

First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ



September 21, 2025

Vision Statement of First Presbyterian Church

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

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Those who trust in the Lord for help

Will find their strength renewed.

They will rise on wings like eagles;

They will run and not get weary;

They will walk and not grow weak.

May we today not grow weary in loving. May we not grow weary in speaking the truth in love. May we be strengthened by the world altering power of resurrection.

***HYMN**

Gather Us In

401

Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven,
light years away: here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and
make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

***OPENING PRAYER**

ANTHEM:

Spirit Song

John Wimber

Senior Choir

O let the Son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love. Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul. O let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit like a dove will descend upon your life and make you whole.

(REFRAIN) Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs. Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

O come and sing this song with gladness as your hearts are filled with joy. Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name. O give him all your tears and sadness; give him all your years of pain, and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name. (REFRAIN)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: *Barocha*

Michael Card

The Lord Bless You and Keep You (Numbers 6: 24-26)

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you, and give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace forever.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Worshipbook (1970)

O God, deliver us.

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 LESSON

Psalm 84, John 20:19-29

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes Cook

HYMNI Want Jesus to Walk with Me***775**

I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
When my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

OFFERING INVITATION**OFFERTORY***I Will Serve Thee***Gaither*****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** *When Morning Gilds the Skies***667**

When the morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking
cries: may Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I
find: may Jesus Christ be praised! Or
fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is
this: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Let earth's wide circle round in joyful notes
resound: may Jesus Christ be praised! Let
air and sea and sky from depth to height
reply: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle
divine: may Jesus Christ be praised! Be
this the eternal song through all the ages
Long: may Jesus Christ be praised!

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***RESPONSE** *Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand* (refrain) **832**
Here on Jesus Christ I will stand. He's the solid rock of my life.
He's the solid rock of my life. He's the solid rock of my life.

POSTLUDE *You are the Light of the World*
Serving Our Congregation Today

Preacher: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook
Worship Leader: Ryan Van Orden
Music Director: Lorinda Ravo
Greeting: Geof & Pat Gohlich
Video: Pattie & Dennis Huff

This week the cards on the piano for you to sign are for our friends:
Sandy Archer & Katy Groover

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, our Senior Choir sings John Wimber's hymn, "Spirit Song". Wimber wrote this hymn in 1979, and while it doesn't appear in our Glory To God hymnal, it has been published in many other hymnals. Next Sunday, our Unity Chime choir will play an arrangement of the hymn "Joyful, Joyful", and our Little Lights Sunday School Choir will sing the song they've been learning this month: Barocha ("The Lord Bless You and Keep You").

NEW MEMBERS

We will have 7 new members joining the church next Sunday, **September 28, 2025** and we will welcome Emma and Harper into the family of God through baptism.

CALL FOR A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

By order of the Session, the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Hackettstown, NJ is called to meet next Sunday, **September 28, 2025** after worship to conduct the following business:

- To amend Pastor Erin Hayes-Cook's terms of call from designated pastor to installed pastor.

No other business will be conducted.

Public notice of this meeting will be posted for two consecutive Sundays.

Donna Erickson - Clerk of the Session

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING- 10.5.25

On World Communion Sunday we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved and we are not alone. Through participation in this offering our church is extending Christ's peace throughout our community and our world.

25% of the offering stays with local congregations

25% of the offering stays with mid councils to unite congregations to support peacemaking in their regions

50% of the offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

CLOTHING DRIVE

Our Clothing Drive will be on **October 4th**, and drop off will be on **September 30th** - 5:30-7:00pm. As you gather your items please be aware of a change in what they will accept. They will no longer accept blankets, quilts, or comforters. Thank you in advance for your donations.

FUNDRAISER BY OUR CONFIRMATION CLASS

Our Confirmation Class is starting to sell mums as a fundraiser for their retreat at Johnsonburg Camp. The mums are \$10.00 each and make a wonderful decoration for your home. You may start picking up your mums at Best's Fruit Farm today thru **October 13th**. **TODAY** is your last chance to order. Please consider purchasing one or two of these beautiful mums to help out members of our Confirmation class who will be available in front of the sanctuary following worship.

STEW'S CLUE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? He was hiding by the baptismal font in the front of the church. Today's clue is Creative!

OCTOBER'S SECOND SUNDAY

Join us on Sunday, **October 12 from 11:30-1:15 pm** for Second Sunday. We will be welcoming magician "Jungle Dave" (Junglemagicshow.com) that day. The program will be held in the chapel, and because we anticipate a large audience, we will provide beverages (water and juice pouches) but ask that all attending bring their own lunch. Lunch in the chapel will begin at about 11:30, and Jungle Dave's show begins at noon. The sign up sheet is on the information table in the front of the church.

FYI-INFORMATION

9/14/25	In Person Attendance	95
	Virtual Attendance	N/A
	Offering	\$4,759.40

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

September 21-27, 2025

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
Thursday	6:30-7:15 pm	FPCH Ringers rehearsal
	7:30-8:30 pm	Sr. Choir rehearsal

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - September 21-27, 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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