

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**  
**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY**  
**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2017 – 10:00 AM**

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*We are happy you are here this morning!*  
*The First Congregational Church of River Edge*  
*welcomes visitors and members to the warmth of our*  
*community.*

*All are invited to join in fellowship and conversation*  
*in the Church Parlor following worship.*

✠ *Invites the congregation to stand, as able.*

***Bold Text** is spoken in unison by the congregation.*  
*Please turn off or silence all electronics before worship*



*We seek to be a dynamic community of faith*  
*committed to spiritual growth, following*  
*Christ's example and God's Word . . . with*  
*diverse worship, education, mission and*  
*compassionate care for all.*

WELCOME

**THE APPROACH TO GOD**

PRELUDE

*Largo*

Samuel Wesley

*During the Prelude, we invite you to take time to quiet your heart*  
*and discover anew God's renewal of life.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 105:1-5, 42

Hallelujah!

Thank God! Praise God by name!

Tell everyone you meet what God has done!

**Let us sing songs, belt out hymns,**  
**translate God's wonders into music!**

Honor God's holy name with hallelujahs!

You who seek God, live a happy life!

**Keep your eyes open for God, watch for God's works;**

**Be alert for signs of holy presence.**

Remember the world of wonders the Lord has made,

The miracles, and the verdicts rendered –

**Hallelujah! Thanks be to God.**

✠ OPENING HYMN 21

*God Reigns o'er All the Earth*

TERRA BEATA

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving God,**

save us from the sins that obviously corrupt and disgrace us,  
and from those that secretly eat away like termites,  
and undermine our values and good resolves.

Save us from the guilt that shouts at us and condemns us,  
and from the cunning guilt which slides sideways into excuses.

**Merciful God,**

forgive us and mend our fractured nature.

Make our ears sensitive to Christ's voice.

Give us the courage to pick up our own cross  
and follow Christ wherever he leads.

In your grace may we be renewed, and in your service may we be fulfilled.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Silence for confession*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*O Lord, Have Mercy on Us*

Jane Southwick Cool



O Lord, have mer-cy on us and hear our prayer.

O Christ, have mer-cy on us and hear our prayer.

O Lord, have mer-cy on us and grant us peace.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

✠ PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people offer a sign of peace to one another.*

**THE WORD OF GOD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*Children remain in the sanctuary throughout worship today.*

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

*Exodus 3:1-15*

(OT pg.50)

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

✠ HYMN OF RESPONSE 572

*When Israel Was in Egypt's Land*

GO DOWN, MOSES

THE EPISTLE LESSON

*Romans 12:9-21*

(NT pg. 162)

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*I Am*

The Rev. Dennis TeBeest

**THE RESPONSE TO GOD**

SHARING OUR TITHES, OUR GIFTS, AND OUR OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem

*Sing an Alleluia to the Lord!*

Douglas E. Wagner

✠ Doxology

✠ Prayer of Dedication

**May our offerings be an expression of genuine love that reflects your love for us, O God. We seek to honor you as we serve one another in Christ's name. We reach out to overcome evil with good. Direct our use of the resources you entrust to us that we may not only contribute to the needs of the saints but also devote our lives to the building of a peaceable worldwide community in which all are valued. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*(Communion Prayer)*

SANCTUS

LAND OF REST



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power— and might,  
Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-



heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est.  
san - na in the high - est, — ho - san - na in the high-est.

*(The prayer continues, including intercessions.)*

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE COMMUNION

*All Christians who wish to know the presence of Christ  
and to share in the community of God's people  
are invited to receive the sacrament of communion.*

*To be served communion, come forward by the center aisle, as guided by the usher.*

*Receive the bread, dip the bread in the cup offered.*

*After eating, return to your seat by the side aisle.*

*Baptized children are welcome to receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper,  
by their parent/guardian informing the server, as they come forward.*

*Those who wish to participate in communion, but are unable to come forward,  
are invited to inform an usher in order to be served in their seat.*

### ✠ HYMN 347

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

LINSTEAD

### ✠ BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*Spiritoso*

Samuel Wesley

*This is a time for reflection and prayers, and we invite you to  
remain seated in silence until the postlude is ended.*

*Assisting God's people in worship this morning  
are The Rev. Dennis TeBeest, worship leader;*

*Alice Rushforth, lay reader; Summer Choir,  
under the direction of Gloria Norton, Minister of Music.*

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### SING AN ALLELUIA TO THE LORD!

