

Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Donald M. Pitches, Guest Preacher
Brian Delk, Lector
Edin Orellana, Sexton

Fumi Nakamae Korodan, Director of Music
Cynthia Parker, Office Manager

June 11, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Youth Sunday

PRELUDE

Piano Instrumental

CALL TO WORSHIP

All who are righteous, shout with joy to our God! Let us sing a new song!
Praise God and give thanks, with organs, with guitars, with all kinds of
instruments! Play your best with joy! Because our Creator's word is right,
and everything God does is done for our good. Let your faithful love
surround us, O God!

GATHERING HYMN

Called as Partners in Christ's Services (PH #343)

**Called as partners in Christ's service
Called to ministries of grace
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace
May we learn the art of sharing
Side by side and friend with friend
Equal partners in our caring
To fulfil God's chosen end**

**Christ's example Christ's inspiring
Christ's clear call to work and worth
Let us follow never faltering
Reconciling folk on earth
Men and women richer poorer
All God's people young and old**

**Blending human skills together
Gracious gifts from God unfold**

**Thus new patterns for Christ's mission
In a small or global sense
Help us bear each other's burdens
Breaking down each wall or fence
Words of comfort words of vision
Words of challenge said with care
Bring new power and strength for action
Make us colleagues free and fair**

**So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife
Make us partners in our living
Our compassion to increase
Messengers of faith thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace**

CALL TO CONFESSION

It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick, says Jesus. Let us confess the afflictions that separate us from God's love so that we can receive the care of the ultimate physician.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of calling, you called Abraham and Matthew and gave them the strength they needed to follow you. You also called a people and cared for and nurtured that people so that they could live life in your abundance. You also call us, but sometimes we prefer to close our eyes and cover our ears, turning our backs to your will. Forgive us, O God, and grant us the confidence and the hope that we need to follow when you call. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus was delivered to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. God has poured out love upon us, and we have received forgiveness for our sins.

We can now live in peace! Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

(PH #579)

**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.**

WELCOME OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**By your Word, O God, everything was made. Your Word is powerful
and can transform the hearts of men and women. Speak to us today, O
God. Open our hearts and minds to your renovating Word, and give us
guidance and strength. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Exodus 2: 1-10

¹Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman.
²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a
fine baby, she hid him three months. ³When she could hide him no
longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen
and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the
bank of the river. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would
happen to him.

⁵The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her
attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds
and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child.
He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the
Hebrews' children," she said. ⁷Then his sister said to Pharaoh's
daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to
nurse the child for you?" ⁸Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the
girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹Pharaoh's daughter said to her,
"Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages."
So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰When the child grew up,
she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son.

She named him Moses, “because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

SECOND READING

1 Samuel 3: 1-11

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. ²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the Lord called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. ⁶The Lord called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

¹¹Then the Lord said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle.

THIRD READING

Joel 2: 27-29

²⁷You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

²⁸Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. ²⁹Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

FOURTH READING

1 Timothy 4: 6-16

⁶If you put these instructions before the brothers and sisters, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound teaching that you have followed. ⁷Have nothing to do with profane myths and old wives' tales. Train yourself in godliness, ⁸for, while physical training is of some value, godliness is valuable in every way, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. ⁹The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. ¹⁰For to this end we toil and struggle, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe. ¹¹These are the things you must insist on and teach. ¹²Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. ¹³Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. ¹⁴Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. ¹⁵Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. ¹⁶Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.

SERMON

Forever Young

Rev. Donald M. Pitches

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Adapted from the Confession of 1967)

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
the realization of true humanity.
Jesus, a Palestinian Jew,
lived among his own people,
sharing their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. Expressing God's
love in word and deed,
he became a friend to sinners,
and a refuge for those cast aside.
Many rejected him and demanded his death,
but he gave himself freely,
with mercy and love.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating him as Messiah and Lord.
The victim of sin became the victor,
conquering death for all people.
In Christ Jesus, love gets the final word.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God, who knows our needs and our wants, gives us all we have and invites us to give in gratitude and joy so that we can bless others as we have been blessed. Let us worship God through our offerings, in thankfulness and love.

