

First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ



August 31, 2025

Vision Statement of First Presbyterian Church

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

PRELUDE

Medley of Gospel Hymns

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rejoice, we come to the house of the Lord today!

God is our refuge and our stronghold.

The power and love of God flow through this gathering.

We place our whole trust in God's mighty compassion for us.

Come, let us worship the Lord!

Let us celebrate the presence of God here in this place and in all our lives. AMEN.

***HYMN**

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

619

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven; glad of heart your
carols raise; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who, like me, should sing God's praise? Alleluia!
Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days!

Praise God for the grace and favor shown our forebears
in distress; God is still the same forever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless. Alleluia!
Alleluia! Sing our Maker's faithfulness!

Like a loving parent caring, God knows well our
feeble frame, gladly all our burdens bearing,
still to countless years the same. Alleluia!
Alleluia! All within me, praise God's name!

Angels, teach us adoration; you behold God
face to face. Sun and moon and all creation,
dwellers all in time and space: Alleluia!
Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

***OPENING PRAYER**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *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 (Clap), 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

Holy God, we are so busy living we forget to tend to our souls. We confess we are thirsty for Your word and don't even know it. We look for satisfaction in things that don't last. Eternal God, forgive us for neglecting the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. Give us compassion for ourselves and each other. Supply us with mindful hearts so that we may find rest and growth for our souls. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Though we have failed time and time again to be God's people, yet God heals and forgives us. God is with us always, ready to lift and guide our lives. Place your life and your cares in God's loving presence, 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.

"NAME THAT HYMN"

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 103 & Luke 13:10-17

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes Cook

*HYMN

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

796

We come to you for healing, Lord, of
body, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
Spirit's touch we may again be whole.

As once you walked through ancient streets and
reached toward those in pain, we know you come
among us still with power to heal again.

You touch us through physicians' skills, through
nurses' gifts of care, and through the love of
faithful friends who lift our lives in prayer.

Through nights of pain and wakefulness, through
days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
patience, Lord, your calming peace to know.

We come to you, O loving Lord, in
our distress and pain, in trust that through our
nights and days your grace will heal, sustain.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*adapted from Belhar confession
by Barbara Hedges-Goet*

We believe in God--the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church. We believe the church is one worldwide communion of saints, called from the entire human family. We believe the church is the single community of believers, reconciled with God and with one another. We believe that through the working of God's Spirit, unity is a binding force and also that we must seek this unity, which must become visible to the world. We believe that the sin of division, separation and hatred between people and groups has been conquered by Christ. We commit ourselves to protecting the unity of the church universal. We pledge to make this unity active in all of our words, thoughts and deeds.

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Barocha

Michael Card

***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** *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* **757**

Today we all are called to be disciples of the
Lord, to help to set the captive free make
plow-share our of sword, to feed the hungry, quench their
thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the
poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth ordained our human
race to live as stewards of the earth responding
to God's grace. But we are vain and sadly
proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our discord
spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty
stream, with righteousness in field and town to
cleanse us and redeem. For God is longing to
restore and earth where conflicts cease, a world that
was created for a harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God act out the living word, and walk the
road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard. As stewards of
the earth may we give thanks in one accord to God who calls us all to
be disciples of the Lord.

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***RESPONSE** *Come! Live in the Light!* **749** (Refrain)

We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly; we are
called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

POSTLUDE *Shelter in the Storm*

Serving Our Congregation Today

Preacher: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

Worship Leader: Bill Cors

Music Director: Lorinda Ravo

Greeting: The Roguso Family

Video: Jean Zetterberg

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

Katy Groover & Barbara Hall

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, we have our final "Name that Hymn" experience for the summer. Thanks to all who submitted favorite hymns! Next Sunday, our Senior Choir returns to provide an anthem that will also involve the congregation!

STEW'S CLUE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? He was hiding by the stained glass window showing Jesus and the children. This week, Stewie is trying to hide from you, but you'll see him if you look at a cross. Hope you find him.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY!

Children and youth bring your backpacks to worship on **September 7** as we will bless them and you for the new school year. We will pray for our teachers as they welcome you back to Sunday School this year. We will also give out Bibles to our children. We will have classes for Pre-K through confirmation/middle school each Sunday.

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. Please consider purchasing one or two of these beautiful mums to help out our Confirmation class.

SEPTEMBER'S SECOND SUNDAY

On Sunday, **September 14**, members of the Hackettstown First Aid and Rescue Squad will be coming to tell us about what they do, let us see their equipment, and teach us about the importance of First Aid! Be sure to bring a stuffie to use as your "patient"! The sign up sheet is on the information table in the front of the church.

FYI-INFORMATION

8/24/25	In Person Attendance	60
	Virtual Attendance	74
	Offering	\$1,220.71

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

August 31-Sept. 6, 2025

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
Monday	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Church office closed-Labor Day
Tues/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Church office open
Thursday	6:30-7:15 pm	FPCH Ringers
	7:30-8:30 pm	Senior Choir

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - August 31-Sept. 6, 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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