

First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ



June 2, 2024

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

God is like a potter who shapes and forms our lives.

We have been called to be faithful to God's intention.

God seeks for us to be vessels of compassion and service.

We have been given multiple opportunities to witness to God's love.

Come, let us worship the Creator who has given us life.

Let us send our praises to God who knows us totally and loves us.

AMEN.

***HYMN**

Change My Heart, O God

695

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the Potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

OPENING PRAYER

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *Kwake Yesu nasimama (Kenya)*

Kwa-kay yay-su nah see mama, (n)dee yay (M)wamba nee sah la mah. (n)dee yay (M)wamba nee sah la mah.

(n)dee yay (M)wamba nee sah la mah.

Here on Jesus Christ I will stand. He's the solid rock of my life.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Rev. Beth Merrill Neel, from
Hold Fast to What is Good*

God of all the saints, God of all the sinners, hear our prayer. We would be saintlike – holy, good, patient, loving. But we end up feeling more like sinners – full of failures of morality, selfish,

mean. Perhaps You see us simply as human -as beloved, and flawed, and trying, and failing, and succeeding. In all of this, forgive the wrong that we have done, and bless the good we have accomplished. Keep on loving us, and helping us, and molding us more and more into the image of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve. **Alleluia! 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.

ANTHEM *Walk Along Beside Me, O My Lord* Besig
Torey Ravo, Soloist

Walk along beside me, O my Lord. Lead me on every step of the way and help me find the joy in each new day. Take my life and use it, O my Lord. Help me find and help me share the gifts you have given, gifts so rare. Build my faith and watch me from above, guide me patiently and teach me how to love.

And when day is over, O my Lord, keep me safe through the dark of night, and waken me again to see the light of a new tomorrow, the peace I'm searching for. Walk along beside me, O my Lord.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Jeremiah 18:1-10
2 Corinthians 4:7-18

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

***HYMN**

In My Life

468

In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

In our song, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In our song, Lord, be glorified today.

In your church, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In your church, Lord, be glorified today.

In your world, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONFIRMANDS

Gabriel Roguso, Alexandra Muesig, Deanna Annunziata, Christopher Ratti, Ani McDonagh, Maddox Fucetola

Congregation: Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?”

AFFIRMATION AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

PRAYER AND WELCOME

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Gentle Shepherd

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.

***COMMUNION HYMN** *O Jesus I have Promised*

724

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;

be thou forever near me, my Master and my friend;

I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,

nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle; the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be.
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

INVITATION

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 INSTITUTION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***CLOSING HYMN** *Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord*

628

Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.
O God I will tell the wonders of your ways, and glorify your name.
Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart. In
you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

Love, I will love you, Lord, with all my heart.
O God I will tell the wonders of your ways, and glorify your name.
Love, I will love you, Lord, with all my heart. In
you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

Serve, I will serve you, Lord, with all my heart.
O God I will tell the wonders of your ways, and glorify your name.
Serve, I will serve you, Lord, with all my heart. In
you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***RESPONSE** *Go to the World! v.3*

295

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Serving Our Congregation Today

Preacher: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

Worship Leader: Deb Gulick Shepherd

Music Director: Lorinda Ravo

Video: Jan Courtright

Greeting: Confirmation Class

***The cards this week on the piano for you to sign are for our friends:
Barbara Henning &***

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!

CONFIRMANDS' STATEMENT OF FAITH

God is the creator of the heavens and earth; He has authority over all existence. He crafts humanity in His own image, endowing all people with dignity and purpose, thus reflecting His divine nature and love.

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. He is the one who died for my sins, the one who will forgive all the wrongs I have done. He will always be there for me. I believe in God the great creator of all things: the heavens, the moon, the stars, the animals and all creatures, the humans who live on this earth. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the advocate for all people. My sole purpose is to love Jesus and God the way they love all of us in this world.

