

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF NEW VERNON



MORNING WORSHIP – APRIL 13, 2025

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Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Psalm 118:26

# WELCOME TO FPCNV

Today is Palm Sunday, when we remember Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Palm Sunday marks the start of Holy Week, during which we reflect on the events leading up to Jesus' death and resurrection. One thing that stands out in this story is how quickly the crowds went from cheering for Jesus, to demanding that he be executed by the government.

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Have you ever had the wrong impression about someone?

What made you change your mind?

The people welcoming Jesus into Jerusalem were shouting out, Hosannah, which means, "Save us!"

What do people need to be saved or rescued from today?

Do you think it is safer to go along with the crowd, or to stand out? Which are you more inclined to do?

"I won't tell you that the world matters nothing, or the world's voice, or the voice of society. They matter a good deal. They matter far too much. But there are moments when one has to choose between living one's own life, fully, entirely, completely—or dragging out some false, shallow, degrading existence that the world in its hypocrisy demands. You have that moment now. Choose!"

— Oscar Wilde

PALM SUNDAY

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GATHERING

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**Prelude** *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*  
William Doane  
*O Lamb of God Most Holy*  
Arthur Tozer Russel

**Welcome**

**Introit** *Grace*  
Traditional Celtic Melody/arr. by Mark Hayes

**Call to Worship\***

Leader: Beloved, we come this day  
to the heart of the mystery of God's love:

**All:** **It is a love that seeks not supremacy,  
but service.**  
**It is a love that finds power in humility.**  
**It is a love that gives itself freely,  
even unto death.**

Leader: Come, see what love our Creator has for us.

**Hymn #196\*** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

**Call to Confession**

Christ comes to the center of our busy, conflicted lives.  
He comes in triumph and humility.  
He comes in glory and in mercy.  
He comes knowing the best of who we are,  
and he comes knowing our worst.  
Trusting in God's grace,  
together we confess the ways we have fallen short  
and missed the mark.

## Prayer of Confession

Triumphant God,  
we join the crowds of the ages  
in shouting your praises.

While our lips give you glory,  
our lives seldom reflect your purposes.  
We sing easily of your greatness,  
but living faithfully is often beyond us.

We hear of your salvation,  
yet sin is still close and real,  
daily leading us away from you.

Have mercy on us.

Ride into our hearts with healing grace.

Forgive what we have done  
and direct who we shall be.

Lord, save us. Hosanna!

## Assurance of Forgiveness

God calls to us from wherever we are.

God's love shines like a beacon.

God's voice echoes in our souls,

“You are forgiven!”

## Hymn 582\* *Glory to God*

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

### **Passing the Peace\***

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

**All: And also with you**

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## HEARING THE WORD

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### **Chat With the Children**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

O Lord of light and salvation,  
let these words of Scripture  
live not only in our mouths,  
but in our hearts,  
that we will embody your truth  
and confess with our lives  
that Jesus is Lord. Amen.

### **The First Scripture Lesson — A Psalm by Ewan Stone**

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

### **The Second Scripture Lesson — Luke 19:28-40**

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

Hymn #198\* *Ride On! Ride On in Majesty*

Sermon

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RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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Offering and Offertory *Still I Sing Alleluia*

LOCH LOMOND Traditional Scottish melody  
arrangement and additional music by Kyle Pederson

Hymn 606\* *Doxology*

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.

Affirmation of Faith (from the Confession of 1967)

God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a  
mystery which the Scriptures describe in  
various ways.

It is called the sacrifice of a lamb,  
a shepherd's life given for his sheep,  
atonement by a priest;  
again it is ransom of a slave, payment of debt,  
vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty,  
and victory over the powers of evil.

These are expressions of a truth  
which remains beyond the reach of all theory  
in the depths of God's love for humankind.

They reveal the gravity, cost,  
and sure achievement  
of God's reconciling work..

