

**WELCOME TO
THE PREAKNESS REFORMED CHURCH
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
*August 9, 2026 at 10:00 AM***



Rev. Emily Ratering-Youngberg has been the pastor of the First Reformed Church community in Little Falls since 2002. Her husband, Matt, is a math teacher at Passaic Valley High School, and together they have two college-aged kids. Pastor Emily is happy to be with you today, worshipping God together!

 Congregation standing, as able

GIVING PRAISE AND GLORY TO GOD

PRELUDE

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”

Arr. J. Raney

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sisters and brothers, isn't it true that we often lack a sense of balance in our lives? Isn't it true that we often seek meaning and peace in all the wrong places?

It is true! Some of us are work-aholics, and some of us are couch potatoes! Some of us escape into task after task, and some of us escape into mindless scrolling and too much sleep!

Instead, let us follow Christ into a new way of being—we can do meaningful work AND enjoy constructive stillness. We can both lovingly serve AND contentedly listen.

Praise be to God, who modeled both work AND rest! Praise be to God, who makes possible the healthy and peaceful life of the believer! Praise be to God! Amen!

 OPENING SONG OF PRAISE **372** “When Morning Gilds the Sky” LAUDES DOMINI

 SALUTATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FOR RENEWAL

O Lord, hear our sincere prayer of confession, and forgive us. We work ourselves into a frenzy, and then snap at our families, our neighbors, our co-workers. But our anxiety is still not relieved--it builds and builds, and soon it sours into anger and resentment. We have mistaken activity for service; we have mistaken exhaustion for peace. Forgive us, O God. Show us how to serve your people well, while not losing sight of the spiritual disciplines of stillness, silence, and study. Show us that we need not work

endlessly to learn your love—for you have loved us from the foundation of world, without our having earned it. In these moments, show us what true peace is. Amen.

(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.)*

SOLO

LISTENING AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 18:1-10; Luke 10:38-42

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

“Motion and Stillness”

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

SONG OF RESPONSE **863** “Take My Life and Let It Be”
(verses 1-4)

HENDON

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: **783A** The Apostles' Creed

✠ CLOSING SONG **876** "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" BEACH SPRING

✠ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Abide with Me"

Arr. P. Johnston

*Assisting God's people in worship are Rev. Emily Ratering-Youngberg,
worship leader; Bill Weston, liturgist; Ron Franklyn, worship host; Tech Team;
Samantha Ferrara, vocalist; Kevin Lynch, accompanist;
Dan King, Director of Music Ministries.*

🌀 Calendar and Notices 🌀

Sun, Aug 9 10:00 am Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)

Tue, Aug 11 9:00 am Helping Hands
7:00 pm PRC Book Club (Zoom)

Thu, Aug 13 12:00 pm Brown Bags and Bibles

Sun, Aug 16 10:00 am Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)

Please include in your prayers of intercession: Patricia Drake, Tom McKay (Jennie Franklyn's father), Janet Wright, Tammy Venti, David Terpstra, Dave Vanderbush, Priscilla Durkin, Judi (Roben Roon's cousin), Jac Young (Glenn O'Connell's uncle) and Karen (friend of the O'Connells), Janet Bardowell (Steve Williamson's mother), David (friend of Janet Wright), Skip Dahl, Frank Minutolo, Peggy Carroll, Cindy Van Lunen, June Jesch, Tiffany Nix, and those awaiting diagnosis or undergoing treatments.

The flowers at today's service are given by Jerry and Jason Declet and Family. Happy 80th Birthday to our wonderful mother, Jane Declet. We love you and are grateful for all you do ♥

Bread of Life serving opportunity!!! On Sunday, August 16, we will serve lunches to the community of Newark at North Reformed Church. If you have never participated, please see Christina Gaboda and Pastor Eric after worship and they will share their experiences and how important this ministry is in Newark and for us at PRC. We would really like to extend this opportunity to more people at PRC. Bread of Life is a tangible, practical, and authentic way to be the hands and feet of Christ.

The PRC Book Group will meet via Zoom on Tue, Aug 4 at 7 PM, when we will discuss *A Woman of Words* by Angela Hunt, a historical fiction novel that brings the reader into the world of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Matthew, the tax collector, offering a thoughtful exploration of faith, calling, and the unexpected ways God works through ordinary people.

We're bringing back Children & Worship (the wooden figure bible stories), a beloved program from our church's past, and we need volunteers willing to lead it. The program runs just 5-6 times a year, so with enough volunteers on board, each person might only be asked to serve once or twice annually. If you have a heart for helping kids encounter faith in a meaningful way, we'd love for you to join the team.

PRC Scholarship Fundraiser Baskets: Between now and Sep 6, we are collecting empty baskets, filled baskets, and new items and gift cards to fill baskets. If you would like to contribute, please place items in the bin in the church parlor. Monetary donations may be left in the church office. Please contact Kim Goerg (845) 416-1260 or Cheryl Trenary (862) 571-5140 with any questions.

Please join us for the 2026 Annual Golf Outing on Thursday, Sep 17th, at Packanack Golf Club in Wayne to raise funds for the PRC Scholarship Fund. We have a 9:30 am tee time but request that you arrive at 8:30 am. All golfers should wear proper golf attire and are prohibited from bringing coolers, food, or alcohol. The cost of playing nine holes of golf, including a brown bag breakfast, a cart, and range balls, is \$65 per golfer (cash or check payable to PRC). **Fundraising will continue with a catered dinner for all at 5:30 pm in Berdan Hall,** with gift basket raffles, prizes, and awards. The cost of attending the dinner is \$35 per person as we enjoy great fellowship for a great cause. This is a BYO "beer and wine only" event (no hard liquor). Please sign up for golf and/or dinner on the sheet in the hallway, or contact Ken De Berry at kennethwdeberry@gmail.com.

Passing the Mic...Pastor Kim and Pastor Eric are happy to welcome visiting RCA pastors in August to participate in a pulpit exchange. Rev. Emily Ratering-Youngberg of First Reformed Church in Little Falls will lead us in worship this morning, and Rev. Keith Moody of Abundant Life in Wyckoff will join us next Sunday, August 16. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other churches and their pastors, and a nice way to hear from other preachers in our area.

A note of gratitude from RCA Missionary JJ TenClay...

Thank you for choosing to support me and my work with refugees and other people around the world on the move or living in diaspora. This month I begin my 13th year serving in this ministry, and I'm so incredibly grateful for the opportunity to do so. Working with refugees has revealed to me some of the darkest depravity our world has to offer, but, often, it is in the darkness where

we see the light of Christ shine the brightest, and I have certainly witnessed this time and time again over the years. It is an honor and privilege to partner with [PRC] to do the hard, but faithful, work of loving people in search of refuge in the name of Christ. May we, together, continue to share the love of Christ throughout the world.

✧ **Assisting in Worship** ✧

	<u>Aug 9</u>	<u>Aug 16</u>
<u>Flowers</u>	Tom Powers	TBD
<u>Counter</u>	Ken De Berry	Ken Tanis
<u>Head Usher</u>	Donna McKeon	Charles Schmitt
<u>Usher</u>	Ken De Berry	TBD
	Hope Weston	TBD

✧ 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



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