

**WELCOME TO
THE PREAKNESS REFORMED CHURCH
REFORMATION SUNDAY**

October 25, 2026 at 10:00 AM



"The message of Matthew 22:34-40 emphasizes that the Torah is rightly understood when it is read through the central lens of love for God and love for neighbor (with even enemies considered neighbors; 5:43-44). While this truth is not difficult to understand or to preach, embodying love for God and love for others is the greatest of challenges."

- Jeannine K. Brown, Professor of New Testament

 Congregation standing, as able

GIVING PRAISE AND GLORY TO GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

 CALL TO WORSHIP

A voice dared to strike the door. Not to destroy the Church, but to awaken it. Striking upon the wood. Striking against fear.

Striking against silence, for the Gospel was never meant to remain locked away.

And still today...we continue knocking on doors. Because there are still walls that divide. Wounded churches. Discarded peoples. Silenced voices. Empty tables. Hatred blessed in God's name. Violence treated as normal.

But the Holy Spirit still breathes reform!

The Reformed church was not born from a desire for comfort, but from the need for faithfulness. It was not born to preserve privilege, but to proclaim good news.

It was not born complete. It was born reforming. Reformed and always reforming. Today we worship God, who still speaks, still calls, and still opens new paths

 OPENING SONG OF PRAISE **776** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" EIN FESTE BURG

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *(The children may proceed to Sunday School at this time.)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FOR RENEWAL

God of renewal, we confess that many times we resist the movement of your Spirit. We cling to certainty when you call us into trust. We protect our comfort when you call us into solidarity. We choose silence when witness becomes costly. We confess the sins of the church: the wounds

of colonialism, racism, exclusion, violence, patriarchy, greed, and the ways faith has too often been used to dominate instead of liberate.

Forgive us when our theology becomes indifferent, when our worship becomes disconnected from suffering, when our institutions fear change and decline more than injustice. Reform us again through your Word. Disturb us with your mercy. Heal us with your truth. Lead us by your Spirit...

(continue with silent prayers of confession)

WORDS OF GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

(Please share the peace of Christ with one another.)

ANTHEM

"You Do Not Walk Alone"

Elaine Hagenberg

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING Matthew 22:34-46

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!

SCRIPTURE READING First Thessalonians 2:1-8

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

"Trying to get it right"

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

SONG OF RESPONSE **762** “Ancient Words”

ANCIENT WORDS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE...concluding with 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.**

 AFFIRMATION OF FAITH **771** The Nicene Creed

 CLOSING SONG **770** “In Christ Alone”

IN CHRIST ALONE

 BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Some of today's liturgy was provided by the World Communion of Reformed Churches,
the organized body that Pastor Kim participated in when she travelled to Thailand.*

*Assisting God's people in worship are Pastor Eric Nichols, worship leader;
Ken Tanis, liturgist; Cathy Tanis, worship host; Tech Team; Chancel Choir;
Nicole D'Angelo, accompanist; Dan King, Director of Music Ministries.*

🌀 Calendar and Notices 🌀

Sun, Oct 25	9:15 am Sunday Scripture 10:00 am Sunday Worship (Sanctuary) 11:05 am Confirmation Class (Sanctuary)
Tue, Oct 27	9:15 am Helping Hands
Wed, Oct 28	7:00 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal
Thu, Oct 29	12:00 pm Brown Bags and Bibles
Sun, Nov 1	9:15 am Sunday Scripture 10:00 am Sunday Worship (Sanctuary) 11:30 am Youth Group (Oxbow)

Please include in your prayers of intercession: Nancy Frank, Bob Janney, Bill Mariniello, June Nienhouse, Tom McKay (Jennie Franklyn's father), Janet Wright, Dave Vanderbush, Priscilla Durkin, Judi (Roben Roon's cousin), Jac Young (Glenn O'Connell's uncle), Skip Dahl, Frank Minutolo, Peggy Carroll, Cindy Van Lunen, June Jesch, Tiffany Nix, and those awaiting diagnosis or undergoing treatments.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given in celebration of Rhiannon Corbo. Happy Birthday and may God bless you! Love, Mom ♥

Thank you from the Outreach Committee! We collected 30 coats and vests for the Bessie Green Community, as well as several shopping bags of sweaters and clothes. Thank you to all who donated; the community was very grateful! **Due to an overwhelming need,** we are continuing the coat drive for the Bessie Green Community (men's, women's, kids' and teens' sizes). Please leave donations on the Giving Table

PRC is actively collecting for a Native American organization. We are accepting donations of new or gently used winter hats, gloves, and scarves year-round. Donations may be dropped off in the Parlor.

On Sunday, Nov 8, Mike De Block and Dave Monisera will provide a presentation to familiarize us with bleeding control, CPR/AED. New this year, will be a session

on stroke identification and steps to be taken. Following worship, grab a cup of coffee and join us in Berdan Hall for some or all of the class.

Advent Wreaths...On Sunday, November 29, please join us after worship in Berdan Hall to make your own advent wreath. We will also have a special Christmas-themed coffee hour in Berdan with food, coffee, and cider. PRC will supply the wreath rings, candle holders, candles, and fresh greens. Bring your Christmas spirit, garden gloves, and clippers. Child-friendly versions will be available. Since supplies need to be ordered, please sign up in the hallway or RSVP via text to Carol at 973-390-9882 by 10/30/26.

Everyone is welcome to attend the **Annual Congregational Meeting and Soup Luncheon** in Berdan Hall on Sunday, Nov 15, after worship. If you would like to contribute to our luncheon, we need soups in a crockpot (“pre-warmed” at home), bread for dipping, and desserts. Please sign up in the hallway or contact Barbara De Berry directly at (973) 615-1308 / BarbaraDeBerry62@gmail.com.

✿ Assisting in Worship ✿

	<u>Oct 25</u>	<u>Nov 1</u>
Flowers	Tom Powers	Vicki Lefelar
Counter	Ken Tanis	Bruce Hinners
Head Usher	Tom Powers	Martin McKay
Usher	Lydia Powers	Annie McKay
	Corine Miller	Kim Goerg

✧ Consistory ✧

Elders

Amanda Declet
Priscilla Durkin
Jennie Franklyn
Bill Weston

Hannah Kudrik
Donna McKeon
Glenn O'Connell
Heather Kroll

Deacons

Ken De Berry
Jennifer Graf
Tom Powers
Tim Coyne
Martin McKay
Jessica Amato
Gaye Servideo
Vicki Lefelar
Christina Gaboda

✧ Preakness Reformed Church Staff ✧

Rev. Eric Nichols, Senior Pastor
Rev. Kim Pavlovich, Associate Pastor
Daniel King, Director of Music Ministries
Kevin Lynch, Accompanist
Christina Collucci, Office Manager
Rev. Mary Marcus, Minister Emerita



Preakness Reformed Church

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