

First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ



June 23, 2024

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

Rev. Beth Merrill Neel

Children of God: welcome!

Welcome to this place of love and grace,

Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community,

God invites all of us to share in the good news:

We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

***HYMN**

Morning Has Broken

664

Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dew fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!

OPENING PRAYER

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE The First Commandment

Rise and Shine!

Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory.

Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory.

Rise and shine and X give God the glory, glory.

Children of the Lord.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *adapted from Beverley Osborn*
O God, forgive us for the times when we bemoan our sinfulness. Forgive us for the times when we confess our litany of sins and believe that is all we need to do. There is more to it than that. Help us to understand the times we recognise we have fallen short of the standards of love and patience and honesty are opportunities for growing or lessening the growth of your spirit within us. Teach us to recognise that we can never fall out of your loving. Help us to find ways to heal where we have hurt, build where we have damaged, begin again and again in love.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Oh God, you accept us as we are and love us still. It is through your loving that we have the desire and the strength of confidence to let your spirit grow in us.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 8:18-27

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

***HYMN**

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

661

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?

Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,
when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he:

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me. (REFRAIN)

REFRAIN

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

"Let not your heart be troubled," his tender word I hear,
and resting on his goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
though by the path he leadeth but one step I may see:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me. (REFRAIN)

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
when song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to him; from care he sets me free:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me. (REFRAIN)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(inspired by Romans 4:18) by Jan Richardson

Hope nonetheless.

Hope despite.

Hope regardless.

Hope still.

Hope where we had ceased to hope.

Hope amid what threatens hope.

Hope with those who feed our hope.

Hope beyond what we had hoped.

Hope that draws us past our limits.

Hope that defies expectations.

Hope that questions what we have known.

Hope that makes a way where there is none.

Hope that takes us past our fear.

Hope that calls us into life.

Hope that holds us beyond death.

Hope that blesses those to come.

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Christ, Be Our Light

Farrell

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 Stewie last week? He was hiding on one of the vases of sunflowers. Did you find him? This week, Stewie has moved again. The Stew's Clue is stars.

SECOND SUNDAY

Kids, be sure to sign up for our July Second Sunday. The sign up sheet is on the table in front of the church.

PRAYER SHAWLS

Starting on **June 30th**, we will begin to offer our Prayer Shawls, blankets, etc. from the Yarn Girls each month that has 5 Sundays in it. If you know of anyone who is ill, mourning, or just needs a special hug, please see Deborah Gulick Shepherd.

FREE MARKET COLLECTION

The Deacons are continuing to collect diapers (any size) and wipes to be distributed at the Free Market in September.

FYI-INFORMATION

6/16/24	In Person Attendance	104
	Virtual Attendance	133
	Offering	\$1,924.09

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

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

June 23 - 29, 2024

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - June 23 - 29, 2024

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



FOR PASTORAL CARE

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Church facebook: www.facebook.com/FPCH