



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

**Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
February 2, 2025
10am Worship**

Minister: The Rev. Leah Ennis-Gasero
Head Usher: Cliff Kammerer
Reader: Cathy Lowden

(*Congregation stands as they are able)

THE APPROACH TO GOD

WELCOME

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOTUM

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

Amen.

Psalm 124:8

OUR HOPE: Heidelberg Catechism

Lord's Day 12

Q&A 32

Q. But why are you called a Christian?

A. Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a free conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for eternity.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***HYMN: 408 "How Firm a Foundation"**

(v. 1 & 2)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory,

you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people.

We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light.

We turn away from the poor;

we ignore cries for justice;

we do not strive for peace.

In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin,

and baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.

*Book of Common Worship, Presbyterian Church
(U.S.A.), p. 193*

(Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE LAW OF GOD

PSALTER

In you, O Lord, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.

In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;

incline your ear to me and save me.

Be to me a rock of refuge,
a strong fortress, to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.

Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,

from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.

For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

***Upon you I have leaned from my birth;
it was you who took me from my mother's womb.***

My praise is continually of you.

Psalm 71:1-6

THE WORD OF GOD IN PROCLAMATION AND SACRAMENT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

LESSONS

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Front of pew Bible page 698

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Back of pew Bible page 175

Luke 4:21-30

Back of pew Bible pages 61-62

SERMON: "One at a Time"

ORDER FOR PROFESSION OF FAITH

PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.

And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:18-20

Hear also these words from Holy Scripture:

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

Ephesians 4:4-6

Baptism is the sign and seal of God's promises to this covenant people.

In baptism God promises by grace alone: to forgive our sins, to adopt us into the Body of Christ, the Church, to send the Holy Spirit daily to renew and cleanse

us, and
to resurrect us to eternal life.

Water cleanses,
purifies,
refreshes,
sustains;
Jesus Christ is living water.
Through baptism Christ calls us to new obedience:
to love and trust God completely,
to forsake the evil of the world, and
to live a new and holy life.
Yet, when we fall into sin,
we must not despair of God's mercy,
nor continue in sin,
for baptism is the sign and seal
of God's eternal covenant of grace with us.

PRESENTATION Elder Nancy Peet
The elders of Saddle River Reformed Church
worshiping at Old Stone Church have welcomed
this person who appeared before them and made
profession of his Christian faith.

Matthew Gasero has been baptized into the body
of Christ.
In making public this profession of faith he affirms
the meaning of his baptism.

Matthew Gasero is received from the Reformed
Church of Metuchen, New Jersey.

We ask him now to declare his faith before God
and Christ's church,

that we may rejoice together and
welcome him as a brother in Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Beloved of God,
I ask you before God and Christ's church
to reject evil,
to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and
to confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce sin and the power of evil
in your life and in the world?

I renounce them.

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation,
and, through worship and service,
seek to advance God's purposes
here and throughout the world?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

The congregation shall rise as they are able:

Do you promise to love, encourage, and support
this brother
by teaching the gospel of God's love,
by being an example of Christian faith and
character, and

by giving the strong support of God's family
in fellowship, prayer, and service?

We do.

Do you promise
to accept the spiritual guidance of the church,
to walk in a spirit of Christian love with this
congregation, and
to seek those things that make for unity, purity, and
peace?

I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our
Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the
dead.***

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

***BLESSING AND WELCOME**

Defend, O Lord, this your servant Matthew
with your heavenly grace,
that he may continue yours forever, and
daily increase in your Spirit more and more,
until he comes to your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

By the Holy Spirit all who believe and are baptized
receive a ministry
to witness to Jesus as Savior and Lord, and
to love and serve those with whom they live and
work.

We are ambassadors for Christ,
who reconciles and makes whole.
We are the salt of the earth;
we are the light of the world.

Welcome our brother in Christ.

***Joyfully we receive you.
Join with us as we give witness in the world to
the good news,
for we are all one in Christ Jesus.
Alleluia.***

***The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace. Amen.***

Numbers 6:24-26

CALL TO OFFERING

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**

MEANING OF THE SACRAMENT

INVITATION

***HYMN: 406 “Wonderful Words of Life”**
(v. 1 & 2)

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty
to give thanks to you at all times and in all places,
O Lord our Creator,
almighty and everlasting God!
You created heaven with all its hosts and the earth
with all its plenty.

You have given us life and being,
and preserve us by your providence.

But you have shown us the fullness of your love
in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ,
the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our
salvation.

For the precious gift of this mighty Savior who has
reconciled us to you

we praise and bless you, O God.

With your whole Church on earth and with all the
company of heaven

we worship and adore your glorious name.

(“Holy” - Mass of Creation, Martyr Haugen)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord.

God of power, God of might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest.

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord,***

Hosanna in the highest,

Hosanna in the highest.

Most righteous God,
we remember in this Supper
the perfect sacrifice offered once on the cross by
our Lord Jesus Christ
for the sin of the whole world.

In the joy of his resurrection and in expectation of his coming again, we offer ourselves to you as holy and living sacrifices.

Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died!

Christ is risen!

Christ will come again!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray, that the bread which we break and the cup which we bless may be to us the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

Grant that, being joined together in him, we may attain to the unity of the faith and grow up in all things into Christ our Lord. And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf, and these grapes from many hills into one cup, grant, O Lord, that your whole Church may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

COMMUNION

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

Brothers and sisters, since the Lord has now fed us at his Table, let us praise God's holy name with heartfelt thanksgiving!

