

**Saddle River Reformed Church
Worshipping at
Old Stone Church**

**Third Sunday After Pentecost
Children's Day
June 9, 2024
10am Worship**

Minister: The Rev. Thomas Larkin

Head Usher: Nancy Pete

(*Congregation stands as they are able)

THE APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: A new week has begun, and another week is behind us.

People: We come today to worship the Lord, to sing praises to our God, to listen to his voice, to pray, and to be disciples.

Pastor: There are many voices which call out to us, distract us, and compete for our attention to follow.

All: Let us each be open, humble, willing, and obedient disciples of Jesus in this hour, and as we leave this place.

OPENING PRAYER

OUR HOPE: Heidelberg Catechism Question & Answer #1

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in

fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

GREETING

Pastor: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And with you, also.

***HYMN: 648 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (v. 1 & 2)**

PRAYER OF HUMAN CONDITION

Lord, you know us thoroughly, our thoughts, our feelings, what is truly going on in our lives. We cannot hide from your presence, although we might try to hide in different ways. We confess to you and in the presence of others, there have been ways we have not followed you, sinned against you in our thoughts and actions. Forgive us gracious Lord. May we accept your grace and live as forgiven and redeemed people, willing to forgive others for Jesus’ sake, and even our own. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God’s grace is amazing and abounding each and every day. May we embrace and accept the Lord’s forgiveness and compassionate mercy. In and because of Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

READING OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Matthew 22:37-40

PSALTER

Pastor: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

People: I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

Pastor: On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

People: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

Pastor: They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

People: For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Pastor: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

All: The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Psalm 138

*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, Amen.***

***HYMN: 676 "O Jesus, I Have Promised" (v. 1 & 4)**

THE WORD OF GOD IN PROCLAMATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Back of pew Bible page 181

Mark 3:20-35

Back of pew Bible page 37-38

MESSAGE: "In His Right Mind"

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

OFFERING

*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.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

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.*

***HYMN: 23 "The God of Abraham Praise" (v. 1 & 4)**

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

Today we welcome back to our pulpit the Rev. Thomas Larkin. Tom is a semi-retired RCA minister. Through the years Tom has served as a pastor in RCA congregations in New Jersey (Wyckoff, Bridgewater, Pompton Plains, Ridgewood) and California (Bellflower, Garden Grove) and as a chaplain at Erickson Living-Cedar Crest Village, a retirement community in Pompton Plains. Tom, his wife Linda, their son Thomas, and cat Axel reside in Pequannock.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

- **Kirk Gagnon**
- **Una Ratmeyer**
- **John Seibert**

Our home-bound members:

**Joyce McClurg
Laura Parker**

Brett Ferra; Bill Conklin; June Conklin; Victor Zeringo
(Requested by Jo Conklin)

Judy Nygern; Andres Magi; Ron Kraham
(Requested by Peter Freeman)

Jane Sands; Avalyn
(Requested by the Gagnons)

Rev. Ron & Karen Lokhorst as Karen is facing serious health concerns and is in hospice care
(Requested by the Giordanos)

Amy Rohrbacher
(Requested by Eileen Jones)

Claudia Kammerer; Roger; Suzette A; Anna Hartung; Bertha Mandel; Denny Thompson; Chris Reilly; Terri; Roger Trespicio; Sydney Sue; Paul & Barbara Sherman; Chris Hernandez; Patti; Hyuncha; Diane; Dick Meuer
(Requested by the Kammerers)

Tim P; Joe C; Virginia F; Tom K; Ann S; Dave C; Rich H; Carol B; Gary G; Toby
(Requested by Cathy Lowden)

Lorenzo Dameano
(Requested by Nancy Peet)

Dorothy Crapanzano; Brian Peters; Cheryl; Paul; Michelle
(Requested by the Peters)

Janet Sandgran
(Requested by the Sew 'n' Sews)

Alexa Yannuzzi
(Requested by the Strohmeyers)

Kandra Niagra; Marcy Robin; Russell Maitland; Lynn Friedman; Stephanie Schwartz; Arlene Teck; Terry Ross; Loris Marfilius; Catherine Galione
(Requested by Rozanne Sullivan)

Vicki Lunghofer; Nellie LaTesta
(Requested by Christine Van Wetering)

PRAYERS OF SUPPORT FOR

- RCA missionaries
- The Leadership of the Reformed Church in America: General Synod, Regional Synod of the Mid-Atlantics, the Classis of the Greater Palisades, and our Consistory
- Seminary students at New Brunswick Theological Seminary and the Western Theological Seminary
- All victims of tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, wildfires, earthquakes, drought, and man-made disasters
- Leaders of government and international aid organizations
- Those serving our country, veterans, and all peoples affected by war and terrorist attacks including the humanitarian crises in Israel and Gaza, Sudan, and Ukraine
- The victims of mass shootings and their families including those in Elkridge, Maryland; Lower Santan Village, Arizona; Rock Hill, South Carolina; Akron, Ohio; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Those working to dismantle racism and break barriers for people living with disabilities
- The poor, oppressed, sick, lonely, homeless, unemployed, exiles and refugees, infirm and the dying, prisoners, caregivers, and those struggling with addiction and mental illness and their families
- The families who have served our congregation through their ministry: Marlyn Minnick, Ellen Springsteen, and Bob & Arlene Fretz

