

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



The Reverend Courtney B. Cromie, Pastor

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SUNDAY WORSHIP, MAY 22, 2022, 11:00 AM

“Scottish Heritage Sunday”

Minister: The Reverend Courtney B. Cromie

Every year, Presbyterians celebrate Heritage Sunday, a day to reflect upon and learn more about the long and rich history of the Presbyterian church in America. Heritage Sunday always falls on the Sunday closest to May 21, the opening date of the first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America in 1789.

GREETING AND WELCOME

OPENING SONG “Scotland the Brave” Bagpiper, Patricia Downey

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP *(adapted from Celtic Invocations, by Alexander Carmichael, 1899)*

Leader: This day we bend the knee to God, our great Chief,

People: Before whom the people of every tongue, clan and nation will one day bow.

Leader: Grant to us, Thou Savior of Glory,

People: The fear of God, and the love of God, and the will of God to do on earth at all times as the angels and saints do in heaven.

Leader: In the sight of the Father who created us,

People: In the sight of the Son who died for us,

Leader: In the sight of the Spirit who cleansed us,

All: Let us lift up our hearts and voices and worship God!

HYMN IMMORTAL INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and wither and perish but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all praise we would render, O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*) [from Reverend Peter Marshall]

O Lord our God, even at this moment as we come blundering into Thy presence in prayer, we are haunted by memories of duties unperformed, promptings disobeyed and beckonings ignored. Opportunities to be kind knocked on the door of our hearts and went weeping away. We are ashamed, O Lord, and tired of failure. If Thou art drawing close to us now, come nearer still, till selfishness is burned out within us and our wills lose their weakness in union with Thine own. We ask this in Christ's 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

SONG LOCH LOMOND, Bagpiper, Patricia Downey

This Soldier's Lament is in honor of all military in active duty far away from their native lands, who must endure the challenges and dangers of conflict and separation from their loved ones.

By yon bonnie banks and yon bonnie braes, Where the sun shines bright on Loch Lomond, Where me and my true love were ever want to gae, On the bonnie, bonnie banks O' Loch Lomond. O! Ye'll take the high road And I'll take the low road And I'll be in Scotland afore ye, But me and my true love will never meet again On the bonnie, bonnie banks O' Loch Lomond.

'Twas there that we parted in yon shady glen, On the steep, steep side O' Loch Lomond, Where deep in purple hue the Highland hills we view, And the moon coming out in the gloaming. O! Ye'll take the high road And I'll take the low road And I'll be in Scotland afore ye, But me and my true love will never meet again On the bonnie, bonnie banks O' Loch Lomond.

The wee birdies sing and the wild flowers spring, And in sunshine the waters are sleeping, But the broken heart it kens, nae second spring again, Tho' the woeful may cease from the greeting. O! Ye'll take the high road And I'll take the low road And I'll be in Scotland afore ye, But me and my true love will never meet again On the bonnie, bonnie banks O' Loch Lomond.

LITANY, BLESSING OF THE TARTANS & SPECIAL FAMILY ITEMS (responsive)

Leader: Thank you, O Lord, for your self-revealed Word which has ordained a rich heritage of faith and sacrifice from our ancestors, from Adam to Noah, from Noah to Abraham, from Abraham to David, so onwards to the incarnation of Jesus Christ, to the establishment of his church: our brothers and sisters in Christ everywhere.

People: Never let us forget that a heritage of faith is a responsibility, not a treasure to be hoarded.

Leader: O Lord, for the blessing of family; the warmth, comfort, and security of family love. Never let us forget that our family love is a gift to be shared, that the stranger may be as welcome as the brother.

People: We praise you, O Lord, for those who have lived and died in Christ that we might have the freedom to dwell in a community of faith.

Leader: Never let us forget that the days of sacrifice are not yet over, that we too, have lives to live in faith.

People: Bless us that we might be a blessing, O Lord.

Leader: On behalf of all clans, families, and nations, bless these tartans and these items of our family, Almighty God. **People: We have gratitude for our heritage and pray God's blessing on His servant people in all lands.**

A TIME FOR THOSE WHO ARE YOUNG

HYMN THE SUMMONS

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE - Scottish Psalter Psalm 24:1-10

1 The earth belongs unto the Lord, and all that it contains; The world that is inhabited, and all that there remains. 2 For the foundations thereof he on the seas did lay, And he hath it established upon the floods to stay. 3 Who is the man that shall ascend into the hill of God? Or who within his holy place shall have a firm abode? 4 Whose hands are clean, whose heart is pure, and unto vanity Who hath not lifted up his soul, nor sworn deceitfully. 5 He from th' Eternal shall receive the blessing him upon, And righteousness, ev'n from the God of his salvation. 6 This is the generation that after him enquire, O Jacob, who do seek thy face with their whole heart's desire. 7 Ye gates, lift up your heads on high; ye doors that last for aye, Be lifted up, that so the King of glory enter may. 8 But who of glory is the King? The mighty Lord is this; Ev'n that same Lord, that great in might and strong in battle is. 9 Ye gates, lift up your heads; ye doors, doors that do last for aye, Be lifted up, that so the King of glory enter may. 10 But who is he that is the King of glory? who is this? The Lord of hosts, and none but he, the King of glory is.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Acts 2:44-47

44All who believed were together and had all things in common; 45they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, 47praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

MESSAGE "It's All About The Kirk"

