



The Protestant Community Church

"Cathedral of the Woods"

100 Stokes Road, Medford Lakes, New Jersey 08055

Phone: (609) 654-4220 Website: www.protestantcommunitychurch.org

An inclusive, ecumenical faith community purposefully seeking to be caring, faithful disciples of Jesus Christ through worship, study, prayer, and Christian service.

10:00 - March 1, 2026 - Second Sunday in Lent †

Welcome & Announcements

Members, friends, and guests are invited to sign the pew pad found at the end of the pew. We also invite you to share any joys or concerns, noting them on the prayer cards which will be collected during the offering.

Prelude	"Ah, Holy Jesus"	Pethel
Introit	"Choices" <i>Children's Choir</i>	Burrows

Call to Worship

(Liturgist/Congregation)

Tell me something good!

God loves you more than you could imagine.

Tell me something good!

God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.

Tell me something good!

God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are not alone.

This is good news indeed!

Let us worship our compassionate God.

Meditation

***Hymn** "All Things Bright and Beautiful" #23

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, did we see you hungry and give you something to eat; or thirsty and give you something to drink; or alone and offer you compassion? Or, instead, did we cross the street; or look away; or come up with every excuse in the book? God, we long to be people who love our neighbors with the same overwhelming love that you have for them. But we admit, we are still learning to love. Forgive us for our prejudices, our grudges, and our selfishness. Speak in our hearts to lead us to love the way you do, amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance

*Gloria Patri #705

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.

Anthem

“Beneath the Cross”

J. Raney

Children’s Message

No Sunday School Dismissal

Passing of the Peace

First Reading

Matthew 25:35–40

for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’

Anthem

“Home”

H. Sorrenson

Second Reading

Luke 7:36–50

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee’s house and took his place at the table. And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner.” Jesus spoke up and said to him, “Simon, I have something to say to you.” “Teacher,” he replied, “Speak.” “A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?” Simon answered, “I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt.” And Jesus said to him, “You have judged rightly.” Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet,

but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.” Then he said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.” But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?” And he said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

***Hymn** “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” #183

Sermon “Good News: The Power of God’s Love”
Rev Keith Reed

Offertory “‘Air’ from ‘Water Music’” Handel

***Presentation of Gifts and Doxology** #706

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.

Pastoral Prayer

The 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.

Sacrament of Holy Communion – All are welcome to God’s table

When communion is served, the polished brass chalice contains wine, and the brushed brass chalice contains grape juice. If a gluten free wafer is preferred, those are available in a basket on the communion table.

***Hymn** “Abide With Me” #543

***Benediction**

***Response** “God Be with You” W. Tomer

Postlude “Prelude and Fuge in G Minor” Bach

*The congregation may stand

[Music by: Organist - Sandy Ritter; Cathedral Choir Director - Katie Teall]

† PRAYERS OF CONCERN †

Those placed on the prayer list will remain on the list for one month unless specified otherwise. If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please secure permission prior to calling the church office or emailing in to kayla@protestantcommunitychurch.org

Adam	Evelyn Herzog	Rese Ritter
Ann	Tricia Irwin	Robey family
Steven Barnes	Kara	Evan Schwoeri
Barnett family	Klausner family	Smalfus family
Lorrie Breslin	Koontz family	Bill Steffan
Dave C	Lester	Barbara Stuart
Chris	Douglas Mathis	Susan
Carole Cutry	Floss Mikle	JoAnn Tate
Dario	Nelson family	Ed Tucker
Lydia Gibson	Patrick	Paul Vahlstrom
Andria Gross & family	Angie Pettis	Vinnie

Please remember in your prayers those serving in our military services and their families. Please pray for the families separated, recovering from disasters, or faced with life altering decisions, and pray for peace, hope, and healing in the world. ♥

VOLUNTEERS FOR THIS SUNDAY

Ushers: Lynda Miller & Lee Bealuk **Reader:** Lynne Poag
Fellowship Hour Host: Mission Council

❁ ALTAR FLOWERS ❁

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of of John Bone given by his wife, Barbara and family.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE - 2/22/26

8:00 Worship Service - 18
10:00 Worship Service - 112
Online - 12

ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTION

Please use the link below or the QR code if you would like to send an offering electronically:

www.zeffy.com/donation-form/protestant-community-church

