



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 - February 8, 2026 - Fifth Sunday after Epiphany †

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

"Prayer"

Humperdinck

Introit

"All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord"

C. Glaser

Call to Worship

(Liturgist/Congregation)

God said, "Let there be light."

And there was light.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

And the light shone in the darkness.

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world."

And the light shall not be quenched.

Meditation

***Hymn**

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

#1

Prayer of confession

O God, we know that our prayer, fasting and pious rituals must be lived out through compassion and justice. Forgive us when we forget to fight for justice, and stand up for the powerless. Forgive us when we forget to live out our prayers for love by showing compassion, and caring for those in need. Forgive us when we forget the required rituals of creating relationships of righteousness and peace. Guide us to you so that we live out your call for our lives. 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.

Children's Message

Sunday School Dismissal

Parents are to pick up their children following the worship service, upstairs in the Todd Building, and are welcome to join the children in the closing time of meditation.

Passing of the Peace

First Reading

Isaiah 58:1-9a

"Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

"Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am."

Anthem

"Come Flood This Heart of Mine"

D. Lantz

Second Reading

Matthew 5:13-20

"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lamp stand, and

it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

***Hymn** “Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak” **#503**

Sermon “From Dirt to Salt” Rev Keith Reed

Offertory “Largo from L’Inverno” Vivaldi

***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.

***Hymn** “Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us” **#405**

***Benediction**

***Response** “May the Lord” R. Rodgers

Postlude “Prelude and Fugue on F Major” 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	Smalfus family
Barnett family	Klausner family	Bill Steffan
Lorrie Breslin	Koontz family	Barbara Stuart
Dave C	Sally Lavallee	Susan
Chris	Lester	JoAnn Tate
Carole Cutry	Floss Mikle	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:** Suzanne Murray
Fellowship Hour Host: Joanna and Ed Davis

✿ ALTAR FLOWERS ✿

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my mother's birthday, Jane Smith, given by her daughter Lynda Miller.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE - 2/1/26

8:00 Worship Service - 16
10:00 Worship Service - 129
Online - 23

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

