

Second Reformed Church

Of New Brunswick



**100 College Avenue
New Brunswick, New Jersey**

THE LORD'S DAY WORSHIP
April 21, 2013 Easter 4

Welcome guests, we were expecting you! We are glad you have come to worship with us today. Please also consider this an invitation to stay after worship and enjoy light refreshments and fellowship in the Boelhouwer Parlor – just follow the crowd! Please sit back now and relax. Worship begins best out of a prayerful spirit. Let's begin our service of worship in silent prayer.

PREPARATORY PRAYER

Almighty God, you pour out the spirit of grace and supplication on all who desire it. Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GOD CALLS US INTO WORSHIP

PRELUDE	Song of Dedication	by Felix Mendelssohn
INTROIT	"He's Alive!"	Green Hymnal #151

VOTUM / SALUTATION

Our help is in the Name of the Lord, creator of heaven and earth.
Grace to you and peace from God, our Creator, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

***PEACE** Jesus said: "Peace be with you. My peace I give to you."
Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body.
One: The peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Let's stand and share a sign of peace with each other.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. 7:9–17

One: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne,
All: and to the Lamb. Amen!
Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor
and power and strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen.
Come, let us worship the Lord.

***HYMN**

"Crown Him With Many Crowns" Hymnal # 151
[*Please stand as you are able.]

CALL TO SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

With Jesus risen from the dead, we are now faced with a reality that confronts us every moment of every day – what do I have to do to be alive with him. Salvation is a posture of repentance and faith that you begin in a moment and then maintain for the rest of your life. Let us pray.

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Psalm 23; Rev. 7:9–17; John 10:22–30

To whom shall we address our confession, O God, but to you and to the Lamb, to whom salvation belongs? We confess, O God, that our ordeals are many, and often of our own making. We have

walked many valleys darkened by doubt, cut off from the light of faith. Forgive and restore us, O Lord. Wipe away every tear and cleanse us in the blood of the Lamb, that our hearts, our words, and our actions may be pure and pleasing to you, our righteous God, our Good Shepherd.

KYRIE ELEISON *Lord have mercy upon us; Christ have mercy upon us; Lord have mercy upon us.*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

—1 Corinthians 15:54-57, NRSV

"Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, in Christ we stand forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

CALL TO FAITHFUL LIVING

Matthew 22

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: "**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.**" This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**" On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. **And so let us live.**

***HYMN**

"Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us"

Hymnal # 387

GOD COMES TO US IN WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lift up your hearts. **Let us lift them to the Lord our God.**

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

The Word of the Lord from Acts 8:26-40

Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"On the Wilderness Road"

Rev. Dr. Greg Mast

PRAYER FOR BLESSING

***HYMN**

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing less"

Hymnal #379

***CONFESSION OF FAITH**

—based on 1 Corinthians 15:3-7; Colossians 1:15-20

This is the good news that we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Christ died for our sins, was buried, was raised on the third day, and appeared first to the women, then to Peter and the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, the firstborn of all creation, the firstborn from the dead, in whom all things hold together, in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell by the power of the Spirit. Christ is the head of the body, the church, and by the blood of the cross reconciles all things to God. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

"All Creatures of Our God and King" (Verse 6b)

Hymnal #455

"Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, And praise the Spirit, Three in One;

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia."

GIVING OF TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

ANTHEM / OFFERTORY

As the Deer

by Nystrom/D. Wagner

*DOXOLOGY

Hymnal # 591

*THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to offer thanks and praise.** God of all mercies, we give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all people. **Give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service,** and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory now and forever. **Amen.**

GOD SENDS US INTO MISSION

INVITATION TO FELLOWSHIP

*SENDING HYMN "You Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd"

Green Hymnal #182

*CHARGE / BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Trumpet March

by Richard Firth

Preaching with us this morning is Rev. Dr. Gregg Mast, President of the New Brunswick Theological Seminary. Please join in welcoming him immediately after worship for fellowship in the Boelhouwer Parlor.

WELCOME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

Sunday:	7:00 am	Del Dios Vivo Church Worship
	10:00 am	English Worship
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:30 am	Korean Service
	5:00 pm	Del Dios Vivo Church Worship

HELPING US TODAY

Coffee Hour Host: **Annie Hays**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

~April 20	POSTPONED!!! Spring Consistory Members Retreat <i>Rescheduled for MAY 18 9AM TO NOON</i>
~ April 21	Guest Preacher – Rev. Dr. Gregg Mast
~April 21	RU ½ Marathon – Roads Closed
~ April 27	Rutgers Day – Holy Shirt Thrift Store Outside Sales
~April 28	Friendship Gathering Coffee Hour – Hosted by Peace Islands Institute

SIGN-UP SHEETS NOW AVAILABLE

Coffee Hour and Flowers in the Sanctuary sign-up sheets are now available for anyone interested in volunteering.

CDC NEWSLETTER ARTICLE ~ Five Loaves

The New Brunswick Classis Community Development Corporation published an informative newsletter last week featuring our Food Pantry, *Five Loaves*. For these members who do not have email, the article is hanging on the bulletin board.

HOLY SHIRT THRIFT SHOP ~ Opened Saturdays 12 – 5pm

Jacqueline Stagg, Co-Manager, of Holy Shirt is requesting the following items for our store:

- Large Shopping Bags
- Small Earrings
- Electric Appliances

Volunteers are needed (both men and women) to work on Saturdays for 2 hours or more. Please see the signup sheet located on the bulletin board or contact Jackie at 732 249-8367 for drop-off times.

RUTGERS DAY ~

Next Saturday, **April 27**, is Rutgers Day. Second Church will have a table sidewalk setup with many items from our Thrift Store, *Holy Shirt*. What better way to let the Rutgers community know that *Holy Shirt* exists and is a wonderful place to purchase anything from a scarf to a toaster! If you would like to help Jackie Stagg and her staff meet and greet the Rutgers community, please contact Kathy Fisher or Jackie Stagg. Let's show students and parents what Second Church has to offer! Remember it's this Saturday...Shine only!

BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY

The first Sunday of each month we will be collecting for missions. Envelopes will be available on the foyer tables or place your check in the offering plate and write in the memo section of your check, "Benevolence Sunday". We will not be collecting on the 1st Sunday of the month in *March, November or December*. Instead, there will be special (holiday) designated collections. The next collection will be on Sunday, **May 5, 2013**.

EASTER SUNDAY SPECIAL COLLECTION

This year's Easter offering will be used to help repair our
As of today, our Organ Restoration fund has received \$2,116
Easter special offerings. Wow!! Way to go members!!!



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speak

PEACE ISLANDS INSTITUTE ~ Friendship Gathering

Turkish homemade foods will be provided on Sunday, **April**
PII during coffee hour. A representative from this group will
briefly about their programs and what they do in the State of NJ. They are coming to make new friends
(new connections) and after that, we'll eat and get to know one another.