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SENDING

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**Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn #221\*** *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

**Benediction\***

**Congregational Amen** — John L. Bell

**Postlude** *The Palms* by Jean-Baptiste Faure

**LAST WEEK**

ATTENDANCE: 125

	<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>Commitments for 2025</b>
Annual Giving	\$42,662	\$183,030	\$425,474
Plate Offering	\$284	\$2,188	\$32,000

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES:**  
Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm  
Easter Sunday 10:00 am

## Easter Basket Drive



A huge THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to our Easter Basket drive! We have 55 baskets ready to be delivered to the Neighborhood Child and Infant Care Center in Montclair.

**Let's Do Lunch**  
Wednesday, April 16th, 12:00 pm  
RSVP to [fwinow@gmail.com](mailto:fwinow@gmail.com)





nourish.NJ

HUNGER WALK & RUN 2025!

April 27th, 2025

County College of Morris

5K Race Start Time: 10:00 AM

Hunger Walk Start Time: 12:00 PM

nourish.NJ invites you to join us for the 2025 Hunger Walk & Run to fight hunger in Morris County. This fun-filled community event will feature music, food trucks, and interactive education on local hunger and poverty. Individuals, families and groups are welcome!

**Run Details:** nourish.NJ's certified 5K, professionally timed run is open to runners of all levels! Results will be posted immediately after the race with awards for the top 2 female and male runners. Bring your family and friends to cheer you on and stay for the Hunger Walk community event that follows!



[SIGN UP TO RUN](#)

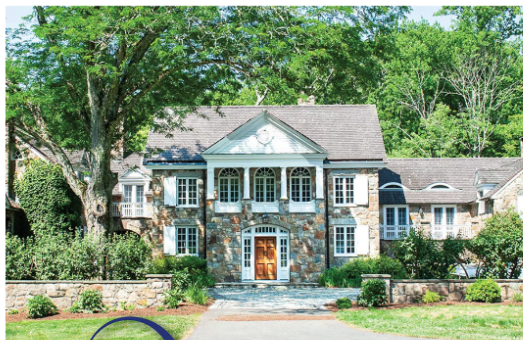
**Walk Details:** nourish.NJ's 2-mile Hunger Walk is a fun filled community event that provides a great opportunity for families, schools, and clubs to come together and support a meaningful cause. Learn about hunger and poverty in Morris County while making a difference in your community. We provide an average of 800 meals each day to our neighbors in need. Every dollar you raise helps. Individual walkers who raise a minimum of \$100+ will receive a free nourish.NJ hat while supplies last.



[SIGN UP TO WALK](#)

## MANSION IN MAY:

Two opportunities to attend



May 12, 9:00 am

Private tour and lunch in the tent  
\$130/person

May 7, 3:00 pm

Self guided tour and tea in the tent  
\$150/person

Email [hayley@pcnv.org](mailto:hayley@pcnv.org) to register

 WILDFAIR



# OUR VOLUNTEER TEAM THIS SUNDAY

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## **Acolyte**

Ewan Stone

## **Ushers**

## **Liturgist**

Sam LaNasa

## **Coffee Hour**

Adrienne Pavur

## **Flowers**

Linda Simonsen

*In memory of Gunnar Simonsen*

# DEACONS ON DUTY

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## **Coffee Hour**

Barbara Coe, Randy Stodard, Twinkle Tong

## **Flower Delivery**

Susie Morris, Elizabeth Califano, Christine Taranto



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW VERNON

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. William Stone III, Pastor

Rev. Hayley O'Connor, Associate for Youth and Family Ministry

Stephen Fox, Director of Music Ministry

Rachael Gareau, Director of Children's Choirs

Faith Winow, Office Administrator

Diego (Tony) Rodriguez, Church Custodian

## CHURCH LEADERS

### Session

Donna Miller, Clerk

Sarah Conine

Susan Fischer

Sam LaNasa

Robert Lecky

Hunter Lostan

Don Richardson

Kreamer Rooke

Matt Taranto

Ben Thompson

Michelle Vince

Candace Weeks

### Deacons

Meg Richardson,

Moderator

Nancy Burrows

Elizabeth Califano

Barbara Coe

Carol Conger

Craig Grant

Susie Morris

Meg Richardson

Randy Stodard

Christine Taranto

Twinkle Tong