Sing an alleluia to the Lord above, the God of love.

Let all creation cry: "Praise to the Lord on high!"

The earth awakes with joy to greet its King.

Praise, angel hosts above, all bright and fair in love;

sun, moon, uplift your voice to God, rejoice!

text by Charlotte Lee and Stopford A. Brooke

COMMUNION TEAM/USHERS – ✠ Wayne Placek, Vic Babington, Michelle Heinzinger,

Russell Van Wetering, Carole Meeks, Alice Rushforth

COUNTERS – Betty Hogan, Michelle Heinzinger, Terrie Clark, Tom Rushforth, Don Huggett

GREETER – Nicole & Vic Babington

LAY READER – Alice Rushforth

ALTAR GUILD – Carole Meeks & Adria Brown

CHILD CARE – Nicole Babington

FELLOWSHIP TIME – Helen Koons

**WELCOME**, if you are a guest or visitor with us this morning! You are invited to sign our guest book in the Narthex, or fill out one of the visitor cards found in your pew. Cards can be placed in the plate as the offering is received.

**SANCTUARY SERVICES ARE RECORDED** – All services and programs held in the church sanctuary are recorded and available on compact disc. Copies may be obtained by completing a *CD Request form* available in the Narthex or by contacting the church office.

*O Lord, Have Mercy on Us* by Jane Southwick Cool. Words and Music © 2014 Hope Publishing Company. Used by permission of OneLicense.net #A-700435.

**FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY** - The first Sunday of each month is Food Pantry Sunday. We receive monetary donations to support the community food pantry through the Center for Food Action. Donation envelopes are in the bulletin each first Sunday of the month.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY** – An updated Church Directory is now available at the Church Office. If you find that any of the information printed needs to be updated or requires additional information, please complete one of the Directory Correction forms and place it in the plate or leave at the Church Office. Thank you for your help with this project.

**LIVING OUR QUESTIONS** – The curriculum for our Autumn six-week study will be *Living Our Questions* . . . ***IF*** you help build it! Please submit *your* questions and ideas for subjects. Fill out one of the *Living Our Questions* sheets that will be in the pews throughout summer, and drop it in the offering plate (or place it in the box in the Parlor). Or write your question on the Parlor newsprint during Fellowship Time! Thanks, Dennis.

**ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**, following the Installation Service of Pastor Dennis, there will be a reception to officially welcome him as our Settled Pastor. Volunteers are needed to plan and coordinate this special fellowship time. If you are interested in serving on the reception team, please contact either Russell Van Wetering at 201 261-1795 (email: [aprilsky@optonline.net](mailto:aprilsky@optonline.net)) or Diane Lento at 201 906-7978 (email: [haystrand@aol.com](mailto:haystrand@aol.com).) We look forward to celebrating Pastor Dennis, and this exciting new time in the life of our congregation.

**GREETERS AND FELLOWSHIP TIME HOSTS** are needed! Please see Russell Van Wetering at Fellowship Time or call the Church Office to see what dates are open!

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT SEARCH** – The Personnel Team, headed by Michelle Heinzinger, has begun the search process for our open Administrative Assistant position. In the interim, Heather continues to do administrative work on Wednesday and Friday evenings, 6-8pm, and Alice Rushforth provides office staffing Tuesday - Friday, 10am-2pm.

