



First Presbyterian Church

CHRIST'S JOY, JUSTICE AND COMPASSION
IN ALL, THROUGH ALL, AND FOR ALL

February 8, 2026; 10:00 AM | Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Guest WiFi Network: FPCHGuest | Password: FPCHwifi@06

GATHERING

Prelude "Praise to the Lord", arr. Michael Helman (Whitechapel Bells)

Opening Sentences (adapted from Psalm 112)

One: People of God, praise the Lord!

All: Praise the Lord! Happy are those who fear the Lord, those who greatly delight in his commandments.

One: Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

All: Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

One: We who gather are broken yet holy; sinners at heart, yet fully redeemed. We are God's very own, called together here this day.

All: Let us sing. Let us pray. Let us join together in worship. Praise the Lord!

* **Hymn** #282 "[Come Down, O Love Divine](#)"

***Invitation to Experience God's Grace**

One: The more we know God's holiness, the more we can sense our distance from our creator. The more we seek justice and faithful living, the more we understand our complicity in sinful systems. With humble hearts, let us confess our brokenness, our selfishness, and our sin.

***Prayer of Confession**

All: Gracious God, we confess that this life of faith is harder than we expected. You call us to be salt of the earth and to live lives of justice, righteousness, and love. But our lives become busy. Following what others do is just easier. And sometimes the cost for doing what is right seems too high. One day, perhaps, we will commit more fully, but the status quo works better for us right now.

Forgive us, we pray. Startle our senses and disrupt our routines. Renew in us the passion for doing what is right in your eyes. Inspire us to be sources of your light in the world. May we, like the prophets and the saints, act by faith no matter how high the cost.

* **Silent Prayers of Confession**

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

One: We are blessed to know the light that breaks forth. We know God's love and grace through Jesus Christ. Through Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we know new life.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***We Celebrate God's Forgiveness #581 "Glory Be To the Father" (GLORIA PATRI)**

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: As God has forgiven us, let us forgive one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Anthem "The Storm is Passing Over", arr. Larry Nickel (TSM Choir with Loren Greer, soloist)

Time with the Children

Celebrating the Life of the Church

THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

All: Gracious God, the words we read are ancient and true. On this day, may we hear them anew. Grant us hearts to discern your Spirit within them, and grant us courage to follow them in our lives this day. Amen.

Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

2 When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. 3 And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. 4 My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

6 Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. 7 But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory 8 and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him" –

10 God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. 13 And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

14 Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. 15 Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

16 "For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.

One: These words are trustworthy and true.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Life in the Spirit"

Rev. Marvin Lindsay

* **Affirmation of Faith** (from "The Confession of 1967")

All: We believe that the life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord. Amen.

GIVE THANKS

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer pp. 35 in the *Glory to God* hymnal

Practicing Abundant Generosity

Please use this time to express your gratitude to God by using the offering plates or the online tools below to contribute to the needs of the Church and the world.

<https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/give/now>



Offertory: "If Ye Love Me" - Philip Wilby (Chancel Choir)

* **Hymn of Dedication:** #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" (DOXOLOGY)

* **Prayer of Dedication**

LEAVE TO SERVE

***Hymn #629** ["Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"](#)

Charge and Benediction

Sending Music Praeludium in G - Nicolaus Bruhns ~ Lucas Brown, organ

Please use the Sending Music time and music to reflect on today's worship experience and how it will support you in the week to come.

** Please stand, in body or in spirit.*

WORSHIP NOTES

✠ First Presbyterian's Session recognizes that throughout U.S. history African American composers have not been compensated equitably for the music they have created. To remedy this in "our little way," the congregation is invited to make a donation, using the QR code or link, <https://www.essenceofharmonycs.org/donate> whenever we sing an African American Spiritual hymn or choral anthem. Or mail a donation to: Essence of Harmony Choral Society, PO Box 811, Moorestown NJ 08057. Donations go to The Essence of Harmony Choral Society to assist them in purchasing music, supporting professional musicians, and paying venue fees. The Society focuses explicitly on celebrating the works of both classical and under-recognized African American composers.



WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH! It is good to have you here in person or online. Please be in touch if you have news to share or would like more information or to talk to a pastor. Staff contact information is below. Read full announcements in our weekly [email newsletter](#), available on the church website. Subscribe on the [Contact Us](#) tab.

NURSERY care is available during worship (9:30 - 11:15) for those with young children. The nursery is located in Preschool Hallway 1R, Room 103.

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Today's worship service may be livestreamed, recorded, or photographed for church communications. If you do not wish to appear on camera, please be seated in a pew under the balcony. If you do not wish to be photographed, please email support@haddonfieldpres.org to opt out of photographs for church communications.

NEWS AND EVENTS

TO REQUEST A RIDE TO WORSHIP, call the church at 856-429-1960, ext. 103. Leave a message (including your phone number), and a deacon will call you back regarding your request. **Transportation requests must be received no later than the Tuesday prior to the Sunday when the ride is needed.** Questions? Call Sophia Oswald at 856-528-6856 or email her at sophiadurand@gmail.com. You can also sign up to be a driver [HERE](#). You can also click the link in the weekly newsletter under **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**.