OFFERING HYMN

Somebody's Knocking at Your Door (PH #382)

**Somebody's knocking at your door,
Somebody's knocking at your door,
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knocking at your door.**

**1. Knocks like Jesus,
Somebody's knocking at your door.
Knocks like Jesus,
Somebody's knocking at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knocking at your door.**

**2. Can't you hear Him?
Somebody's knocking at your door.
Can't you hear Him?
Somebody's knocking at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knocking at your door.**

**3. Answer Jesus,
Somebody's knocking at your door.
Answer Jesus,
Somebody's knocking at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knocking at your door.**

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.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Ancient of Days, you call us not just to give us the blessing of being called your people, but also to be a blessing for all people on this earth. Give us the wisdom and the courage to be a blessing to this community and to this world. Through these offerings may we be channels of your compassion and healing to others, for the sake of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF WITHERSPOON GRADUATES

High School - Corinne Johnson, Leyla Sosa, Olivia Tillmann

College - Bruce Harrison, Chase Johnson, Vaughn Rice

Graduate School - Alexis Peart, Lissette Gonzalez Sosa

Graduation Presentations: Shirley Satterfield

Graduation Proclamations: Mark Freda, Mayor of Princeton

Returning Home to Witherspoon: Shirley Satterfield

ANNOUNCEMENTS / INVITATION TO FELLOWSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord in Thanksgiving or Mercy

Hear Our Prayer

God of love and compassion, your sons and daughters need your guidance and healing. God, we pray for those who can hear your calling to a specific vocation but are too afraid to take the first step. God, we pray for those who feel like they are dying, emotionally or physically, and cannot find peace or comfort. God, we pray for those who in their older years must make decisions as to where to go for the rest of their lives and who have to confront new challenges. God, we pray for nations and leaders, with the hope that they will not follow their own plans, but the purposes of your heart. We pray all these things through Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit as one, forever and ever.

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.

SENDING HYMN

Take My Life (PH #391)

Verse 1

**Take my life and let it be
Consecrated Lord to Thee
Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise**

Verse 2

**Take my voice and let me sing
Always only for my King
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee**

Verse 3

**Take my love my Lord I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store
Take myself and I will be
Ever only all for Thee**

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

Do not waver in unbelief regarding the promise of God, but be strengthened by God's faith and give glory to God, being fully persuaded that God has the power to do what God promises, every day.

May God our Father bless you so that you can be a blessing to others. May Christ bless you so that you can be healers of a world that is hurting. May the Holy Spirit bless you so that you can spread the hope that only the triune God can inspire and give to this world.

AMEN

Traditional

POSTLUDE

Piano Instrumental



Today's liturgy was created by Donald Pitches [Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2 (p. 12). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition] and Ginna Bairby (as published in *The Presbyterian Outlook*).

OFFICE HOURS 112 WITHERSPOON ST. (THIS WEEK ONLY)
MONDAY, TUESDAY, FRIDAY 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY 10:00 A.M. - 12:45 P.M. AND 1:45 - 3:00 P.M.

The CDC's most recent COVID Community Levels for Mercer County remain Low. Witherspoon's COVID protocols for in-church worship service going forward are that **masks are optional for in church worship for low risk parishioners and are highly recommended for people at high risk for severe illness in consultation with their health care providers.** Hand sanitizing before entering the sanctuary and social distancing within each pew such as sitting on the ends or in the middle of a pew are in effect. Self health screening at home is encouraged prior to worship. If you are not well, please stay at home and contact your healthcare provider. Witherspoon will continue to monitor our COVID Community Levels weekly and update our protocols when the levels change.



WELCOME – The Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon warmly welcome all worshipers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office if you are interested in church membership or if you want to be added to the church e-mail distribution list. (wITHERSPOON@verizon.net or 609-924-1666)



WE HAVE A FACEBOOK PAGE! “Like” our Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/WitherspoonStreetChurch>) to get the latest updates on your wall. Share your WSPC comments, photos and videos. If you want pictures added or notices posted please send an email to the church office (wITHERSPOON@verizon.net).

IN APPRECIATION FOR THEIR SERVICE

Our Junior Ushers Jermaine Meisel and Evan Peal and our Tech Media Team

GIVING TO WITHERSPOON STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Support our mission using your credit or debit card. On our church website, click on the *Give Now* button. **WWW.WITHERSPOONCHURCH.ORG** <http://bit.ly/WSPCGive>

For those who prefer to give through the mail, please send your donations to: 112 Witherspoon St., Princeton NJ 08542

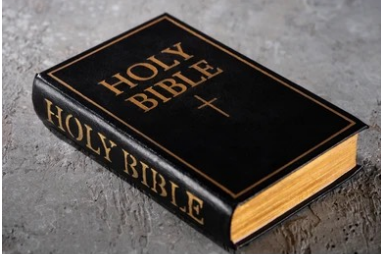


GUEST PREACHER REV. DONALD M. PITCHES

I was ordained by the Hudson River Presbytery in 1976 in the Dayspring PC in Yonkers, NY. My first church was the Immanuel PC in Amsterdam, NY, and The First Presbyterian Church of West Galway, from 1976-1984. In September 1984, I was an occasional Pulpit Supply at the First PC of Carlstadt, NJ.

