

First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ

May 10, 2026



THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

The spirit of God calls us from many places; some of us come from busy homes with many people some of us live alone.

We are a part of the family.

This week has been different for each of us; some of us have had happy news we want to celebrate some of us have faced grief and need to cry.

We are members of God's family.

Yet we all come to this same place; all of us seeking God's presence in our lives all of us seeking God's presence with each other.

Together we become God's family.



***HYMN**

Love Divine All Loves Excelling

366

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy living Spirit into every troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest. Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

You have given us strength in times of need, comfort in times of distress, encouragement in times of despair, guidance in times of uncertainty. Whatever we have faced, you have been with us. For that great truth **we praise and thank you.**

Gracious God, we have not always appreciated your love, all too often ignoring what you would teach us, disobeying your instructions, taking you for granted and wandering far from your side. Yet through it all your love has remained constant. For that great truth **we praise and thank you.**

Gracious God, caring for us more than you care for yourself, sacrificing your all for our sakes, loving us with an unquenchable love, you have called us to be your children. For that great truth **we praise and thank you, in the name of Christ. Amen**

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

Psalm 66:8-20 & John 14:15-21

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes Cook

***HYMN**

Spirit Divine, Attend our Prayers

407

Spirit divine, attend our prayers, and make this house your home. Descend with all your gracious powers. O come, great Spirit, come!

Come as the light. To us reveal our emptiness and woe. And lead us in those paths of life where all the righteous go.

Come as the fire and purge our hearts like sacrificial flame. Let our whole soul an offering be to our Redeemer's name.

Come as the dove and spread your wings, the wings of peaceful love. And let the church on earth become blest as the church above.

Spirit divine, attend our prayers. Make a lost world your home. Descend with all your gracious powers. O come, great Spirit, come!

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *adapted from Calvin Inst. for worship*

As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world—which some seek to control, but which others view with despair—we declare with joy and trust: Our world belongs to God! From the beginning, through all the crises of our times, until God’s kingdom fully comes, God keeps covenant forever. Our world belongs to God! God is King! Let the earth be glad! Christ is Victor; his rule has begun. Hallelujah! The Spirit is at work, renewing creation. Praise the Lord! We rejoice in the goodness of God, renounce the works of darkness, and dedicate ourselves to holy living. As covenant partners, called to faithful obedience, and set free for joyful praise, we offer our hearts and lives to do God's work in his world. With tempered impatience, eager to see injustice ended, we expect the Day of the Lord. And we are confident that the light which shines in the present darkness will fill the earth when Christ appears. Come, Lord Jesus! Our world belongs to you.

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

I Love You, Lord

Laurie Klein

***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.

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

***CLOSING HYMN** *God be the Love to Search and Keep Me* **543**
God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to
move my voice; God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ surround me.

NEWSLETTERS - LAST CHANCE TO PICK-UP

Those of you who have your Newsletter sent to your homes, please be sure to pick up your Newsletter this morning if you haven't already. We are trying to be good stewards of our finances by saving almost \$2.00 per Newsletter that is sent. Those that are not picked up this Sunday will be mailed. Thank you.

SPRING WORK DAY – MAY 16th

“Clean - Up Clean - Up Everybody Clean - Up”

Memorial Day is fast arriving and it is time for our annual Spring Church Work Day. Please bring your gifts for raking, dusting, window cleaning, organizing, etc. We will be working inside and outside; tools/supplies will be provided, but if you wish to bring your own, please feel free to do so. We will start at 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Due to rain will be meeting on **May 16th**. Many hands make light work, so your help would be greatly appreciated!!!! Let's Make Our Church Shine For the Memorial Day Parade !



TODAY'S MUSIC

On this Mother's Day, our music celebrates the gift of women hymnists. The prelude, *Blessed Assurance* was written by prolific hymn writer Fanny Crosby, who despite being blinded at six weeks of age by improper medical treatment, wrote more than 8,000 gospel song texts in her lifetime. From HymnalLibrary.org, we read this description of today's offertory: *I Love You, Lord* is a short worship song written by Laurie Klein in 1978. It became widely known in contemporary Christian worship for its simple expression of love and devotion to God. The song is often sung as a quiet prayer of praise, focusing on heartfelt worship rather than complex lyrics. Finally, the postlude, *Be Still My Soul* has a text written by Katharina vonSchlegel, who was born in 1697 and was of the Lutheran faith. Approximately 100 years after it was written, another woman, Jane Borthwick translated the beloved text into English.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Join us as we celebrate Confirmation on Sunday, **May 24th** during worship. This year's confirmands are: Angel Anyangwe, Veronica Aquino, Makayla Chetangie, Brynn McDonagh, Amari Melendez, Harper Ravo, and Lila Roguso. Please plan to stay afterwards for coffee hour.

PENTECOST SUNDAY - May 24th

Pentecost is celebrated 50 days after Easter to commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and followers of Jesus in Jerusalem. It marks the birth of the Christian Church, the beginning of the global gospel mission, and the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to send a "helper" to guide and empower his people. Remember to wear RED that day.

RAISE RIGHT GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Help support the mission of our church by purchasing gift cards. Over 700 of your favorite companies participate and FPCH gets a percentage of every gift card purchased (at no additional expense to you) with Raise Right. You can purchase online, with our coordinator Geof Gohlich or via the app. For more information see our flyers in the sanctuary.

MAY SECOND SUNDAY!

There is no Second Sunday in the month of May because it falls on Mother's Day. We'll be meeting again on **June 14th**.

STEW'S CLUE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? This week, Stewie thinks you should look by ministers.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Everyone loves a parade, right? Well, this year, FPCH will once again participate, but we need your help in one of four ways:

1. March in the parade - carry one of our banners or distribute our flyer about our church and its missions
2. Help take orders and serve customers who purchase our breakfast sandwiches, drinks, or baked goods
3. Collect money from our customers
4. Volunteer to provide homemade baked goods, water bottles, or other goodies

If interested, please sign up for any of these activities on the sheet located on the table next to the dais. You can work a shift of one hour, you can work the entire time we are there, you can help set up tables in the morning, or you can just drop off your donation. ANY ASSISTANCE IS GRATELY APPRECIATED. We hope to see you at the parade on **May 25th**, rain or shine. Questions? See Michele Cameron or any member of the Public Relations Committee. Thank you.

FYI-INFORMATION

5/3/26

In Person Attendance	93
Virtual Attendance	111
Offering	\$6,426.24

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Church office open
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Heaven Sent Nursery School
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Deacons

May 10 - 16, 2026

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - May 10 - 16, 2026

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,

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