

The First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ



Cerezo Barredo

October 26, 2025

Vision Statement of First Presbyterian Church

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

PRELUDE

Joyful, Joyful

Beethoven

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 84

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

Our souls long, for the courts of the LORD; we sing for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord.

Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. Selah.

Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion. Let us worship the God of our salvation and hope, Amen!

***HYMN**

O Savior, in This Quiet Place

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O Savior, in this quiet place, where anyone may kneel,
I also come to ask for grace, believing you can heal.

I pain of body, stress of mind, destroys my inward peace,
in prayer for others may I find the secret of release.

If self upon its sickness feeds and turns my life to gall,
let me not brood upon my needs, but simply tell you all.

You never said "You ask too much" to any troubled soul.
I long to feel your healing touch; will you not make me whole?

But if the thing I most desire is not your way for me,
may faith, when tested in the fire, prove its integrity.

Of all my prayers, may this be chief: till faith is fully grown,
Lord, disbelieve my unbelief, and claim me as your own.

***OPENING PRAYER**

ANTHEM

Jacob's Ladder
Unity Chime Choir

Spiritual

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *In Everything Give Thanks* Rettino

Ephesians 5:20

Little Lights Sunday School Choir

In everything give thanks, in every situation. Lift your voice and sing, and praise God from your heart. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Rejoice and sing and shout "Hallelujah". Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Lift up your voice and sing.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Arianne Braithwaite Lehn

Lord Jesus, my very life grows from you, the Vine from which I stem with hope for the fruit that will last. Your love force flows through me, and yet it also moves into neighboring branches. I don't want to acknowledge my connection with some of them, these people who block my sun or suppress my spirit. I struggle, Jesus, to see and love the goodness in another, even as your life current nourishes me with the same sustenance. Maybe my first step is to simply name, each day, our connection through you. To remember the seed that brought forth me also birthed them. To unfurl my leaves, soak in the sun, the rainfall and, in doing this, open my heart to you and every single other...To keep all veins open for transformative possibilities that come not through my own doing but by being joined with you, the One who can and does bring redemptive relationships I never thought possible. Today, I will celebrate being part of the Vine, and rest in the work you will do. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

We are forgiven, thanks be to God!

***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

Joel 2:23-32 & Luke 18:9-14

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes- Cook

*HYMN

Christ Be Beside Me

702

Christ be beside me; Christ be before me; Christ be behind me, King of my heart. Christ be within me; Christ be below me; Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand; Christ all around me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting, Christ in my rising, Light of my life.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me; Christ be on all tongues telling of me. Christ be the vision in eyes that see me; in ears that hear me Christ ever be.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Confession of 1967, PCUSA

We believe that in Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared human needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful people. In giving himself for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which all people stand convicted. We believe that God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

G Minor Theme

Franck

*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** *Know That God is Good*

659

Know that God is good. Know that God is good.
Know that God is good; God is good; God is good.
Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah. Halle, hallelujah,
hallelujah, halleluja.

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***RESPONSE** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

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.

POSTLUDE *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

Luther

Serving Our Congregation Today

Preacher: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

Worship Leader: Jen Aquino

Music Director: Lorinda Ravo

Greeting: Jean Zetterberg & Maddox Fucetola

Video: Erin Roguso

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

Katy Groover & Carol Spitzer

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!

PHOTO STATION FUN TODAY

After worship today, we have a Halloween photo station in the rear of the church. Families, couples, or any grouping are invited to the rear of the sanctuary, and our confirmation students will be happy to use your phone to take some fun family Halloween photos!

STEW'S CLUE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? He was hiding by the mosaic cross that Mr. Gohlich made. This week, Stew's clue is: pumpkin.

NOVEMBER'S SECOND SUNDAY

On **November 9**, our Second Sunday activity will be "All About Thanksgiving" with Mrs. Bergman. Be sure to sign up on the registration form on the information table in church. You'll be making a Thanksgiving decoration, hearing stories, and talking about what this holiday means!

THANKSGIVING BRUNCH

You are all invited to come over to the chapel on Sunday, **November 16** right after worship. We would like to thank you for all you do to support our church by offering a yummy brunch. During our time we will have an opportunity to hear what we are thankful for and find out what adventure we hope to journey on next!

THIS MORNING'S MUSIC

This morning, our Unity Chime Choir plays an arrangement of the Spiritual, *Jacob's Ladder*. This arrangement also has a piano accompaniment. Our Little Lights Sunday School Choir will be singing our October song based on Ephesians 5:20: *In Everything Give Thanks*. Please feel free to join in with kids as they sing!

Next Sunday, our Senior Choir will sing Bill and Gloria Gaither's anthem *Gentle Shepherd* and we'll welcome Pastor Erin's participation as she adds the beloved words to the 23rd Psalm to this piece of music.

CREATIVE FLOW - Monday, November 17th

9:30 am – 4:30 pm - *Sanctuary & Seed* (1600 Washington Valley Road; Martinsville, NJ)

Presenters: Linda Condon, LMHC, MPS, MA, TEP, Amy Clarkson, MMT, MT-BC, TEP

Workshop Fee: \$125 - Register by November 1st

contact amy@creativeflowtherapy.com with questions or financial support needs

FYI-INFORMATION

10/19/25	In Person Attendance	107
	Virtual Attendance	72
	Offering	\$2,237.40

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

Sunday	10:00 am
Sunday	11:05 am
Sunday	11:20 am
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Mon/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Thursday	6:30-7:15 pm
Thursday	7:30-8:30 pm

Oct. 26-Nov. 1, 2025

Worship
Joyful Noise Bells rehearsal
Unity Chimes rehearsal
Church office open
Heaven Sent Nursery School
FPCH Ringers rehearsal
Sr. Choir rehearsal

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - Oct. 26-Nov. 1, 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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