

First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ

July 20, 2025

Vision Statement of First Presbyterian Church

Strengthening families;
Sowing friendships;
Serving community;
In the name of Jesus Christ

PRELUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Creation Justice Ministries

Scripture tells us that “creation waits with eager longing for the children of God to be revealed.”

Creation is waiting for us.

To open our eyes to the devastation in our world.

Creation is waiting for us.

To put the needs of the most vulnerable above the greed of the powerful.

Creation is waiting for us.

To move from doing what is easy to doing what is necessary and right.

Creation is waiting for us.

To prioritize the needs of community over the convenience of self.

Creation is waiting for us.

To remove the pollution from our seas, land, air, bodies and hearts.

Creation is waiting for us.

In all these things and more, creation waits for us to assume our roles as its servants and protectors.

With God’s help, we will answer creation’s call. Amen.

***HYMN**

This is My Father's World

370

This is my Father’s world, and to my listening ears all
nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.

this is my Father’s world; I rest me in the thought of
rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father’s world. O, let me ne’er forget that
Though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.

This is my Father’s world. The battle is not done: Jesus
Who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.

OPENING PRAYER

ANTHEM:

Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring

JS Bach/arr. Shin

Michelle Litwin, Clarinet

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator, forgive us for our sins against you and your Creation. In your name, may we turn from our sins and work towards a new creation, one in which all creatures are freed from the bondage of greed and accumulation and are able to flourish into their creatureliness. May this church be a site of redemption, resilience, and hospitality; an extension of your love to all who are affected by the climate crisis. In this land, this structure, this community, this worship, may we love you more fully by seeking justice for our neighbors.

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

Exodus 32:1-6, John 10:7-10

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes Cook

***HYMN**

How Firm A Foundation

463

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress."

“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie.
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.”

“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“And God called it good”

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY *At Rest*

***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 THE PEOPLE

***CLOSING HYMN** *May God Support You All Your Days* **548**

May God support you all your days, in times of
gladness and in need. May God remember you with
grace and bless your every word and deed.

May God confirm your heart’s desire and bring to
fullness all your plans. May God’s sustaining love
inspire your shouts of praise and joyful dance.

May God be near you when you pray, to help you
with a gentle hand. May God forever guide your
way and lead you to the promised land.

Our hope is in the Holy One. The swift and
strong will surely fall, but you will stand with God
alone, who hears and answers when you call.

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***RESPONSE** *Blessed Assurance* **839**

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

POSTLUDE *Postlude on Boylston* **arr. Young**

Serving Our Congregation Today

Preacher: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

Worship Leader: Al Aquino

Music Director: Lorinda Ravo

Greeting: Sharon Geof & Pat Gohlich

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

Linda Burroughs & Dorothy Westpy

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!

TODAY'S MUSIC

This morning, it is our joy to welcome back Mrs. Michelle Litwin to provide special music for us. Mrs. Litwin is the music teacher at Hatchery Hill and Willow Grove Schools here in Hackettstown. She is a graduate of The College of New Jersey where she majored in music and clarinet. Michelle and her husband Tom live in Washington with their sweet cat, Lark.

Next Sunday, Harper Ravo will be providing our special music as she plays a trumpet solo.

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Join us on Wednesdays this summer in the conference room at 6:30 pm. No preparation needed. Come to share and learn together!

STEW'S CLUE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? He was hiding by the coloring banner in the back of the church. This week, Stewie is trying to hide from you. But if you check around a rocking chair, you might find him!

AUGUST'S SECOND SUNDAY - August 10th

Are you ready for our 4th annual Super Soaker Sunday? Be sure to preregister on the sign up sheet and come prepared to have fun and get WET! Towels are recommended! The sign up sheet is on the information and sign up table in front of the church.

2025 BACKPACK PROGRAM

The Church will be collecting backpacks and school supplies from **July 20th** through **August 10th**. We are in need of backpacks and notebooks (spiral-bound, 3-ring with filler paper, and composition books). Most of the children are in elementary and middle school, so we would appreciate that the notebooks and filler paper be wide-ruled. We will also be collecting rulers, glue sticks, pens, erasers, pencil sharpeners, zippered pencil bags or cases, crayons, colored markers, colored pencils, children's scissors, toothbrushes and toothpaste. The filled backpacks will be distributed to families involved with the NJ Department of Children and Families in Warren County. Any questions, call Donna Erickson.

FYI-INFORMATION

7/13/25	In Person Attendance	67
	Virtual Attendance	117

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

July 20 - 26, 2025

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Church office open

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - July 20 - 26, 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
Cell: 908-963-8341
Email: revehayes@gmail.com
Call the church office at: 908-852-4011
Church email: fpchnj@gmail.com
Church Website: www.fpchackettstown.org