Care and Share continues to be a valuable ministry for our congregation. If you are in need of meals or know someone who is, email pegmanochi@gmail.com or message her at 609-230-4158.

In the coming months, we're renewing our planned giving ministry. Planned giving isn't just a future gift after our lifetime – it's often the **most transformative gift** we will ever make to support the church's mission. It's bigger and more hopeful than many of us imagine. Most of us assume planned giving isn't really for us, so you'll be surprised. Watch for "Planned Giving Factoids" that may surprise you as we explore what planned giving really is – and who makes these meaningful gifts.

The deacons and other helpers from the church are inviting everyone to another "Soup Sunday" luncheon. **Please come downstairs to Fellowship Hall after worship service on February 8th!** There will be warm soup to share before heading back out into a cold winter afternoon. And you'll still have plenty of time after our "Soup Sunday" before the evening's "Super Bowl Sunday".

Men's Breakfast will be meeting on Tuesday, February 9th, at 8:00 AM at The Bistro!

After-worship hospitality is enjoyed by all as a time to connect with our fellow church attendees. Volunteers make coffee and tea and provide cookies, crackers, pastries and other treats. We are looking for more people to sign up for an occasional Sunday to avoid over-burdening our generous team of volunteers. You can sign up using the link under "Volunteer Opportunities" in the weekly newsletter and the bulletin. Questions? Contact Joan Fiorella at jmfiorella@gmail.com or Pete Hurd at phurd75@gmail.com.

Adopt-a-Classroom Volunteer Opportunity at UrbanPromise: As part of our ongoing partnership with UrbanPromise, FPCH has the opportunity to support a second grade class through their Adopt-a-Classroom program. There are meaningful ways members of our congregation can walk alongside students at UrbanPromise through tutoring, participating in classroom projects and community building activities. If you have interest in learning more about this volunteer opportunity, please contact Gene Spinelli at genespin@comcast.net.

The Social Connection will meet Monday, Feb. 16, in the Bean Parlor from 6:30 to 8 p.m. We will make placemats for Cathedral Kitchen, have some fun ice breaker games and play Bingo. Social Connection is for special needs adults and anyone else who wants to enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship.

It's almost time for Shrove Tuesday!

Sign ups are now available to help out with Shrove Tuesday! Use the link below to sign up!
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0848AAA923ABF58-61759110-first#/>

Join us for a fun-filled **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, happening on February 17th, from 5pm-7pm in Fellowship Hall.** Indulge in delicious, fluffy pancakes with all the classic toppings! Don't miss out on the excitement – there will be a raffle with amazing prizes up for grabs! **We are currently requesting donations of themed baskets or items that we can auction off at the event! Check the newsletter or Facebook for more details about the event!**



Coffee and Conversation about grief will meet from 9:30 to 11 a.m., **Saturday, Feb. 21,** in the Bean Parlor. No registration is required. Grief can be the loss of a loved one recently or years ago or may also be illness, loss of a job or a major life change. This is just a way to listen and support one

another. Questions? See Vani Elgart (velgart@comcast.net) or Deb Nussbaum (debranussbaum1987@gmail.com).

Communion Classes: Communion classes **will begin March 1st-22nd, and First Communion will be on April 5th (Easter)**. We thank you for your time and patience as we work through this and hope to see you March 1st! Please email dcamposferreira@haddonfieldpres.org if you would still like to sign up for Communion Classes!

Christian Heritage Class (Feb. 8th): A COMMUNION OF SAINTS: MARTYRS AND ASCETICS--AND THE TITULAR CHURCHES OF ROME. Persecution of Christians, which had been small and infrequent and a “local scapegoat kind of thing” in the early years when Christianity was a tiny faction, became more common and widespread as Christians were a “useful, frequently enthusiastic, scapegoats for misfortunes that befell the state.” The Roman state was generally tolerant of religious faiths. The failure to participate and sacrifice was seen as a betrayal of the state, that put it at risk of divine disfavor. **Pagans did not appreciate the Christian perspective that God did not work for their protection in this world but rather delivered them from its pain to the place he had prepared for them, presided over by Christ.**

2026 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Pledge Giving:	85,859	Budget:	455,000
Non-pledge giving:	8,432	Budget:	120,000
Per Capita:	1,120	Budget:	9,000
Loose:	424	Budget:	9,000

LAST WEEK’S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 170 in person and 28 online

Prayer List February 8, 2026

To add a request to the Prayer List please contact Rev. Marvin or email support@haddonfieldpres.org. When requesting prayers on behalf of others, obtain the permission of the person needing prayer. The requestor will have their name printed as the originator of the need. Prayers will be on the list for 30 days. After 30 days please contact Rev. Marvin or the support account for its continuance.

