

First Presbyterian Church Hackettstown, NJ



November 23, 2025

Vision Statement of First Presbyterian Church

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

Thanksgiving Sunday

November 23, 2025

PRELUDE

We Bring Our Thanks

Schram

Senior Choir

We are your children Lord, we bring our thanks to you. For every blessing, Lord, for every gift from you. For sun and rain, for fields of grain, in humble gratitude, we bring our thanks to you. We are your children, Lord, we bring our thanks to you.. For every blessing, Lord, for every gift from you. For skies of blue, for gentle moon. In humble gratitude we bring our thanks to you.

For every good and perfect gift comes from above, sent to the earth from the Father with love. God freely gives of his wealth, gives us life, gives us health. In humble gratitude we bring our thanks to you.

We are your children, Lord, we bring our thanks to you. And in your presence, Lord, here in this holy room. With joyful praise, our hearts we raise. In humble gratitude we bring our thanks to you. We are you children Lord, we bring our thanks to you.

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 8

O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;

You have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

When I consider your heavens the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?

Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them. You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:

all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea. O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

HYMNWe Gather Together***336**

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
for from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

OPENING PRAYER**ANTHEM***Let All Things Now Living*

FPCH Ringers

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *This is the Day***Psalm 118:24**

This is the day (**echo**) that the Lord has made (**echo**), we will rejoice (**echo**), and be glad in it (**echo**).

(ALL TOGETHER) This is the day that the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day (**echo**) **(ALL TOGETHER:)** That the Lord has made.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sovereign God, we confess we have given idols power over us, the idols of power and wealth, fame and security. We confess we have fallen into the ways of this world and have forgotten our kindred in Christ. We have lost sight of the reign of God here on earth, and instead have allowed the idols of the world to rule over us. Forgive us. Call us into Your reign, to declare You the One who has power over us because Your power is love. Call us to love our neighbors as ourselves, and to work for justice, show mercy, and love one another in the name of Christ Jesus our 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 *Myth- There is Nothing I Can Do* **1 Peter 4:8-11**

SERMON

Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

***HYMN** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* **716**

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone. Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred: ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word. Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call, healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Brief statement of faith, PCUSA

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

OFFERING INVITATION & DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Duet

***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** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* **263**

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***RESPONSE** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* **Card**
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 *Postlude on St. George's Windsor*

Serving Our Congregation Today

Preacher: Rev. Erin Hayes-Cook

Worship Leader: MaryAnn Simmons

Music Director: Lorinda Ravo

Video: Erin Roguso

Greeting: Winnie & Mark Slachetka

***The cards this week on the piano for you to sign are for our friends:
Brenda Zellars & Dan & Linda Gardner***

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!

STEW'S CLUE!

Kids (and grown-up kids too), did you find Stewie last week? He was hiding by the turkey on the front table. Did you find him? This week, Stewie has moved again. The Stew's Clue is cornucopia.

TODAY'S MUSIC

Today, our Senior Choir will be providing our Prelude as they sing a Thanksgiving anthem, *We Bring Our Thanks*. The FPCH Ringers, our adult chime choir will be playing *Let All Things Now Living*, a hymn of thanksgiving for all of the blessings that God has given to us. Next Sunday, our Joyful Noise Bell Choir will combine forces with our Unity Chimers as they use boomwhackers to accompany the hymn *For The Beauty of the Earth*.



ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Calling All Angels - Bible Study will begin on Monday, **December 1st** at 7:00pm. An Advent study of fearlessness and strength with the book called *Calling All Angels*. We will have 10 copies of the book, please let Pattie know if you would like a book.

HYMN FEST TONIGHT AT GETHSEMANE CHURCH

Tonight at 7:00 pm, our Senior Choir will be joining forces with choir members from Gethsemane Lutheran Church and Panther Valley Ecumenical Church in the annual Hymn Fest. All are invited to join the choirs in singing familiar hymns, and listening to the combined choirs as they sing two anthems. The evening ends with fellowship (and food!) following the program. Gethsemane is located at 409 East Baldwin Street in Hackettstown.

ADVENT EVENTS- What do you Fear?

November 30 - Hear the story of Christmas and decorate our Chrismon tree

December 7 - Worship with Comunion, Advent Candlelighting

December 13 - Wreaths Across America at 12:00 (noon) at the chapel
Stone Soup Concert at 3:00pm in the sanctuary
Community Dinner at 5:30pm in the chapel

December 14 - Worship, Advent Candlelighting, Christmas Sweaters, Ties, Cookies and Cocoa

Break out that Christmas sweater, shirt, or tie (festive or ugly!) and wear it to church. We'll have a Christmas photo station where confirmation students will happily use your own phone to take photos. There will even be a hot cocoa bar after worship, and we hope that if you can, you'll bring a dozen or two of your Christmas cookies or dessert to share too! Let's have some Christmas fun here at FPC

Second Sunday - with Ms. Shepherd and Miss Winnie 11:30 am-1:30 pm

December 20 - Jazz Band Concert at 2:00pm in the sanctuary

December 21 - Children's Christmas play during worship, Advent Candlelighting.

December 24 - Christmas Eve Worship with candlelight at 7:30 pm
The entire community is invited to worship with song, scripture and candlelighting.

DECEMBER'S SECOND SUNDAY

Get your Christmas on! On **December 14**, Mrs. Shepherd will be helping us make a special Christmas ornament, and Miss Winnie will be bringing her delicious Christmas cookies for participants to decorate. Please be sure to sign up to help us prepare for both lunch, and to have enough supplies for all who want to be part of the fun.

FYI-INFORMATION

11/16/25	In Person Attendance	95
	Virtual Attendance	114
	Offering	\$1,950.40

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES at FPCH

Sunday	10:00 am 11:10 am 11:20 am 7:00 pm
Mon/Wed	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Thur/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Mon/Tues	9:00 am-12:00 noon
Wed/Fri	9:00 am-12:00 noon

November 23 - 29, 2025

Worship
Joyful Noise Bells rehearsal
Unity Chimes rehearsal
Hymn Fest at Gethsemane
Church Office Open
Office Closed for Thanksgiving
Heaven Sent Nursery School -
Parent Conferences
Heaven Sent Nursery School -
Closed

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES in our Chapel - November 23 - 29, 2025

Monday	10:30-11:30 am 7:00-9:00 pm	AA Step by Step 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 7:00-9:00 pm 7:30 pm	Colonial Musketeers Colonial Musketeers Sr. GA Meeting
Saturday	7:00 pm	12 Steps



FOR PASTORAL CARE

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