HYMN WERE I TO CROSS FROM LAND TO LAND (Psalm 139, New Scottish Hymn)

Were I to cross from land to land And sail afar by sea Descend the depths or climb the heights My Lord remains with me

Before the blood ran in these veins The days ordained for me Were written in Your book O Lord Before I came to be

I grieve to hear Your enemies Speak hatred, Lord, of You Long though they scheme with ill-intent Their days are numbered too

How precious are Your thoughts to me How countless, Lord, they are More than the shores have grains of sand More than the skies have stars

Come search and test this heart O Lord, Dispel each anxious thought And lead me onward evermore To tread the path I ought

How blessed I am, so bound with love Surrounded, yet so free In doubt or blessing, life or death My Lord remains with me

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

TODAY Kean & Tara Burenga Anniv - May 22 Yoama Pons & Kevin Smith Anniv - May 25, Luz Pons, May 29, Lois & Richard Riggs Anniv - May 29, & Carol & Nelson Ward's Anniv - May 30

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.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From The Scots Confession of 1560)

We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by His Providence, and to the manifestation of His Glory. Amen.

HYMN AMAZING GRACE, Bagpiper, Patricia Downey

BENEDICTION Traditional Gaelic Blessing (Beannachd Dia dhuit - Scots Gaelic)

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; May the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

POSTLUDE GOING HOME, Bagpiper, Patricia Downey

Our worship will continue as we share the love and peace of Christ with each other.

Shortbread, Scottish Treats, and tea will be served.

HISTORY OF PRESBYTERIANISM

John Calvin established Presbyterianism in Switzerland and John Knox, who was a Scottish Reformer who studied under John Calvin, spread Presbyterianism to Scotland in 1559. In 1690, Presbyterianism became the state church of Scotland.

In 1746, the English defeated the Scots at the Battle of Culloden Moor, leading to 40 years when the Scots were forbidden to bear arms, wear kilts, or play the bagpipes. The resourceful Scots hid scraps of tartan as they came to worship, and when the pastor prayed they would reach in their pockets to touch the scrap, preserving their heritage. The prohibition against tartan lasted for nearly 50 years. When at last repealed, the Church of Scotland celebrated with a Service where the tartan of each family was offered as a covenant expression for the Lord's blessing.

Presbyterianism spread to Ireland, and it was the immigrants from Scotland and Ireland who brought the Presbyterian Church to the United States.

THE BEADLE

During the Middle Ages and the Reformation, Bibles were rare among the common people. The value of the sacred scriptures and the danger of theft led to the establishment of a special lay office within the Kirk (Church) known as the "Beadle". The Beadle begins worship by carrying the Bible ceremoniously into the sanctuary. The Beadle removes the Bible from the Kirk for safekeeping following the service.

THE BAGPIPE

The bagpipe is a unique instrument because it has four sets of reeds. Two pieces of cane are tied together and vibrate against one another as air passes between the blades. The double reed was created in The Middle East thousands of years ago. When a bag was placed between the mouthpiece and the pipe, the piper could then play continuously even while taking in a breath. Long ago, the bagpipe was known for a soft, sweet sound suited for dancing and festivals. Only in Scotland and Ireland did the instrument mutate into a weapon of war. The Great Highland Bagpipe developed the volume to signal warriors and intimidate the enemy over the din of battle. Many an enemy feared the stirring effect the pipes had on Scots as a martial spirit and symbol of fearless might. The piper came to be held in higher esteem in Scotland than anywhere else. As early as the year 1000, bagpipes were popular throughout the country, and by 1500 every clan chieftain worthy of the name had a piper in his retinue.

THE KILT

The kilt is the most identifiable garment worn by the Scots made with eight yards of tartan pleated together in the back and left unpleated in the front. The modern kilt is made to cover only the lower half of the body, from the waist down to the knees. But in the late 1500's, the Feileadh Mhor (The Great Kilt) covered the body from the knees to the neck, and sometimes even the head.

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.

NEXT SUNDAY WORSHIP OUTSIDE, May 29, 11 AM – Memorial Day Sunday – Come join us for a time of Remembrance and Gratitude for those who paid the ultimate price in giving their lives for our freedoms. We will sing our beloved Patriotic Songs.

THIS WEDNESDAY, May 25 6:30-8:30 pm We will have a craft night in the Sarah Strong Room where we will paint outdoor terracotta planters. There will also be a Memorial Day Craft. \$5 suggested donation. Come out and join us – invite a friend!

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

Food Drive for Those in Need – 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. . 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. Know a family who needs help? contact Kirkpatrick Presbyterian 908.782.1177 or admin@kirkpatrickchurch.org

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...

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://larisonscorner.org/contributions/>. You may give on Facebook in our “about” section or by clicking here:



<https://tithe.ly/give?c=4558529> - Once in Tithely, you can set up a one-time gift, ongoing gifts, or a special gift. **Give today with your cell phone camera on the image to the right and follow the link.*

Pig Roast & Ice Cream Social, Saturday, June 11, 4-7PM. And our Flea Market also June 11, We are hosting a pig roast and homemade ice cream social! Adults \$12.00, Children Under 10 \$8.00 / Rain or Shine. Take out/Under a Tent Fresh Pulled BBQ Pork, Homemade Cole Slaw & Baked Beans, & Homemade Ice Cream ***Volunteers needed to help with baked beans, set-up & clean-up, selling tickets, etc. Spots available at Flea**

Market for \$20 and we need help for the flea market. 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