In January 1985, I became a part-time Stated Supply Pastor while also serving as a hospice chaplain in Montclair and as NJ State Correctional Chaplain. From 1991-2019, I served the Carlstadt church full-time, retiring at the end of December 2019. During that time, I was active in the Bergen County Council of Churches serving as President for four years. I served the Carlstadt Fire Department as Chaplain and from 1998 as a firefighter with Engine Company 1, rising to the rank of Captain.

Following retirement, my wife and I moved to Franklin Park, NJ to be near our daughter and her family in Kendall Park. My primary retirement occupation since then has been caring for two granddaughters, Beatrice, age 10, and Emily, age 6, before and after school. In addition, I recently concluded a term as pulpit supply at Grace Presbyterian Church in Kendall Park, where I was privileged to work with Rev. J. Warner.



SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We invite you to connect with us each Saturday morning at 10 a.m. to study and discuss scripture. All are welcome to be with us as we learn together.

June 17 Isaiah 45 & 46

June 24 Cancelled



GRADUATION CELEBRATION IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL TODAY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Please join us in congratulating our returning Graduates and their achievements!!



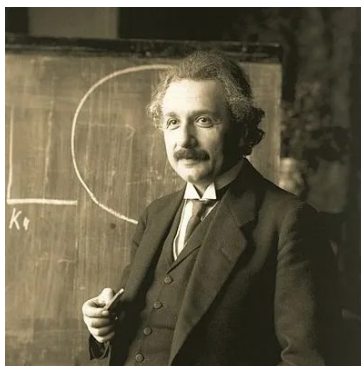
FELLOWSHIP HOUR BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS will be held **June 25** immediately following Worship Service. If you are celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary in June, the Deacons invite you, your family, and friends to join us in celebrating you and your important event on this the last Sunday of your special event month.



WSPC CHURCH PICNIC

WEST WINDSOR COMMUNITY PARK ON BRENT MIDLAND BLVD.

SUNDAY, JULY 16TH AT 10 A.M.



Join the **Witherspoon Jackson Historical and Cultural Society (WJHCS)** and the nascent **Princeton Einstein Museum of Science (PEMS)** at the **Princeton Public Library** on **June 15** from **6-7 pm** for the opening of a new exhibit. "**Albert Einstein: Champion of Racial Justice and Equality**" is the first of three annual mini exhibits to be presented by PEMS as it prepares to open in 2026. The show is on view on the **second floor** until August 1.

For more information: <https://prinetoneinsteinemuseum.org/exhibit-concepts/exhibits/>

This Week at Witherspoon

Today	Worship - Guest Preacher Donald M. Pitches	10:00 AM
	Fellowship Celebrating Our Graduates	(after worship)
Monday	Session Meeting (via Zoom)	7:00 PM
Tuesday	Verse Speaking Choir (Sanctuary)	6:30 PM
Wednesday	Sunday Worship Planning Group (via Zoom)	5:45 PM
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday	Finance Committee Meeting (via Zoom)	9:30 AM
	Saturday Morning Bible Study (via Zoom)	10:00 AM
Next Sunday	Worship - Guest Preacher Elsie McKee	10:00 AM
	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	11:30 AM

SIGNIFICANT DAYS ON THE JUNE CALENDAR

June 18: Presbyterian Men Sunday; Father's Day

June 19: Juneteenth

June 20: World Refugee Day

WOMAN CRADLE OF ABUNDANCE

OUTREACH AND MISSION deeply misses its most active member, our beloved **Rebecca Campbell**. In her memory we invite members of the congregation to join us in supporting a project which Rebecca planned last summer. She was very moved by the needs of women and children in Congo who suffer extreme malnutrition and have no health care. Rebecca proposed that we collect items such as multivitamins or calcium or band-aids, etc., to help the women and children in Kinshasa who are served by our partner *Woman, Cradle of Abundance*. This nonprofit is planning a mission trip in July and will be taking these gifts in person on behalf of Witherspoon.

Bottles of calcium or multivitamins or boxes of band-aids or small monetary donations will be welcome. Thank you for helping us celebrate Rebecca's generous spirit! During the month of June, donations may be placed in the marked **basket in the narthex**. Checks may be made to *Woman, Cradle of Abundance* (or to WSPC with *Woman, Cradle of Abundance* in the subject line). Or mail check to: 115 Maine Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ 08002.