



First Presbyterian Church

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

April 19, 2026; 10:00 AM | Third Sunday of Easter

Guest WiFi Network: FPCHGuest | Password: FPCHwifi@06

GATHERING

Prelude "Joyful, Joyful" ~ arr. Valerie Stephenson (Whitechapel Bells)

Opening Sentences (Psalm 116, selected verses)

One: I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.

All: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,

One: in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

All: Praise the Lord!

* **Hymn** #610 "[O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing](#)"

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

One: Our trust in the resurrection gives us the courage to confess together the ways our faith and hope have not been set on God. When we confess, we name our sins and commit to turn toward the eternal life God calls us into. With that in mind we join our voices praying together.

***Prayer of Confession**

All: Merciful God, even as we proclaim the saving life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we fail to see the living Christ in our midst. We are preoccupied with our own well-being and success, forgetting your imperative to love our neighbor as ourselves. We choose to justify our actions instead of examining our intentions.

Show us again how to live a resurrection faith, a faith that sees life and hope in the midst of death and destruction. Melt our hardened hearts. May they once again be filled with love and moved to actions of grace and mercy. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

* **Silent Prayers of Confession**

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

One: The promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him. Receive the good news, children of God. You are forgiven.

All: Alleluia! 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.

Musical Offering: "Joyful, Joyful" ~arr. Audrey Snyder (TSMC and Chapel Choir)
with Delaney McGlade, solo

Time with the Children

Celebrating the Life of the Church

THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

All: Holy Creator, reveal yourself to us in the reading and proclamation of your Word. Give us ears to hear your voice, eyes that see you among us, and hearts that are willing to follow where you lead. In the name of Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

17 If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. 18 You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. 20 He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. 21 Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

22 Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. 23 You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

One: Holy wisdom, holy word.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Resident Aliens" Rev. Marvin Lindsay

* **Affirmation of Faith** "The Apostles' Creed," pp. 35 in the hymnal

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: "Let Us Pray for Peace" ~Thomas Keesecker (Chancel Choir with Loren Greer, solo)

* **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](#)"

Sending Music Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee - David Cherwien ~ 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

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.

WHITECHAPEL BELLS, our intergenerational handbell choir, finishes the choir year today. Thank you to: Audrey England, Joan Fiorella, Debbie Hagy, Karen Jones, Pat MacCluen, Ellie Murphy, Liz Olson, Larry Rugen, Warren Seddon, Kim Seibert, Mary Seibert, and Nicholas Adkins. Extra thanks go to Liz Olson, who has assisted director Nancy Ruth Wainwright this year, as well as many years in the past.

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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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.

THE FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are in memory of Victor and Dorothy Westermeier, given by their daughters, Betsy Westermeier and Vicky Malthamer.

Thank You for Your Legacy of Generosity

If you have already included the church in your will or beneficiary plans, thank you. Your future gift is a blessing and we would be grateful to know so we can honor your intentions.

REMINDER: PER CAPITA is due. For 2026 Per Capita is \$40.00 per confirmed member.

St. Wilfrids Update: We're now accepting warm weather clothing donations! We've distributed all of your generous winter clothing donations and now have the space to accept warm weather clothing. We need donations for people of all genders, sizes, and ages. (No used underwear or socks please). Please ensure that the clothing you donate is clean and in good condition. You can place your donations in the alcove closest to the playground doors.

Our stockpile of toiletries is running low, and we urgently need your help to replenish our supply. Our clients require essential items like toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, and soap, which are currently unavailable from the Food Bank. By donating these items, you'll not only provide our clients with health benefits but also help them save valuable money.

After-worship hospitality is enjoyed by all. Volunteers make coffee and tea and provide cookies, crackers, pastries and other treats. 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.

Coffee and Conversation about Grief will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m., Saturday, April 25, in the Bean Parlor. Whether your loss is recent or in years past, all are welcome. It's a time for talking and/or listening. If you would like more information, contact Vani Elgart at velgart@comcast.net or Deb Nussbaum at debranussbaum1987@gmail.com.

Social Connection will meet in the Parlor, 6:30 to 8 p.m., on Monday, April 27. Our evenings for adults of all abilities include art, Bingo, socializing and sometimes singing or exercise and games. If you would like to donate gift cards for Bingo prizes, leave them in the church office labeled Social Connection or give them to Joyce Stout, Peg Manochi, Katie Mueller or Deb Nussbaum at church. Thank you so much to all of you who have been great supporters of this ministry.

