

# October 8th, 2023

## ***Reflections on Inclusivity***

*It takes no compromise to give people their rights.*

*It takes no money to respect the individual.*

*It takes no political deal to give people freedom.*

*It takes no survey to remove repression.*

*Harvey Milk*

## Order of Worship

*(\*Please rise in body and/or spirit)*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Minute for Mission**

CROP Walk

Kirsten Schanck

**Prelude** O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus Setting by Craig Courtney  
Candle Lighting

### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Here we can come together,  
people searching for healing and hope:

**People: here we are met by the One  
who would bless us with abundant life.**

Leader: Here we are called to gather  
as the family of God:

**People: we may find those who are strangers,  
yet are beloved siblings of ours.**

Leader: Here we discover the truth that God  
makes no distinctions among us:

**People: here we are welcomed and embraced  
by the One whose arms are open to all.**

**\*Hymn** #761 - Called as Partners in Christ's Service

*music page 4*

### **Call to Confession**

Leader: We come before God, confessing that we have strayed from the Lord's path, but we are ready to be called back. Let us pray and invite God to set us right again.

### **Prayer of Confession (unison)**

**Gracious and Merciful God, we rely on your unconditional love for us. We depend on your ability to see past our faults and see instead the true soul within us. As we receive your unconditional love, we have to confess that we attach many conditions to the giving of our Christian love. We expect others to contort or hide or change themselves to align with our expectations before we fully welcome them. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to more fully understand your love that we may love others in the same way. Amen.**

### **Moment for Silent Reflection**

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Hear this good news: God's love is not fickle. It does not waver when challenged. It does not grow impatient. God is faithful to us always, committed to our salvation, and unconditional in believing in us. May this truth settle in your heart and give you peace.

### **Prayer of Illumination**

**First Scripture Lesson:** Romans 13: 8-10

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

### **Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**Prayers of the Church and The Lord's Prayer**

**Passing the Peace**

**\*Hymn # 754** Help Us Accept Each Other

*music page 5*

**Second Scripture Lesson** John 10: 7-10

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God!**

**Sermon "Abundant Life for All"**

**Offering**  
**Offertory**

Seek Ye First

Arr by Douglas E. Wagner  
sung by the Chancel Choir

**\*Doxology**  
**Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn** #765      May the God of Hope Go with Us      *music page 6*

**Benediction**

**Postlude**      Fanfare      Francis Jackson

*The flowers are in celebration of  
Heather and John Palframan's 40th wedding anniversary today!*

**Worship Leaders**

<b>Pastor:</b>	<b>Rev. Katja Gruening</b>
<b>Director of Music Ministries:</b>	<b>Marcello Velame</b>
<b>Music Ministry:</b>	<b>Kathleen Healy-Wedsworth</b>
	<b>Chancel Choir</b>
<b>Liturgist:</b>	<b>Kirsten Schanck</b>
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>Peter Bruguiere</b>
	<b>Rich Vodhanel</b>
<b>Zoom Hosts:</b>	<b>John Palframan</b>
	<b>Jim Wright</b>
	<b>Rich Vodhanel</b>
<b>Social Hour:</b>	<b>Stewardship</b>

**Sunday Forum - Oct 8th**

You are invited to join Rev. Gruening in the Terrace Room after worship at 11:30am for a forum on sexuality and gender in the Bible. The forum will include an overview of modern terminology describing the spectrum of human sexuality and gender, and Biblical perspectives on how that was understood among people of faith in the ancient world.

# Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,  
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,  
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life



we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
 let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.  
 help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.  
 that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,  
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,  
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.  
 blend-ing hu-man skills to-gether gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.  
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.  
 mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.



# Help Us Accept Each Other 754



1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;  
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life  
 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved  
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.  
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.  
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;  
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve  
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,  
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart  
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.  
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.  
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.  
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

# May the God of Hope Go with Us 765

## Song of Hope / Canto de esperanza



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our  
*¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun - do en*



lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us  
*cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -*



on our way, bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.  
*nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.*



Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;  
*O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.*



work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.  
*Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.*

# **Sunday, October 15th, 10am**

## **Special Worship Service & Luncheon**

**The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury**  
**352 Sycamore Ave, Shrewsbury, NJ**

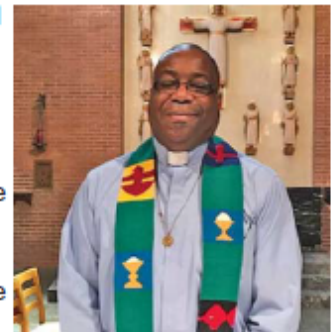


**Join us in our Sanctuary for the service,  
featuring special music by the Chorus,  
and Guest Preacher Rev. Dr. David Williams.**

**All are invited for a light luncheon after in Fellowship Hall.**

Dr. Williams was baptized Anglican, and then grew up in his grandmother's Pentecostal church in Jamaica. He started attending Christ the Liberator, a Metropolitan Community Church, in Hamilton, NJ in 2008 after searching for a church home for a number of years. In 2017 was appointed interim pastor.