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him,

who did not spare his own Son,
but gave him up for us all,
and will also give us all things with him.
Therefore shall my mouth and heart show forth the praise of the Lord, from this time forth forevermore. Amen.

From Psalm 103, with additions

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF 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: 409 "Thanks to God Whose Word Was
Spoken" (v. 1 & 3)**

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

PLEASE PRAY FOR

- Carol Bierwas,
- Linda Kammerer
- Una Ratmeyer
- John Seibert

Our home-bound members:

**Joyce McClurg
Laura Parker**

Mary Breen
(Requested by Kathy Breen)

Jay Coblentz
(Requested by Dot Coblentz)

Michael Collins; Dina & Mohammed; Frank
(Requested by Jane Collins)

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

Jean Dunlap, great-grandmother of Zechariah
(Requested by the Ennis-Gasero family)

Judy Nygern; Andres Magi
(Requested by Peter Freeman)

Avalyn
(Requested by the Gagnons)

Anne
(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; Diane; Dick Meuer; Horst; Glen DePiero; Skip
(Requested by the Kammerers)

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

Johnny
(Requested by the McGowans)

Rhonda Shapson
(Requested by Nancy Peet)

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

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

Alexa Yannuzzi
(Requested by the Strohmeyers)

Marcy Robin; Russell Maitland; Lynn Friedman; Loris Marfilus; Edward Verhulst; Lorraine Kolodziesk
(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
- Rains to ease the drought
- All victims of tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, drought, and man-made disasters including Los Angeles fires, hurricane Milton, and hurricane Helene
- 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 and Ukraine
- The victims of mass shootings and their families including those in Elkhart, Indiana and Memphis, Tennessee
- 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

- All those who have lost loved ones

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT SUNDAY: Annual Congregational Meeting, Sunday, February 9, 2025 at 11:15am after worship.

The Consistory of the Saddle River Reformed Church has agreed upon and recommends reaffirming the current sitting Consistory members to serve for the upcoming year. The members of the current Consistory have agreed to continue their service as outlined below.

Recommended Consistory Members for 2025 are as follows:

Elders:

Peter Freeman
Cathy Lowden
Nancy Peet

Deacons:

Clifford Kammerer
Suzanne Peters
John Seibert

The Congregational Meeting will take place on February 9, 2025, at 11:15 following worship. At that time nominations will be accepted from the floor for regular terms of service (two years) on the Consistory, to replace elders and deacons whose class is presently expired.

Calling All Readers!

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary to sign up to be a reader each Sunday through the end of the season after Epiphany.

Through NEXT SUNDAY February 9, Super Bowl Sunday, we will be collecting soup cans and monetary donations for the Center for Food Action's Tackle Hunger: Souper Bowl of Caring. Thirty-five years ago, a simple prayer, "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat" launched a grassroots, youth-led movement working to raise awareness, food and monetary donations for food pantries, soup kitchens, food banks and other hunger-relief charities within their community. What if everyone watching the Big Game gave just \$1? That would be a gamechanger!

Activities for children are available in the basket in the back left of the sanctuary. Please help yourself! How we love to hear the joyful noise of our smallest and cutest members!

The Deacons will be collecting funds during February for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The mission of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is to advance cures, and means of prevention, for pediatric catastrophic diseases through research and treatment. Consistent with the vision of their founder Danny Thomas, no child is denied treatment based on race, religion, or a family's ability to pay. Each day, they are working toward a cure, so every child who comes to them can be given their best chance to grow up. St. Jude is the first and only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center devoted solely to children. And with

your support, St. Jude can provide cutting-edge treatments at no cost to families — so they can focus on helping their child live. Please make checks payable to "Saddle River Reformed Church" and designate as "Mission of the Month."

SRRC Bible Study Wednesday, February 5 at 7pm. Join Pastor Leah at 7:00 pm. We will meet in the Lounge, and via Zoom. If you cannot join us in person, you can log into Zoom. Go to: <https://www.zoom.com/> Click on "Join" in the upper right Meeting ID: 835 4129 0076 Passcode: 095799 All are welcome to attend and learn with us. If you have any questions, please let Pastor Leah know.

The **Sew 'n' Sews** next meeting will be **Friday, February 7 at 12 noon in the Lounge. All are welcome!!!** This group is open to everyone! Join us! The group provides each other with lots of laughs, ideas, and fellowship.

WEEKLY Bible Lunch & Learn: Meets every Wednesday at 11am in the Lounge. Mr. James Jones leads us in a bible class. He teaches on a variety of topics and discussions. Around noon, everyone joins in fellowship over a Bring-Your-Own-Lunch. You are welcome to hear new perspectives on scripture and everyday life.

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!).

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

500 East Saddle River Road
Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458
201-327-5242

oldstonechurchonline.org
srrcoffice@verizon.net

Facebook: Old Stone/Saddle River Reformed Church

Instagram: oldstonechurchnj

Saddle River Reformed Church Consistory

Minister of Word and Sacrament

The Rev. Leah Ennis-Gasero

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
T-F 10am-2pm

Ken Conklin
Cemetery Superintendent Emeritus
In Memoriam

