

First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ



May 4, 2025

Vision Statement of First Presbyterian Church

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

PRELUDE *Let Us Break Bread Together on our Knees*

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Living Creator, the world teems with your beauty and abounds with your artistry and grace.

We sing your praises, Lord, as we celebrate the risen Christ.

Celebrate the risen Christ who walks with us as we traverse the joys and fears of our lives.

We sing your praises, Lord, as we celebrate the risen Christ.

***HYMN** *Jesus, Light of Joy* **673**

Jesus, light of joy, surround us; let your splendid glory shine: source of every earthly blessing, heaven's everlasting sign. Alleluia, alleluia, we adore you, light divine.

Now the shadows fall around us; now the evening has begun: still your gracious light is with us, brighter than the morning sun. Alleluia, alleluia, God of glory, Three-in-One.

With the saints we lift our voices, God of power, God of might. All creation shines with glory, singing praises day and night: alleluia, alleluia, holy, holy, holy light.

OPENING PRAYER

ANTHEM *"How Great Thou Art"*
Angel and Blessing Anyangwe

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *As The Wind Song* **292**

As the wind song through the trees, as the stirring of the breeze, so it is with the Spirit of God. As the heart made strangely warm, as the voice within the storm, so it is with the Spirit of God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. 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 LESSON

John 21:1-14

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes Cook

*HYMN

Let Us Build a House

301

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome; all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome; all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water,
wine, and wheat; a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through
Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we
share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome; all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the
wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the
stranger bear the image of God's face; let us
bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome; all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and
visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and
laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this
house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome; all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

***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

Fairest Lord Jesus

arr. Young

***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 DEDICATION**

***COMMUNION HYMN** *God Is So Good*

658

God is so good; God is so good;
God is so good; God's so good to me.

God cares for me; God cares for me;
God cares for me; God's so good to me.

God loves me so; God loves me so;
God loves me so; God's so good to me.

God is so good; God is so good;
God is so good; God's so good to me.

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** *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy* **305**

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
for Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,
empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,
as we in mission magnify the Crucified!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
for Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***RESPONSE** *Lord, Be Glorified* **468**

In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified, In your world, Lord, be
glorified today.

POSTLUDE *I Gave My Life for Thee*

Serving Our Congregation Today

Preacher: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

Worship Leaders: Della Irby

Music Director: Lorinda Ravo

Greeting: Jen & Al Aquino

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

Carol Spitzer & Brenda Zellars

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, our anthem is provided by sisters Angel and Blessing Anyangwe. Blessing is a student at Mt. Olive High School where she is a member of the school's District Championship Robotics Team, and Angel is an 8th grader at Mt. Olive Middle School where she participates in several of the school's choral music ensembles. We thank these talented sisters for sharing their gifts with us today.

STEW'S CLUE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? He was hiding by a candle in the front of the church. This week, he's hoping that you won't notice him near daffodils.

MAY's SECOND SUNDAY

A reminder that there is **NO** Second Sunday in May as that is Mother's Day! But be sure to sign up for our June Second Sunday-activity will be announced soon!

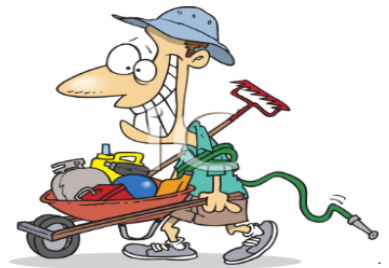
INTERFAITH PRAYER VIGIL - MAY 10th **2:00pm at Trinity UMC.**

Does your heart ache for our immigrant community? Join us as we offer our local faith communities a space to connect with God so that God's vision for love and justice can be carried out through us. Learn more about what you can do to support our neighbors.

SPRING WORK DAY – MAY 10th

“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 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Rain Date will be May 17th. Many hands make light work, so your help would be greatly appreciated!!!! Let's Make Our Church Shine For the Memorial Day Parade !



JOHNSONBURG CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

Parents, grandparents and those who love kids and youth! You know how important it is for your children to learn skills for living in this world... and that doesn't stop in the summer! Research shows the value of a week at summer camp (especially faith-based summer camps like Johnsonburg Camp and Retreat Center) every year. **Visit Johnsonburg.org TODAY** and register for a week of camp so your child can make new friends, spend time away from screens, relax and run in God's creation, and worship outside this summer. It WILL make a difference in their life! Want to talk to someone? Call the Johnsonburg office today at 908-852-2349.

OUR KIDS NEED YOU - CAN YOU ASSIST?

As you know our Christian Education Program has been growing tremendously and that means we are in need of another volunteer or two.

If you are interested in sharing your gifts, we are looking for volunteers willing to help our children grow in their faith. Can you give up one hour a week of your time to give them a foundation for their faith journey? We have the curriculum, complete with lesson plans and ideas - but we need people to bring them to the children of FPCH. We would even welcome volunteers to be "co-teachers", so you would be in class two weeks a month instead of every week.

We have great kids - and it's terrific that we're growing. We just need another adult or two to help us continue to grow! Won't you consider joining FPCH in this mission to teach our children each Sunday from September through the first two weeks in June?

If interested, please email Pattie Huff at the church office or you can see MaryAnn Simmons or Pastor Erin one Sunday after worship so that one of us can share the details about this program. If you would prefer, you could email either person at maryann.simmons3@verizon.net or revehayes@gmail.com. Thank you.

FYI-INFORMATION

4/27/25	In Person Attendance	69
	Virtual Attendance	111
	Offering	\$2,333.46

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

May 4 - 10, 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 - May 4 - 10, 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

Call the church office at: 908-852-4011

Church email: fpchnj@gmail.com

Church Website: www.fpchackettstown.org