Faith in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit means believing in something bigger than myself, whether it's a religious belief or a strong trust in the goodness of people. It's similar to having confidence and hope in things even when they're not immediately visible or provable. Faith helps me stay positive and resilient during tough times, knowing that there's a purpose and meaning behind everything. It's also about finding support and strength in my beliefs and values, which guide me in making decisions and treating others with kindness and respect. Faith isn't just about what I believe in; it's also about how I live my life and the values I hold dear.

Being a member of the church, therefore, means celebrating God and introducing me to a wonderful, growing community. It would teach me how to pursue my life's goals with God flowing through me. At church, I learn about living a life of faith, which helps me to perform acts of kindness in the world. I learn that we are all God's children, all equals to each other. Learning lessons like this helps me to be more compassionate and loving to others throughout the world when they are in need of assistance most. It shows me that love binds all people together, allowing me to heal those who hurt. Being a member of the church means I can demonstrate kindness and compassion to all I encounter and I chose to connect to this community for the duration of my life here on Earth.

STEW'S CLUE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? He was hiding . Did you find him on the whiteboard for our children's message song? This week, Stewie has moved again. The Stew's Clue is Second Sunday.

DID YOU KNOW?

On this day when we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper: are you curious about why we use individual cups for Communion rather than a communal cup? Historian Deb Shepherd shared this information from the March 3, 1902 Session Minutes.: "Smallpox broke out in our village on Saturday, January 4th and spread through the town until 118 cases were reported. The Board of Health ordered all churches and schools closed and the order was continued until 1st Sabbath in March when our churches were opened and services held."

[Also noted in the minutes] approved individual communion cups. Elders Sutphin and Wade, a committee, ordered to secure a set on trial; if no further outbreak of the [epidemic], motion was made to adopt the Individual Communion Cups and on June 9, 1902 Elders Sutphin, Kennedy, and Wade formed a committee to confer with the Trustees about putting holders in pews for Individual Communion Cups-the same cup holders we will use this morning!

CURRENT EVENTS

TODAY'S MUSIC

This morning's anthem, "*Walk Along Beside Me, O My Lord*" by Don Besig will be sung by Torey Ravo. The words are especially significant for our confirmands, and we urge you to follow the lyrics as printed in this bulletin. Next Sunday, our Little Lights Sunday School will be singing "Kwake Yesu nasimama" to end this year's trip around the world!

SUNDAY SCHOOL RECOGNITION NEXT WEEK

Next Sunday we will have a closing program featuring all of our Sunday School students and the volunteers who have shared this year teaching and working with them. We hope everyone will be here for this celebration of our Christian Ed. program.

FISH AND CHIPS DINNER

Come to our chapel on Saturday **June 15th** from 5-7pm. The meal includes fish and chips (French fries) provided by Tastefully British, homemade coleslaw, rolls and butter, beverages and dessert. **Cost is \$10 for kids under 12 and \$20 for adults.** Tickets can be purchased after church, by calling the church office, or by seeing Donna Erickson. Sit down and take-out are available. Make sure to purchase your tickets ahead of time, there will be limited tickets at the door. Sign-up sheets in the church are to help with set up, serving and clean-up. Bring your family and friends! We are happy to be able to host Tastefully British again after a few years' absence.

FYI-INFORMATION

5/26/24	In Person Attendance	71
	Virtual Attendance	153
	Offering	\$1,266.68

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

Sunday	10:00 am
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Tues/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Friday	11:30 am

June 2 - 8, 2024

Worship
Church office open
Heaven Sent Nursery School
Heaven Sent Closing Program
For 4 year old classes

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - June 2 - 8, 2024

Monday	10:30-11:30 am 7:00-9:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	AA Step by Step Jazz Band Boy Scout Troop 158 Girls Troop 143 BSA
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 7:00-9:00 pm 7:30 pm	Colonial Musketeers Colonial Musketeers Sr. GA Meeting



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