

The First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ



October 19, 2025

Vision Statement of First Presbyterian Church

Strengthening families;

Sowing friendships;

Serving community;

In the name of Jesus Christ

19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 2025

PRELUDE

The Prayer

arr. Fettke

Senior Choir

We pray you'll be our eyes, and watch us where we go. And help us to be wise in times when we don't know. Let this be our prayer when we lose our way. Lead us to a place, guide us with your grace to a place where we'll be safe.

We pray we'll find your light, and hold it in our hearts, as darkness falls each night. Remind us where you are. Let this be our prayer when shadows fill our day. Lead us to a place. Guide us with your grace. Give us faith where we'll be safe.

Lead us, Lord. Lead us in your righteousness. Make your way plain for us to see.

We pray we'll find your light, and hold it in our hearts. When darkness falls each night. Remind us where you are. Let this be our prayer just like every child, needs to find a place, guide us with your grace. Give us faith where we'll be safe.

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
Our feet will stand in your gates, O Jerusalem.

For a single day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord will flourish in the courts of our God.

Blessed are those who dwell in your house. Lord, I love your holy habitation, the palace where your glory dwells.

For the Lord is the in the holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before God. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
Be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. O sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things! Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, and sing praises!

HYMNImmortal, Invisible, God Only Wise***12**

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

***OPENING PRAYER**

ANTHEM *He's Got the Whole World In His Hands* **arr. Ravo**
Joyful Noise Bell Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *In Everything Give Thanks* **Rettino**
Ephesians 5:20

In everything give thanks, in every situation. Lift your voice and sing, and praise God from your heart. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Rejoice and sing and shout "Hallelujah". Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Lift up your voice and sing.

CALL TO CONFESSION**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy One, your consistent and persistent love leaves us in awe. As we confess today we want to not cower in our sin but fall humbly at your feet. We offer our will and resistance to turn our lives around. Please forgive our willingness to give up on You. Give us courage God to face our challenges with grace, the ability to build a community that stands for justice, and tenacity attached to your eternal love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*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 121, Luke 18:1-8

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes Cook

*HYMN

I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes

45

I to the hills will lift my eyes; from
whence shall come my aid? My help is from the
Lord alone, who heaven and earth has made.

God will not let your foot be moved; your
guardian never sleeps; God's watchful and
unslumbering care protects and safely keeps.

Your faithful keeper is the Lord, your
shelter and your shade. "Neath sun or moon, by
day or night, you shall not be afraid.

From evil God will keep you safe,
provide for all you need. Your going out, your
coming in, God will forever lead.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Worship Resources

We are God's work of art—each one of us a precious gem, a marvelous melody, a potter's delight.

We are God's handiwork—woven together in love, shaped with infinite compassion, painted with incredible beauty.

We are the church of Jesus Christ—diverse in human qualities, but united in our call to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

We are the Body of Christ—living in his truth, sharing his peace, carrying his hope, embodying his love, throughout the world he loved so much.

We are here to be reminded once more who we are, whose we are and what our lives are about.

We are here to be uplifted, renewed and empowered to live out the miracle of who we are, by the power of God working in and among us. We open ourselves to God, who makes all things new.

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY *Meditation on Crusader Hymn* arr. Young

***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.

DEDICATION FOR PRAYER GARDEN

Today we will end our service outside in our prayer garden as we dedicate the seating area with the pergola.

Serving Our Congregation Today

Preacher: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

Worship Leader: Maryann Simmons

Music Director: Lorinda Ravo

Greeting: Kathy Maier & Bev Saunders

Video: Jean Zetterberg

This week the cards on the piano for you to sign are for our friends:

Haeja Kim & Linda Burroughs

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

Interested in joining our church as a member? We would love to talk more with you about our ministry here. Feel free to fill out a visitors card and hand it to one of our ushers or Pastor Erin and we will make sure to reach out to you!

STEW'S CLUE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find our Stewardship mascot, Stewie, last week? He was hiding on Miss Torey's Chime Choir folder. This week, Stew's clue is pipe.

PRAYER GARDEN

You are invited to join us at the end of the service as we dedicate our Prayer Garden.

THIS MORNING'S MUSIC

Today, our youngest musicians make their 2025-26 debut as the Joyful Noise Bells play *He's Got the Whole World In His Hands*. These young musicians can begin ringing when they are in kindergarten, and we have some new ringers this year. Also a huge thanks to some of our Unity Chime Choir ringers for helping out our youngest ringers. Our Senior Choir sings the beautiful anthem *Prayer*, made popular by Celine Dion and Andrea Boccelli. This anthem skillfully combines *Prayer* with the hymn *Lead Me Lord*.

Next Sunday, our Unity Chime Choir will be playing an arrangement of the spiritual *Jacob's Ladder* and our Little Lights Sunday School Choir will be singing *In Everything Give Thanks*.

FALL WORK DAY – OCTOBER 25th

“Clean - Up Clean - Up”

Fall has arrived and it is time for our annual Fall 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 A.M. and stay until the work is complete. Many hands make light work, so your help would be greatly appreciated!!!!



PHOTO STATION FUN ON OCTOBER 26

After worship on **October 26**, we will have a Halloween photo station in the rear of the church. Kids (and adults if you'd like!), wear your Halloween costumes that morning, and following church and Sunday School, our confirmation students will be happy to use your phone to take some fun family Halloween photos!

NOVEMBER'S SECOND SUNDAY

On **November 9**, our Second Sunday activity will be "All About Thanksgiving" with Mrs. Bergman. Be sure to sign up on the registration form on the information table in church. You'll be making a Thanksgiving decoration, hearing stories, and talking about what this holiday means!

THANKSGIVING BRUNCH

You are all invited to come over to the chapel on Sunday, **November 16** right after worship. We would like to thank you for all you do to support our church by offering a yummy brunch. During our time we will have an opportunity to hear what we are thankful for and find out what adventure we hope to journey on next!

CREATIVE FLOW - Monday, November 17th

9:30 am – 4:30 pm - *Sanctuary & Seed* (1600 Washington Valley Road; Martinsville, NJ)

Presenters: Linda Condon, LMHC, MPS, MA, TEP, Amy Clarkson, MMT, MT-BC, TEP

Workshop Fee: \$125 - Register by November 1st

contact amy@creativeflowtherapy.com with questions or financial support needs

FYI-INFORMATION

10/12/25

In Person Attendance

88

Virtual Attendance

129

Offering

\$3,456.40

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

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

October 19-25, 2025

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - October 19-25, 2025

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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