Please pray for these individuals and situations throughout the week:

- Please pray for a just and lasting peace wherever there is war and violence, especially in **Iran, Ukraine, Russia, the Middle East, Venezuela, and Sudan.**
- Pray that our church successfully implements our strategic plan (<https://bit.ly/3NaEXfl>).
- We pray for **liberty and justice for all.**
- Prayer requests from the Good Ladies visit to Camden County Jail:
 - **Tamiyah** – “God, thanks for everything you have done with me for the past two years. I ask you to please continue to open my eyes and show me your way of life. God, please guide me in the right direction. Show me the way. I need you more than anything right now because I need to heal and become a better version of myself.

Continue to provide my kids love and protection and support.”

- **Jackie** – Prayers for Jackie’s family. Pray that she will be safe when she sleeps. Heal Justin, her fiancé, and keep him safe. Prayers that Jackie will be with her family soon. Thanks for blessings and strength to get through each day.
- **Michele** – Prayers for family and ladies that are moms and are new moms. Thanks to the “wonderful ladies” that come to the jail.
- **Monique** -- Prayers for forgiveness of sins and guidance on the right path. Pray for patience and to remove bad decisions and grudges so she can forgive and forget. Prayers for her family and friends.
- **Kania** – Prayers for Kania, age 30, who just had a baby, Ashanti, one month ago. Pray that Kania can change and not return to drugs, and for strength to be the best mom, daughter, cousin, etc. “It’s time for a change.”
- **Ariana** – Prayers for Ariana’s family, especially her mom and father who are struggling with faith and substance. Pray that God will touch, guide them and heal them. Prayers for Ariana’s case that there is justice and for her health and healing of a tumor that was just discovered.
- **Aleesa** – Prayers for her purpose in life and the reason for the air breathed. Thanks for health and happiness, for her land and farm. Pray for strength amid the struggle. “This is my first experience with the ‘Good Ladies’ which is very calming and healing, hearing other voices and opinions with God and about God. You can feel his presence and love.”
- **Tiffany** – Prayers for Craig, Tiffany’s child’s father, who is going through massive struggles. Her daughter needs her father in Tiffany’s absence. Pray that Craig’s financial struggles will be relieved. Prayers for better health and joy for Savannah, Tiffany’s six-year-old daughter. Prayers for restoration for the relationship between Tiffany and her eldest daughter.
- **Hannah** -- Prayers for strength for her children and that the judge will be sympathetic and let her go back to her family on her next court date.
- **Alicia** -- Prayers for Alexa, Ella, her mother (who is sickly), her bus driver friend, D.D, Alicia and Ken.
- **Romona** – Prayers for her mental health and that the judge will transfer her to a mental health facility. Prayers for Dios, Maria and Nancy.
- Remember **Lysa Gatti** in your prayers, who is being treated for cancer (**02/04-M. Lindsay**).
- Remember **Cathy MacDonald** in your prayers, who is undergoing radiation treatments for cancer during February (**01/28-C. MacDonald**).
- Please thank God in your prayers that **Mika Burrage** is now in REMISSION from stage 4 metastatic cancer! Continue to pray for a cure for Mika (**1/14-S. Oswald**).
- Prayers of thanksgiving for **Rose Guthrie** who rang the bell Friday after completing radiation therapy to remove a benign brain tumor (**1/16-M. Lindsay**)!
- Let us pray for **Judy Grantham’s** continued recovery from multiple recent health challenges (**1/12-M. Lindsay**).
- Please pray for the family and friends of **Rick Sewall** who died Sunday, January 11 (**1/12-M. Lindsay**).
- We give thanks that **Carol Carty’s** cancer treatments have concluded, and we pray for her recovery from eye surgery (**1/11-L. Hurd**).
- Prayers for **Linda Carpenter’s Aunt Jean** who's in hospital recovering from surgery for a broken femur sustained in a fall on Christmas Eve (**1/05-T. Carpenter**).

- Continued prayers are asked for **Gene** whose cancer treatments are ongoing. He appreciates the prayers **(1/05-R. Wright)**.
- Pray for **Linda**, Janet Shoemaker's neighbor, who is living with cancer **(01/05-J. Shoemaker)**.
- Pray for **Kathleen Federline** who was diagnosed with breast cancer **(12/17-L. Federline)**.
- Remember **Emily Salter** in your prayers. Emily is recovering from significant back surgery **(12/15-P. Woodland)**.
- Remember **Carolann**, who has been diagnosed with cancer, in your prayers **(12/15-J. Fiorella)**.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor - mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org
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 Kyrylo Chastukhin, Sunday Caretaker

CHURCH OFFICERS

For a list of elders who serve on the Session (the church's governing board) and members of the Board of Deacons (who care for members of the congregation), go to:

<https://www.haddonfieldpres.org/governance>



First Presbyterian Church
OF HADDONFIELD



STEPHEN
MINISTRY

(856) 429-1960 www.haddonfieldpres.com

"The unity of believers in Christ is reflected in the rich diversity of the Church's membership. In Christ, by the power of the Spirit, God unites persons through baptism regardless of race, ethnicity, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, geography, or theological conviction." (*The Book of Order* F-1.0403).