

The First Reformed Church of Pompton Plains  
December 29, 2019  
10 AM

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MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the king and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among people,  
To make music in the heart.*

*Howard Thurman, The Mood of Christmas and Other Celebrations*

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GATHERING MUSIC

*Traci Bopp, Pianist/Musician*

**-EXPANSION OF OUR HEARTS-**

WELCOME

*Dave Sippel, Director of Youth & Family Ministry*

LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

OPENING PRAYER

\*OPENING SONG #277 (*blue hymnal*) **"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

With each new day  
**There is a new beginning.**  
With each new year  
**We can make a fresh start.**  
With a fresh start and a new beginning  
**There is fresh hope.**  
With fresh hope in our hearts  
**We come to worship God.**

\*HYMN #278 (*blue hymnal*) **"Angels We Have Heard on High"**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**-RECEPTION OF GOD'S WORD-**

PREPARATION FOR READING

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scriptures.

**Our hearts and minds are open.**

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING Ecclesiastes 3 (*responsive*)

For everything there is a season:

**And a time for every matter under heaven:**

A time to be born and a time to die.

**A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.**

A time to break down, and a time to build up.

**A time to weep and a time to laugh.**

A time to keep and a time to throw away.

**A time to be silent and a time to speak.**

A time to love and a time to hate.

**A time for war and a time for peace.**

God has made everything suitable for its time.

**God has put a sense of past and future into our minds.**

God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him.

**Whatever God does endures forever.**

HYMN #686 (*blue hymnal*) **"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"**

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:13-23 (NRSV)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MESSAGE "Wonders of His Love"

*Kathleen Edwards Chase, Lead Pastor*

**-TRANSFORMATION OF OUR LIVES-**

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

-COMPASSION FOR THE WORLD-

\*SENDING SONG #258 (*blue hymnal*) “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

## Prayer List

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### CONCERNS:

**Jamal Basna**, friend of Jane Young, preparing for surgery for bladder cancer on 12/17.

### LONG TERM ILLNESS:

**Dave Cox**, **Yvonne Hughes**, Amy Finigan’s sister, **Ewa Toczyska** (Eve Lotito’s aunt), **Jan Savage** (Jane Young’s friend), **Ada Sauer** (Carolyn Connerton’s nephew’s daughter), **Valerie Floyd** (Joan Muller’s cousin), **Rusty Ayers** (receiving Hospice), **Brian Spring**, **Connie**, **Jamie**, **Andres Echevarria**, **Jennie Byram**, **Eugene Fletcher**, **Carol Ratz**, **Kathy** (Sue Leonard’s friend), **Candace** (Jane Young’s sister), **Michael Barch**, **Gavin Brady**, **Blair Ludemann**, **Cheryl**, **Lawrence Trumppore**, **Jim** (the Bundz’s neighbor)



Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands

529 Newark-Pompton Tpke.

Pompton Plains, New Jersey 07444

(973) 835-1144

office@frc-pp.org

[www.firstreformedchurch.com](http://www.firstreformedchurch.com)