**Plan to join the worship celebration  
(and invite a friend!)**

as

**The New Jersey Association of the UCC install**

**The Rev. Dennis TeBeest**

as our settled Pastor  
of the First Congregational Church of River Edge

**Sunday, September 17, 2017  
10:00 a.m.**

A Service of the New Jersey Association  
of the United Church of Christ

**Please plan to stay for the Celebration  
Luncheon following the service!**



## The Life of Our Church This Week

### Sunday, September 3, 2017

9:15 am – SummerChoir  
10:00 am - Worship Service/Communion/  
The Rev. Dennis TeBeest /Child Care  
11:00 am - Lemonade in the Parlor  
12:30 pm - Korean Baptist Church

### Monday, September 4, 2017

#### Labor Day Church Office Closed

12:00 Noon - Al-Anon  
7:30 pm - Step by Step NA

### Tuesday, September 5, 2017

### Wednesday, September 6, 2017

7:00 pm - AA

### Thursday, September 7, 2017

7:00pm Chancel Choir  
8:15pm Pilgrim Ringers

### Friday, September 8, 2017

7:00pm Tri-County Pipe & Drum Rehearsal

### Saturday, September 9, 2017

8:30 – KIWS  
7:00 pm - AA

### Sunday, September 10, 2017

9:00am Confirmation Meeting  
9:15 am – Chancel Choir  
10:00 am - Worship Service/  
The Rev. Dennis TeBeest /  
**Church School Kickoff!** / Child Care  
11:00 am – Fellowship Time  
12:30 pm - Korean Baptist Church  
4:30pm Second Sunday

### Monday, September 11, 2017

**9/11 Memorial Service at Borough Hall**  
**Service begins at 10am**

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We have all witnessed the devastation the people of Houston are currently experiencing. I have been contacted by Church World Service asking for our help. Hygiene kits are needed **immediately**. Please consider completing one and bringing to church next Sunday. Our church will also serve as a depot for other organizations to bring their donations. Imagine the relief our donations can bring!

#### To assemble a Health Kit, you will need:

- One hand towel measuring approximately 16" x 28" (no fingertip or bath towels)
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb
- One nail clipper
- One bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)
- One toothbrush (in original packaging)
- Ten standard size Band-Aids®



Place all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure; remove excess air from bag and seal. Please do not add toothpaste – Church World Service will add this item just prior to shipment.

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF RIVER EDGE**

**Prayer Concerns – September 3, 2017**

Pray for the people of Southeastern Texas and Louisiana, at risk from the devastation of Hurricane Harvey.

**Prayers for Those Who Are Ill**

Autumn Owens, Bob Wieboldt, Terrie Clark, June Morris, Barbara Schmidli, Dr. Janet Mason, Annamae Relph, Eleanor “Pat” Hamilton, Joanie Jones, Mike Mantell, John Hamilton, Arlene Rudd, Patty Wallace, June Seilheimer, Michelle Heinzinger, Victoria Churchill, Marie Herrick, Russell Smith, Lorraine Skrekgast, Rev. Muriel (Mimi) Hatchfeld, James Devine, Dorothy Chen, Kathy Waldren, Edwina Arena, Joan Sullivan, Manoucher Katebian, Walt Lippincott, Tom Gervasio, & Kathy Meeks.

**Those Homebound, in Assisted Living Residences or Nursing homes**

Shirley Bullen, William Spencer, Mildred Alderdice, John Hamilton and Autumn Owens.

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**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Mondays, the Office is **closed**.  
Tuesdays through Fridays, **10 am - 2:00 pm**.

**CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION**

*109 Continental Avenue, River Edge, NJ 07661*  
*Phone (201) 261-1712      Website – [www.fccriveredge.org](http://www.fccriveredge.org)*  
*Church Office e-mail – [office@fccriveredge.org](mailto:office@fccriveredge.org)*

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**CHURCH STAFF**

The Rev. Dennis TeBeest Pastor	<a href="mailto:dtebeest@fccriveredge.org">dtebeest@fccriveredge.org</a> 201-390-5548
Gloria Norton, S.M.M., Minister of Music	<a href="mailto:glorinor@aol.com">glorinor@aol.com</a>
Nicole Babington Christian Education Support	201-956-3435
Administrative Assistant Interim: Alice Rushforth & Heather Nicheski	<a href="mailto:office@fccriveredge.org">office@fccriveredge.org</a> 201-261-1712