His career as a physician and his faith have crossed paths as he has served on MCC's HIV/AIDS Advisory Council. This role evolved into David being named as MCC's Program Officer/Coordinator for Health & Wellness. In this role he has represented MCC at the United Nations High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS, the US Conference on AIDS, and performed as the Medical Director at the 2015 MCC General Conference held in Victoria, Canada. He also currently serves on the board of the New Jersey AIDS Partnership.



David also works with Liberty Revival Medical Center, and Sisters Under the Bridge in Uganda, Africa, providing medical care and support services for those in the LGBTQ+ community facing extreme violence and homophobia.

We are grateful for the wisdom and faith Dr. Williams will bring to our pulpit on October 15th.

## Red Bank Crop Walk

WHEN: Sunday October 15, 2023  
WHERE: Red Bank Regional High School  
TIME: 1pm Register  
2pm Walk/Run

**Join Our Three Churches Online Team**

We are excited to be working together again this year. The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury, Christ Episcopal Church, Shrewsbury and St. John's Episcopal Church, Little Silver raised over \$3500 for Red Bank Crop Walk 2022. Working together was fun! It was rewarding! We hope those who supported us last year will do so again and we can add a few more. The link below will send you to our joint online page.


<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/three-churches-pcas-christ-church-st-johns-together-fighting-hunger>

You can help us in two ways –


1. JOIN OUR TEAM AS A WALKER
2. DONATE

If you need more help with the webpage, please do not hesitate to email Kirsten Schanck at [kirsti58@comcast.net](mailto:kirsti58@comcast.net). I am working with Connie Goddard at Christ Church and Eve Chamberlin at St. John's.

We walk to provide food, water, security to our 14 local partners and global response through Church World Service. You can also give with a check made out to Red Bank Crop Walk and send to your church office. We will make sure the checks are delivered to the Crop Walk treasure and can be included in our team total giving.





# Blood Drive





## New Jersey Blood Services

Wednesday, October 11th, 2023  
12:30pm-6:30pm  
The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury  
352 Sycamore Avenue  
Shrewsbury



Scan Code To Sign Up





## Meeting Schedule Week of October 8th

8	OCT, SUN	● 8:45 – 9:30am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
		● 10 – 11am	Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
		● 11am – 12pm	Coffee Hour (FH)
		● 11:30am – 12:30pm	Sunday Forum - Sexuality and Gender in the Bible (TR)
		● 3:30 – 4:30pm	AA (TR)
		● 5 – 6pm	AA (TR)
		● 6 – 9pm	Igreja Presbiteriana Gethsemani Worship (FH)
9	OCT, MON	● All day	OFFICE CLOSED
		● 7 – 9pm	Boy Scouts (FH)
10	OCT, TUE	● 9 – 10:30am	Zoom Bible Study
		● 11am – 12pm	Overeaters Anonymous (TR)
		● 5 – 7pm	Mental Health Association of Monmouth County (FH)
		● 7 – 8:30pm	Dorcas (off site)
11	OCT, WED	● All day	Blood Drive (FH)
		● 9:30am – 12pm	Mission Belles (TR)
		● 7:30 – 9:30pm	P&A Meeting (ZOOM)
		● 7:30 – 9pm	Boy Scout Leader Meeting (O)
		● 8 – 9pm	Igreja Presbiteriana Gethsemani Bible Study (TR)
12	OCT, THU	● 12 – 12:30pm	Homesteaders Chair Yoga (FH)
		● 12:30 – 3:30pm	Homesteaders Luncheon (FH)
		● 4:45 – 5:45pm	Yoga Small Group - (FH)
		● 6 – 7pm	Bells (SR)
		● 7 – 9pm	Igreja Presbiteriana Gethsemani choir practice (FH)
14	OCT, SAT	● 10 – 11am	DAR ceremony Margaret and Helen Borden (cemetery)
		● 7:30 – 9pm	AA (TR and FH)
15	OCT, SUN	● 10 – 11am	Sunday School
		● 10 – 11am	Sunday Worship with special guests from the NJ Gay Men's Chorus (Sanctuary)
		● 11am – 12pm	Luncheon (FH)
		● 1:30 – 3:30pm	CROP Walk (Offsite)
		● 3:30 – 4:30pm	AA (TR)
		● 5 – 6pm	AA (TR)
		● 6 – 9pm	Igreja Presbiteriana Gethsemani Worship (FH)