Great news – our Music Program fundraiser is off to an *amazing* start! Thank you to everyone in our congregation for the enthusiasm and generosity you've already shown. Your support is fueling something truly special.

Behind the scenes, we've been working hard to make sure our upcoming concert reaches as many people as possible. With the tremendous help of Kim Seibert and Margaret O'Neil, we've contacted nearly every major retirement



community and music studio within 20 miles, along with many of the area's larger churches, elementary music teachers, and well-known choirs such as the GSJC, NJMC, the Philadelphia Boys and Girls Choirs, and the Mosaic Children's Choir.

The response has been fantastic – **143 tickets sold so far**, and the excitement is growing. This event is shaping up to be a vibrant gathering for our entire community.

Thank you all for helping make this happen.

VBS is back! **Join us July 27th-31st from 9:00 AM-12PM, for a fun week!** Get ready to turn your summer into an unforgettable adventure with Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS 2026! We invite your kids to an exciting winter sports event, where they become Challengers, gearing up for frosty games, snowy surprises, and hands-on lessons about resilience and faith. If you are interested in helping with VBS two, three or five mornings that week, please email Lauren LaRosa Sewall at laurenl@haddonfieldpres.org or see Rachel Davis or Deb Nussbaum at church. We need adults to work in outdoor recreation, Bible story time, science, crafts and snack time. We also need teen helpers (6th to 12th grade) for the week. If you are available that week, please contact Eric Walker at ewalker@haddonfieldpres.org.



To help us serve you more thoughtfully, the Worship and Music Committee is conducting a Congregational Worship Survey over the next few weeks. Please scan the QR code and take a few minutes to share your perspectives.



Christian Heritage Class (April 19) **IMPOSING TRINITARIAN ORTHODOXY: EMPEROR THEODOSIUS AND THE EDICT OF CONSTANTINOPLE 381.** THE STATE IMPOSES A BELIEF ON THE CHURCH. Through the intervention of the state, Theodosius brought to a premature end a debate [about the Trinity] that was still vital and full of possibilities. The Church was forced, by the sheer weight of imperial power to acquiesce in a doctrine that had not come to fruition and that, if debate had been allowed to continue, might never have. No one can say whether the Greek tradition of free thought would have continued...or how intellectual life would have evolved without Theodosius' intervention...

2026 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Pledge Giving:	156,055	Budget:	455,000
Non-pledge giving:	34,072	Budget:	120,000
Per Capita:	6,435	Budget:	9,000
Loose:	2,466	Budget:	9,000

Prayer List
April 19, 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:

- We pray that First Presbyterian Church will be a vibrant, engaged, financially stable church community, living into our vision of Christ's joy, justice, and compassion in all, through all, and for all.
- Please pray for a just and lasting peace wherever there is war and violence, especially in **Ukraine** and the **Middle East**.
- We pray for **liberty and justice for all**.
- Prayer requests from the Good Ladies visit to Camden County Jail:
 - **Sheriee:** I want to pray for the goodness of God & thank Jesus for Easter. I would like you to pray for my peace of mind and to strengthen my faith. I would like to pray for my family and the human race, to cease war all over the country. I also want to pray for all the churches, including yours.
 - **Noell:** I pray that we all find safety within Christ Jesus' promise. I pray that we give him a chance to be God. I pray that we find love in him when we cannot find it in anyone else. Hallelujah Amen.
 - **Ashley:** Heavenly Father, I ask that you keep me protected, focused, sane, and my intuition on point. I ask you to keep my kids protected and angels near us fighting for us, and a circle of fire around us. Take this confusion away from me and show me what you need of me by our personal signs. Thank you in advance. I love you.
 - **Tracie:** I am asking you to pray for my children, their home & my husband. Please pray that the Lord will be with me on April 20th. Also pray that the prosecutor will allow me home & accept my counter offer. Please pray for my loved ones who are sick. Thank you; God bless you.
 - **Brandi:** My charges have been downgraded and now I ask that the judge rule in my favor for probation and time served so that I may go home. Thank you all for praying for me. I feel truly blessed.
 - **Dana:** Just allow me to thank you, Father, once again for another day in your world. I would like to ask you, Father, for deliverance & to grow closer for you & obey you & do as you want me to do & my son. I pray for strength and wisdom on my journey. Thank you. Amen.
 - **Janet:** I would appreciate a prayer for the Lord to continue to wake me up everyday so I can reunite with my children. Please pray that I am released from jail, so I can return to my children. Please pray that I will be healthy and safe, and have a happy home. Please pray that I will resolve all of my legal issues so I will never return to jail. Please pray for my children to remain safe, healthy, intelligent, and happy. Please pray for my family, friends, and everyone who is standing in the need of prayer. Thank you!