- Our congregation's search committee, that they may be led to choose the best candidate to lead our church in the future
- All those who have lost loved ones

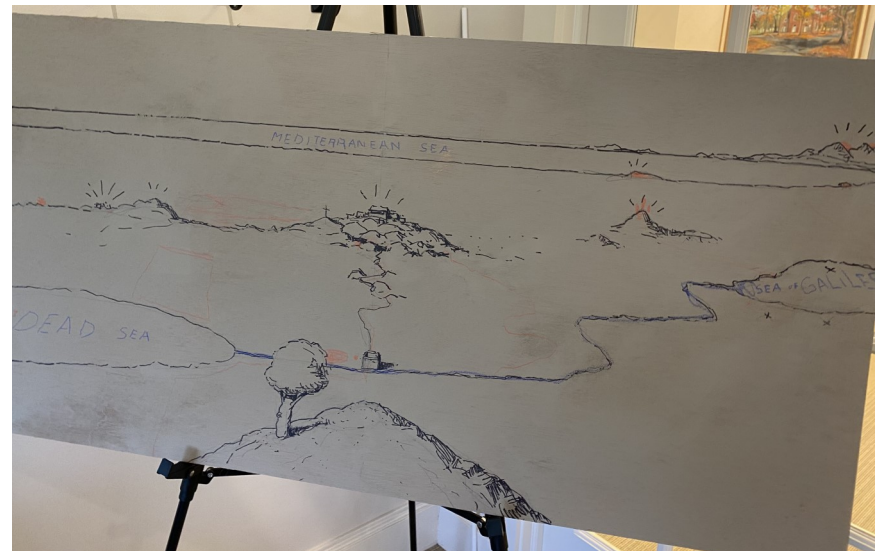
ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEKLY Bible Study: Meets every Wednesday at 11am in the Lounge followed by the "Lunch Bunch" from 12:15-1pm.

When Your Bible Study Teacher is an artist...

A picture really is worth a thousand words. What looks like a simple line drawing of Israel becomes a lesson in "What Happens Where." So many Bible stories fall into place.

From Joshua to Jesus, Bible events took place on mountains, in valleys, on lakes and beside rivers. What did Moses see when he looked into the land of milk and honey? Where could Elijah have been when God lit those fires to demonstrate his power?



Where is Nazareth in relation to Bethlehem? Can we try to trace the journey of Jesus as he traveled on foot throughout the area?

So many questions! Why not join us as we search the Bible for clues to the answers, and what those answers could mean to our lives.

The Deacons will be collecting funds during June for Church World Service (CWS) Blankets program that shares blankets, warmth, and comfort to those in need. When tough times arise, a simple act of kindness can make all the difference. Through the CWS Blankets program, you can share compassion, in a practical way, with neighbors facing hard times. When difficult times happen, a kind and loving response can make all the difference. That is why the CWS Blankets program was created—to give a kind, loving and tangible response to someone facing a difficult time, reminding them that they are not alone. Please make checks payable to “Saddle River Reformed Church” and designate as “Mission of the Month.”

The **Sew 'n' Sews** next meeting will be **Friday, June 21 at 12 noon**. This group is open to everyone. The group provides each other with lots of laughs, ideas, and fellowship.

Time for Fellowship!

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary for **Sunday Iced Tea Socials**. They are weekly, immediately following the service. This provides us with a chance to chat and catch up with our church family while enjoying a treat or two (or three!).

Food Donations

The **Center for Food Action in Mahwah at 90 Ridge Road is open M-F from 10am-2pm** to accept donations. Their most needed items are Supermarket Gift Cards, Canned Hearty Soups, Canned Vegetables & Fruits, Diapers Sizes 4, 5, 6, Pasta, White & Brown Rice, Dried Beans, Baby Formula, Bar or Bottle Soap, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Tomato Sauce, Canned Meat & Fish, Canned Pastas, Stews, & Chilis, Canned Tomatoes, and Low Sugar Cereal.

~ NOTES ~

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The Saddle River Reformed Church worshipping at the Old Stone Church in Upper Saddle River is a member of the Reformed Church in America, serving the New York and New Jersey area since 1628. The Congregation was formed in 1784.

The Reformed Church is part of the Presbyterian/Reformed Christian tradition. We celebrate the sacraments of Baptism and Lord's Supper.

The congregation is an inclusive community that believes that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior and the Bible (Hebrew and Christian) reveals those things needed by Christians for spiritual development and living. We believe that the people of the church are to follow the way of love and action given to us by Jesus.

We believe we are at our best when we serve our community.

Saddle River Reformed Church worshipping at Old Stone Church

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srrcoffice@verizon.net

Facebook: Old Stone/Saddle River Reformed Church
Instagram: oldstonechurchnj

Saddle River Reformed Church Consistory

Elders

Peter Freeman, VP
Cathy Lowden, Treasurer
Nancy Peet, Clerk

Deacons

Cliff Kammerer
Suzanne Peters
John Seibert

Staff

Rozanne Sullivan
Director of Music & Organist

Stephanie Doyle
Office Manager
Tu-F 10am-2pm

Ken Conklin
Cemetery Superintendent Emeritus
In Memoriam

