

**First Presbyterian Church
Hackettstown, NJ**

May 3, 2026



PRELUDE

Let Us Break Bread Together

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

O God,

light of the minds that know you, life of the souls that love you,

Strength of the thoughts that seek you: Help us so to know you that we may truly love you, so to love

you that we may fully serve you, whose service is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN**

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

645

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation. With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled: to God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power has made God's gracious mercy keepeth, by morning glow or evening shade God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth. Within the kingdom of God's might, lo! All is just and all is right: to God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing, an ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing, as with a mother's tender hand God gently leads the chosen band: to God all praise and glory!

Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud thy praises, that all my hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises. Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both sould and body, take your part: to God all praise and glory!

GOOD NEWS

ANTHEM: *Antiphonal Jubilate Deo!* **Greg Gilpin**

Senior Choir

Greg Gilpin's anthem calls to us in Latin to shout for joy to God. The three parts echo, respond, and layer upon each other until a middle section where they come together intoning us to "sing a song of gladness, sing a joyful song!"

"Jubilate Deo. Oh be joyful all ye lands. Jubilate Deo. Sing a song of gladness, sing a joyful song! Alleluia, sing Alleluia! Jubilate Deo."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *Servant of All* **Matthew 20:26**

If you want to be great in God's kingdom, learn to be the servant of all.

If you want to be great in God's kingdom, learn to be the servant of all.

Learn to be the servant of all, learn to be the servant of all. If you want to be great in God's kingdom, learn to be the servant of all.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. In your great compassion, cleanse us from sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen, Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Psalm 31:1-15,15-16 & 1 Peter 2:2-10

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes Cook

*HYMN *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* 469

Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place. Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** **Apostles' Creed**
I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY *With this Cup and With this Bread*

*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below, praise Him above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*COMMUNION HYMN *Come to the Table of Grace* 507

Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.

Come to the table of peace. Come to the table of peace. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of peace.

Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of love.

Come to the table of hope. Come to the table of hope. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of hope.

Come to the table of joy. Come to the table of joy. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of joy.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

As a sign of hospitality we offer gluten free bread for communion.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...(Pastor continues)

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. 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.

WORDS OF THE INSTITUTION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***CLOSING HYMN** *O Christ, the Great Foundation*

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O Christ, the great foundation on which your people stand to preach your true salvation in every age and land: pour out your Holy Spirit to make us strong and pure, to keep the faith unbroken as long as worlds endure.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Join us as we celebrate Confirmation on Sunday, **May 24th** during worship. This year's confirmands are: Angel Anyangwe, Veronica Aquino, Makayla Chetangie, Brynn McDonagh, Amari Melendez, Harper Ravo, and Lila Roguso.

PENTECOST SUNDAY - May 24th

Pentecost is celebrated 50 days after Easter to commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and followers of Jesus in Jerusalem. It marks the birth of the Christian Church, the beginning of the global gospel mission, and the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to send a "helper" to guide and empower his people. Remember to wear RED that day.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Everyone loves a parade, right? Well, this year, FPCH will once again participate, but we need your help in one of four ways:

1. March in the parade - carry one of our banners or distribute our flyer about our church and its missions
2. Help take orders and serve customers who purchase our breakfast sandwiches, drinks, or baked goods
3. Collect money from our customers
4. Volunteer to provide homemade baked goods, water bottles, or other goodies

If interested, please sign up for any of these activities on the sheet located on the table next to the dais. You can work a shift of one hour, you can work the entire time we are there, you can help set up tables in the morning, or you can just drop off your donation. ANY ASSISTANCE IS GRATELY APPRECIATED. We hope to see you at the parade on **May 25th**, rain or shine. Questions? See Michele Cameron or any member of the Public Relations Committee. Thank you.

SPRING WORK DAY – MAY 9th

“Clean - Up Clean - Up Everybody Clean - Up”

Memorial Day is fast arriving and it is time for our annual Spring Church Work Day. Please bring your gifts for raking, dusting, window cleaning, organizing, etc. We will be working inside and outside; tools/supplies will be provided, but if you wish to bring your own, please feel free to do so. We will start at 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Rain Date will be May 16th. Many hands make light work, so your help would be greatly appreciated!!!! Let's Make Our Church Shine For the Memorial Day Parade !



MAY SECOND SUNDAY!

There is no Second Sunday in the month of May because it falls on Mother’s Day. We’ll be meeting again on **June 14th** when we will be using all kinds of beads: perler bead creations, pony bead bracelets and necklaces. Come and embrace your creative side!

COMMUNITY DINNER

Our next Community Dinner will be held on Saturday, **May 9th** at 5:30pm. If you would like to assist please contact Carl Erickson. Extra hands are always appreciated.

RAISE RIGHT GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Help support the mission of our church by purchasing gift cards. Over 700 of your favorite companies participate and FPCH gets a percentage of every gift card purchased (at no additional expense to you) with Raise Right. You can purchase online, with our coordinator Geof Gohlich or via the app. For more information see our flyers in the sanctuary or Ray Sookhoo.

STEW’S CLUE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? This week, Stewie thinks you should look around “Second Sunday”.

FYI-INFORMATION

4/26/26	In Person Attendance	86
	Virtual Attendance	75
	Offering	\$1,461.30

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

May 3 - 9, 2026

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
Sunday	11:05 am	Joyful Noise Bells rehearsal
Sunday	11:20 am	Unity Chimes rehearsal
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Church office open
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Heaven Sent Nursery School
Thursday	6:30-7:15 pm	FPCH Ringers rehearsal
Thursday	7:30-8:30 pm	Sr. Choir rehearsal

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - May 3 - 9, 2026

Monday	10:30-11:30 am	AA Step by Step
	7:00-9:00 pm	Jazz Band
Tuesday	7:30-9:00 pm	NA Change or Die
Wednesday	7:30-9:00 pm	Stone Soup Symphony
Thursday	10:30-11:30 am	AA New Beginnings
Friday	Storage use only	Colonial Musketeers
	7:00-9:00 pm	Colonial Musketeers Sr.
	7:30 pm	GA Meeting
Saturday	7:00 pm	12 Steps



FOR PASTORAL CARE,

Pastor Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

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