- **Jamie:** I ask for you to pray for my son Nicholas, and my husband David and my family, the Morrisseys.
- **Jaleesa:** I ask for prayer for my whole family, prayer for myself to help understand the things I cannot change, also for the reason some things happen for whatever reasons. For my new bestie Michelle, and her family, that she is safe and is doing okay.
- **Veronica:** Lord, I give you thanks for bearing what you have given me. Lord, I ask you to take care of my children, guide them on a good path. I ask you for my father and the people around me who are always looking out for me, do not leave me alone on my way, accompany me wherever I go. In the name of your Son Jesus, Amen. This Monday I have my last court where they let me go, but immigration will detain me. I thank you for everything.
- **Jaclyn:** Needing prayers for a court date of May 8th. That I am released & my innocence comes to light. I crave justice & freedom. Also, prayers for my family & my fiancé, that they are safe, healthy, happy.
- **Morgan:** Prayers for recovery for my sister Ellen. Prayers for salvation and a change of heart for my sister Danielle. Prayers for strength, bravery, and reunification with my daughters Ivy and Willow. Prayers for my lawyer Eric for strength and perseverance. For discernment to my Judge Booth. For honesty from my prosecutor. Thank you, Jesus! Prayers for my friends Gia, Ammamaria, and Maryellen.
- **Anonymous:** I pray that I will be released on house arrest on the 17th, three weeks from now.
- **Quandaijah:** Pray for my family, my son Jaami, my mom Alverna, my cousin Destiny, my child's father Jamaal, my dad Quan, my sister Ashley, and Ms. Tanya. Thank you.
- **Anonymous:** Pray over Dr. Ferguson, over the things she does and is going through physically and mentally, that she only talks to God about. Pray over Nahmir, his health and safety while I am away, and over the ones who keep him while I'm away. Lastly, pray over Superior Judge Ridgeblue and speak grace into her heart over my case and others.
- Prayers are asked for **Isabel Pross** who continues to be treated for cancer (4/8-W. Pross).
- Pray for **Carolann**, who is being treated for cancer (4/7-J. Fiorella).
- Continued prayers are asked for **Gene** whose cancer treatments are ongoing. He appreciates the prayers (4/7-R. Wright).
- Pray for **Grace**, her husband, **Bob**, and her parents, **Sue** and **Tad**. Grace had a seizure Feb 28th, and has been in ICU at Penn since then (4/6-B. Bell).
- Please pray for the family and friends of **Chris Gillies**, who died Easter Sunday morning (4/6-T. Bogetti).
- We ask for prayers for **Peggy Spellmeyer**, who underwent surgery on March 9 to repair a broken bone (3/9-L. O'Neill).
- Pray for **Allison MacDonald** who suffered a stroke on February 28 (3/04-K. Macdonald).
- Pray for **Kathleen Federline** who was diagnosed with breast cancer (3/4-L. Federline).
- Remember **Mike Gatti** and his family in your prayers. Mike's wife **Lysa** died Monday, March 2 (3/2).
- We ask for prayers for **John Lindsay**, Rev. Marvin's brother, who was recently diagnosed with glaucoma (3/2-M. Lindsay).
- Pray for **Faye Kessler**, who is recovering from a series of illnesses (3/1-L. Lindsay).

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor - mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org
Peter Leibensperger, Minister of Music, Asst. Head of Staff - pleibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org
Lucas Brown, Principal Organist - lbrown@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/leadership-policies>



First Presbyterian Church
OF HADDONFIELD



STEPHEN
MINISTRY

(856) 429-1960 <https://www.haddonfieldpres.org/>

"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).