

# **First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ**



**September 28, 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**

On the day that Jesus was baptised the voice of God said,  
**"This is my child, the Beloved, with whom I am well-pleased."**

**Jesus is named. Claimed.**

On this holy day when we baptize babies and welcome new members to our church,

**We come to the water. We remember we are named. Claimed.**

Can it be so? What a thing to be named. Claimed.

**Let us worship the one who names and claims us still.**

**\*HYMN**

*I Lord of Sea and Sky*

**69**

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who  
made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

Refrain

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord? I have heard you  
calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you  
lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will  
break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest  
bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**ANTHEM:**

*Joyful, Joyful*  
Unity Chime Choir

**arr. Ravo**

## **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

- Presentation
- Profession of Faith
- Thanksgiving over the water
- The Baptism
- Welcome

Emma & Harper, with joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in His ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:** *Barocha*

**Michael Card**

Little Lights Sunday School Choir

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**

God, You are the Potter and we are the clay. But we are aware that today, and yesterday, and the day before that, we have lived as though it's only about us. We have lived as though we are the potters, not the clay. O Steady One, hear now our thoughts, our regrets, our confessions for the times when we have acted selfishly, as though only what we want, matters. With this confession, we remember You are the Potter, we are the clay. O Steady One, sometimes when we charge ahead without thinking about how our words and actions will impact others, things turn out wrong or ugly. We think of broken relationships with family members, with friends, even within the church. Hear our thoughts and our regrets for the times today and yesterday when things have turned out wrong or kind of ugly. With this confession, we remember You are the Potter, we are the clay. Forgive us, God and shape us to be your people. In Jesus' name we pray, 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      Ephesians 3:14-20 & Acts 4:32-35**

## **SERMON      Rev. Erin Hayes Cook**

### **\*HYMN      *Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed*      489**

Wonder of wonders, here revealed: God's covenant  
with us is sealed, and long before we  
know or pray, God's love enfolds us every day.

Here in this sacrament we see God's grace  
unbound, for all, for me! May we respond with  
joyful praise in loving service all our days.

This child of God, though young or old, we welcome  
now into Christ's fold, to know with us God's  
loving care, and all our joys and sorrows share.

Now we our vow of faith renew, stretch wide our  
sights to global view, and claim with Christians  
far and near a larger family held dear.

## **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived  
by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under  
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended  
into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended  
into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the  
dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the  
communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of  
the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## OFFERING INVITATION

**OFFERTORY** *Andante Religioso*

### \*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** *Send Me, Jesus* **746**

Send me, Jesus; send me, Jesus; send me, Jesus;  
send me Lord.

Lead me, Jesus; lead me, Jesus; lead me, Jesus;  
lead me Lord.

Fill me, Jesus; fill me, Jesus; fill me, Jesus;  
fill me Lord.

### \*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** *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore* **Gabarain**

### **Serving Our Congregation Today**

**Preacher: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook**

**Worship Leader: Jess McDonagh**

**Music Director: Lorinda Ravo**

**Greeting: Bruce & Ellen Bergman**

**Video: Jean Zetterberg**

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

***Carol Spitzer & Ruth Barth***

## **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!

## **THANK YOU!**

Thank you for your support of our Confirmation Class by decorating your home with the beautiful mums that our youth have sold. Please remember that you may pick up your mums at Best's Fruit Farm today thru **October 13th**.

## **TODAY WE WELCOME 7 NEW MEMBERS**

**Daniel Hall** - was baptized at the Malibu Presbyterian Church. He recently graduated from college and is looking for full time work in his field, Graphic Design. He currently works at The House of the Good Shepherd in the Dining Services. He has helped in church as an usher, greeter, and with the offering. He may be quiet but he has a big Love for Christ.

**Patty Hall** - was baptized at St. Benedict Joseph RC Church. She had her First Holy Communion and Confirmation at Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church in Massapequa Park, where she grew up. She works at the Willow Grove School. She was a Deacon at the Malibu Presbyterian Church and was the moderator of the Deacons for 2 years.

**Tim Hall** - was baptized at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, the same church his father was ordained. He grew up in California and was a Deacon at the Shadow Hills Presbyterian. He and Patty moved back to the east coast 10 years ago. He works for Broden Design Group in Denville.

**Jessica Sonners** - is married to Dan and is the mom of twin daughters, Harper & Emma, who were baptized today, and has lived in Hackettstown for the past 12 years.

**Dan Sonners** - is married to Jessica and is the dad of twin daughters, Harper & Emma, who were baptized today, and has lived in Hackettstown for the past 12 years.

**Elise Bates Russell** - is blessed to have grown up in the Presbyterian Church and grateful to be part of the community here at FPC. She serves as the executive director of Johnsonburg Camp and Retreat Center, and also serves as the architectural consultant of Run River, helping outdoor ministries with strategic planning and campus plans. She enjoys time with my family, traveling, hearing new ideas, being outdoors and meeting people!

**Sophie Russell** - is the daughter of Elise Bates Russell and is a senior at Hackettstown High School. She enjoys baking, trying new things, and spending time with friends and family.

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

By order of the Session, the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Hackettstown, NJ is called to meet **TODAY** 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. They will no longer accept blankets, quilts, or comforters. Thank you in advance for your donations.

## **OCTOBER'S SECOND SUNDAY**

Join us on Sunday, **October 12 from 11:30-1:15 pm**) for Second Sunday. We will welcome magician "Jungle Dave" ([Junglemagicshow.com](http://Junglemagicshow.com)). 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.

## **TODAY'S MUSIC**

This morning's anthem is provided by our Unity Chime Choir, made up of students in Grades 3 and up. They are playing an arrangement of the hymn "Joyful, Joyful" which is written to the tune of the finale of Beethoven's 9th symphony. Our Little Lights Sunday School Choir has been learning about the book of Numbers this month, and will sing Michael Card's beautiful song "Barocha" that uses the text from Numbers 6:24-26.

## **STEW'S CLUE!**

Did you find Stewie last week? He was hiding in the Creative Corner. This week, Stewie has moved. Your clue to find him is autumn leaves.



## **CREATIVE CORNER**

We invite kids to take advantage of our Creative Corner, located in the back of the sanctuary. We know that sometimes kids get wiggly, and that's just fine with us. The sound of children's voices is music to our ears. If you'd like some help keeping them engaged, the Creative Corner has books and fidgets that kids can borrow during the service. Check out the coloring poster, too. Thanks to our Board of Deacons for funding a portion of it.

## **FYI-INFORMATION**

9/21/25	In Person Attendance	83
	Virtual Attendance	91
	Offering	\$4,254.43

## **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH**

**Sept. 28-Oct. 4, 2025**

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship
Sunday	11:05 am	Joyful Noise Bells rehearsal
Sunday	11:20 am	Unity Chimes rehearsal
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Church office open
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Heaven Sent Nursery School
Thursday	6:30-7:15 pm	FPCH Ringers rehearsal
Thursday	7:30-8:30 pm	Sr. Choir rehearsal

## **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - Sept. 28-Oct. 4, 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

Cell: 908-963-8341

Email: [revehayes@gmail.com](mailto:revehayes@gmail.com)

Call the church office at: 908-852-4011

Church email: [fpchnj@gmail.com](mailto:fpchnj@gmail.com)

Church Website: [www.fpchackettstown.org](http://www.fpchackettstown.org)