, help us to follow with hearts that are brave, and worship our Savior who rose from the grave.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY

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.

SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

Upcoming Birthdays/Anniversaries: Dan & Cheri Fleming Anniversary, May 1; Ken Rogers Birthday May 6; Christine & Hector Molini Anniversary May 8; Amanda Wengryn Birthday May 11

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.

HYMN GREATER GRACE THEN OUR SIN

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt; yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured, there where the blood of the Lamb was spilled. Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within! Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin!

Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold threaten the soul with infinite loss; grace that is greater, ye grace untold, points to the refuge the mighty cross. Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within! Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin.

Marvelous infinite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe; you that are longing to see His face, will you this moment His grace receive? Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within! Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin!

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN YOU ARE MY ALL IN ALL / FAIREST LORD JESUS

You are my strength when I am weak. You are the reassurance that I seek. You are my all in all. Seeking You as a precious jewel, Lord to give up I'd be a fool. You are my all in all

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your Name! Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your Name.

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame, rising again I bless Your name. You are my all in all. When I fall down, You pick me up; when I am dry, You fill my cup; You are my all in all

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your Name! Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is Your Name.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine! Now forevermore be Thine!

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP INSIDE every Sunday at 11 AM! - Worship is live-streamed on Facebook at 11 AM; Recordings of worship available at a later date.

THIS SATURDAY, MAY 7! HELP NEEDED! VENDORS NEEDED! Larison's Corner Flea Market, May 7th, 9am – 2 pm - Our Corner Club is planning a Flea Market (Rain Date May 14). Spots are available for those who want to sell new or used items for \$20.00 each. Larison's Church will have a table if you want to donate just a few items for the church to sell. **DONATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER TODAY.** Hot Dogs, Water, and Cookies will also be "For Sale." **Help is needed for setting-up tables, pop-up tents, etc. on Friday, May 6th & Saturday, May 7th** Folks are also needed to **bake cookies! On May 7th we need help Selling Food Items, Manning Church Table, and Other Errands.** To Sign-up for a vendor "spot" for \$20, contact Ruth Chiesa at: 908.507.9757. To help w/clean-up, cooking, etc., please reach out to Ruth and John Chiesa, Kathy Kovacs or Lois Riggs.

THIS WEDNESDAY, MAY 4 - Wednesday Night Bible Study, May 4 & May 13, 7 - 8:30 PM In-Person and Via Zoom – Come and study God's Word the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays with Pastor Courtney. To learn more, speak to Pastor Courtney, pastorcourtney@larisonscorner.org.

Bible Study and Tea, Wednesday, May 11, 3 PM Lois Riggs will be leading Tea & Bible Study which meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 3 pm. Tea and English pastries served. To learn more information, speak to Lois Riggs. Join anytime. *There is no Tea and Bible Study on Wednesday, May 25

Music Ministry Update: Choral Choir Rehearsal & Chimes' Rehearsals are Thursday evenings. All are invited to join the Singing/Choral Choir and/or the Chimes Choir. Do you play a musical instrument and want to share in worship? Contact Sharon Keyes, our Director of Music, for more information.

Food Drive for Those in Need – We can help struggling families in our community with food/item needs. Items Needed: **cereal, pancake mix and syrup, peanut butter and jelly, mac and cheese, pasta and sauce, tuna, soup, Chef Boyardee, toilet paper, and paper towels.** Please place donations in the bin outside the side entrance of the church. If you know of families that need help, please contact Kirkpatrick Presbyterian at 908.782.1177 or admin@kirkpatrickchurch.org. **Kirkpatrick Presbyterian: 37 John Ringo Rd, Ringoes NJ, 08551** A donation box is here at Larison's Corner and we drop the items there later.

Great is Thy Faithfulness: Celebration of Hymns and Their Stories, Sunday, May 15, 11 AM We will sing the old, traditional hymns we love and learn their stories in this Service of Celebration of Hymns & Their Stories. Come and join us and invite some friends!

Trivia, Bingo, & Game Night, Monday, May 16 7-8:30 pm A fun night of Trivia, Games, Fellowship, and Fun Snacks. There will be prizes too!

Scottish Heritage Sunday, Sunday, May 22 at 11 AM We will celebrate the Scottish Heritage of our Presbyterian Church with Scottish music, Scottish Psalter, and bagpipes.. Wear something plaid and bring an item to be blessed! Everyone is welcome—bring your friends

Craft Night, Wednesday, May 25 6:30-8:30 pm We will be making Memorial Day/Patriotic Crafts. \$5 suggested donation. Come out and join us – invite a friend!

Per Capita – In support of Presbytery, Northeast Synod, and General Assembly Staff & Mission, we submit “dues or per capita” per member. To contribute, share \$40 and mark it for Per Capita. If possible, consider helping to cover other members who may not be able to. Any amount would be appreciated.



Share Your Resources to Support the Ministry of Larison’s Corner – Ways to Give: 1.

Leave a gift in **the worship offering** via cash or check; 2. **Mail in a gift** via check to Larison’s Corner Church, PO Box 348, Ringoes, NJ 08551; 3. Give Online through “Tithely” You can make an online gift, by visiting our website link at:

<https://larionscorner.org/contributions/>. You may also give on Facebook in our “about” section or by clicking here: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=4558529> - Once you are in Tithely, you can set up a one-time gift, ongoing gifts, or a special gift. **Give today by using your camera on your cell phone over the image to the right and following the link to make your donation.*

SAVE-THE-DATE - Pig Roast & Ice Cream Social, Saturday, June 11, 4-7PM.

This June, we return to hosting a pig roast and homemade ice cream social!

Adults \$12.00, Children Under 10 \$8.00 / Rain or Shine. Take out, indoor or under a tent dining MENU: Fresh Pulled Barbequed Pork, Homemade Cole Slaw and Baked Beans, & Homemade Ice Cream ***Volunteers are needed to help with the baked beans, set-up & clean-up, selling tickets, advertising, etc. See Lois Riggs for more info.**

Session

(Session meetings are the second Tuesday at 7:30 pm)

Class of 2022

Dianne Fleming
Arlene Knaub

Class of 2023

Lysa Reiter
Lois Riggs
Charlie Rogers

Class of 2024

Betty Jane Biache
Ruth Chiesa

Other Ordained Elders

David Bond
Bill Heilman
Jodi Reed

Donna DeVico
Marlene Lambert

Judy Grignon
Paula Melbourn

Board of Trustees

(Board of Trustees meets the first Tuesday at 7:30 pm)

Class of 2022

John Chiesa
David Everitt

Class of 2023

Bill Kurylo
Treacy Weeks

Class of 2024

Kyle Bond

Corner Club

President - Lois Riggs
Vice President – Kathy Kovacs
Secretary - Ruth Chiesa
Treasurer - Barri-Lynn Everitt

The Reverend Courtney B. Cromie, Stated-Supply Part-Time Pastor

Luke Kirby, Treasurer

Deborah Kacerek-Cooley, Assistant Treasurer

Lois Riggs, Clerk of Session

Sharon Keyes, Director of Music

Sue Mannino, Organist Emeritus