

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Worship Leader: Pastor John Burden
Liturgist: Nancy Begin
Music Director: Matthew Hosmer

Streaming & Audio

Karen Huysers
Gail Freeland
Joe Apgar

Screen Visuals

Eddie Van Schaack

2026 CONSISTORY

Deacons

Bruce Davis
Joann Mack
Kristin Widdowson

Elder Care Team

Sabine Kroeger 973-202-4305
Terry Terhune 973-557-3040
Elena Van Schaack 973-632-6639

PRAYER CARE TEAM

If you are in need of prayer, spiritual support, or have questions or concerns about your faith journey, we faithfully encourage you to text or call any of the Prayer Care members listed below:

Drew Altdorfer:	973-975-3223
Nancy Begin:	973-632-2696
Rick Pierce:	973-800-3499
Lynn Scarmazzo:	973-590-6423
Sabine Kroeger:	973-202-4305
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POMPTON REFORMED CHURCH

April 26, 2026

10:00 am

The Christ Candle: In him was life and that life was the light of all humankind. The light shines into the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Call to Worship: From Isaiah 55

Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters;

and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

We will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before us, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper, and instead of briars the myrtle will grow.

This will be for the LORD's renown, for an everlasting sign, that will endure forever." Lord, let our souls rise to meet you as the day rises to meet the sun.

Glory to the father, to the son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Opening Song- Blue #362 *"Morning Has Broken"*

Call to Confession, written by Christine Longhurst

Join us today in our prayer of confession. In this prayer we can come to God with all of the brokenness of the world and our lives, knowing that he meets us in love. God, you loved this world so much that you sent your own son, Jesus Christ to live and die among us, in order that we might have life.

**Forgive us for keeping that abundant life to ourselves,
for jealously hoarding your generous gifts, for choosing self-interest over
compassion and justice.**

Teach us what it means to live as children of the light, generously sharing your abundance with our brothers and sisters in need. **Amen.**

Words of Assurance written by Rev. Mindi

Friends, may you always remember that You are loved. May this love change your life and overflow from your heart into the people and the world around you.

When you love God, you love others. When you truly lay down your life for others, you lay down your life for God. Give yourself to God by serving others.

Know that in God's love there is forgiveness, healing, and reconciliation.

Friends, the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you. Amen.

Living the Way of Jesus

Prayer of St. Francis (1182-1226)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. And all God's people said:

Amen.

Announcements

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory (Choir anthem) *"Prayer of St. Francis"*

Doxology – Blue #359 verse 3 *"O Gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ"*

Sermon: The Gospel Part 3

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself. "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Our Shared Faith: From The Belhar Confession

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ, that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells. **That God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;** that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged; **that God calls the church to follow him in this, for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;** that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind; **that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;** that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream; that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; **that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.**

Closing Song – Blue #356 (verse 1,4, 5) “All Creatures of Our God and King”

Benediction