

First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ

May 24, 2026



Confirmation Sunday

PRELUDE

Great is Thy Faithfulness



THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, Lord God, to receive our worship. Come, Lord Jesus, to receive our praise. Come, Holy Spirit, to receive our thanks.

Come, God in Community, Holy in One, come where we are gathered to celebrate our unity as your body, the Church.

We share one faith and are of one soul and one mind, which belong solely and wholly to you.

We are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup.

We confess one name above all other names; we are obedient to one Lord, who frees us from the tyranny and hate in the world. We share one hope, one comfort, one goal.

We are one people, united- by our faith in you, Lord Jesus.

We are one people, united by your love and mercy to stand against any power that would try to tear us apart.

We are one people, united in blessing and united in suffering, united in joy and united in sorrow, united in strength and united in weakness. We offer all our praise to you.

***HYMN**

Spirit of the Living God

288

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

TELL ME SOMETHING GOOD

ANTHEM: *American Medley arr. Anna Laura Page*

FPCH Ringers Chime Choir

As you listen to this piece, you'll hear three favorite patriotic hymns: "God of our Fathers", "America, the Beautiful", and "My Country 'Tis of Thee".

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Harper Suze Ravo

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

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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God, it is so easy to believe we are not ready for the next step. We doubt ourselves and our gifts to share with the world. It is so easy to silence your still small voice inside telling us to take a leap of faith. Forgive us for not listening. Help us to see and feel the flames of the holy spirit around us telling us to come closer to you. Give us courage to step on holy ground with you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Visible or invisible, God's love for us is sure. Even when we cannot recognize it, God's grace for us abounds. In matters of regret, and when we feel we have lost our way, God's forgiveness is everlasting. **We are surrounded with a spirit of God's peace, for in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

***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

Exodus 3:1-15 & Acts 2:1-11

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes Cook

ANTHEM:

In His Time

Diane Ball/ arr. Ravo

Confirmands with the Senior Choir

This piece was chosen especially for our confirmation class to sing with the Senior Choir particularly for this line in verse 2: Lord, my life to you I bring.....

“In His time, in His time. He makes all things beautiful in His time. Lord, please show me every day, as you’re teaching me your way, that you do just what you say in your time.”

“In Your time, in Your time. You make all things beautiful in your time. Lord, my life to you I bring, may each song I have to sing, be to you a lovely thing, in your time.”

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONFIRMANDS

Angel Anyangwe, Veronica Aquino, Makayla Chetangie,
Brynn McDonagh, Amari Melendez, Harper Ravo, Lila Roguso

AFFIRMATION AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

PRAYER AND WELCOME

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

I Will Serve Thee

Gaither

***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.

***COMMUNION HYMN** *Come to the Table of Grace*

507

Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.

Come to the table of peace. Come to the table of peace. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of peace.

Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of love.

Come to the table of hope. Come to the table of hope. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of hope.

Come to the table of joy. Come to the table of joy. This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of joy.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

As a sign of hospitality we offer gluten free bread for communion.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...(Pastor continues)

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.

WORDS OF THE INSTITUTION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*CLOSING HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

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. (Refrain)

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

arr. Ruth Schram

*On this Memorial Day weekend, we invite all the congregation to
remain seated and sing this with the choir!*

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple
mountain majesties above the fruited plain! America! America! God
shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from
sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self
their country loved, and mercy more than life! America! America! May
God thy gold refine till all success be nobleness and every gain
divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years thine
alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good
with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

(CHOIR ONLY): From sea to shining sea. America!

POSTLUDE *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* arr. Labenske

We invite everyone to come forward during the postlude for our annual “family and friends” photo! Join our confirmands by the communion table.

Serving Our Congregation Today

Preaching: Rev. Erin Hayes Cook

Worship Leader: Bill Cors

Music Director: Lorinda Ravo

Video: Dale Pritchett

Greeting: Kathy Maier & Kathleen Slater

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

Barbara Hall & Katy Groover

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!

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Today we celebrate confirmation with this year’s confirmands. After completing two years of study with their teacher Jan Courtright, we are proud to welcome Angel Anyangwe, Veronica Aquino, Makayla Chetangie, Brynn McDonagh, Amari Melendez, Harper Ravo, and Lila Roguso into the membership of our congregation.

CHURCH “FAMILY PHOTO”

Each year on Pentecost, we like to take a “family photo” of all who are in church. Following the benediction, and during the postlude this morning, we’d like **EVERYONE**, (from the very youngest to the not very youngest and from members to guests), to join our confirmands in the front of the church for our annual photo.

STEW’S CLUE

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? This week, Stewie thinks you should look around the “Jesus and the children” stained glass window.

FOR OUR GRADUATES

Please remember to fill out the graduation information form that was sent home, so we can recognize you by listing your information in our next newsletter. Any questions please see Mary Ann Simmons.

TODAY'S SPECIAL MUSIC

This is one of those years where Pentecost and Memorial Day weekend fall on the same weekend. It has become a beloved tradition here at First Presbyterian for our FPCH Ringers to play "*American Medley*" and for our Senior Choir to invite the congregation to sing "*America, the Beautiful*" with us. We are also adding a special anthem, "*In His Time*" that will include our Confirmands this morning. This week marks the end of the "season" for our ensembles. We are grateful to all members of the Senior Choir, FPCH Ringers, Unity Chime Choir, Joyful Noise Bell Choir, and Little Lights Sunday School Choir for helping to lead our services this year. And if anyone would like to volunteer as a soloist this summer, please see Lorinda!

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Tomorrow, 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 **TOMORROW**, rain or shine. Questions? See Michele Cameron or any member of the Public Relations Committee. Thank you.

JUNE SECOND SUNDAY!

June's Second Sunday will be on **June 14th**. We'll be making all manner of bead crafts: Perler bead creations, bracelets/necklaces using pony beads and letter beads, and those interested will also be able to make braided friendship bracelets (and if you don't know how, we'll teach you!) Be sure to preregister on the sign up sheet on the information table.

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.

FYI-INFORMATION

5/17/26	In Person Attendance	91
	Virtual Attendance	110
	Offering	\$3,874.24

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

May 24 - 30, 2026

Sunday	10:00 am	Worship/Confirmation/Pentecost
Mon	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Church office closed/Memorial Day
Tue/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Church office open
Tue/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon	Heaven Sent Nursery School

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - May 24 - 30, 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

Pastor Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

Cell: 908-963-8341

Email: revehayes@gmail.com

Call the church office at: 908-852-4011

Church email: fpchnj@gmail.com

Church Website: www.fpchackettstown.org