



First Presbyterian Church

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

July 12, 2026; 10:00 AM | Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Guest WiFi Network: FPCHGuest | Password: FPCHwifi@06

GATHERING

Handbell Chimes – *The ringing of the chimes invites you to a time of Rest...Renewal...Hope*

Prelude

Lucas Brown, piano

Call to Worship (from Psalm 119:105-11)

One: All who walk in shadow, come into the light!

All: God's Word lights the way for us.

One: God has promised to abide with us,

All: so let us commit to walk in God's ways.

One: All who are afflicted, ensnared by the world, come, give praise to God.

All: God is the joy of our heart, our sure and certain comfort, come what may!

* **Hymn** #667 ["When Morning Gilds the Skies"](#)

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

One: God does not promise us a life without struggle or hardship; yet how often do we make what is already difficult even more so? But by the grace of God, the sorrows we inflict upon ourselves cannot last forever. Therefore, let us unburden ourselves, confessing the ways in which we struggle against God that we may receive that grace anew.

***Prayer of Confession**

All: Gracious Creator, you created this world and called it good, and out of it called a pilgrim people, chosen to abide with you and to bear witness to your reality. Yet we, who have been called "Beloved" by you, often find ourselves making peace with what does not give peace. Meet us in our weakness; turn our unwilling eyes upon our unruly hearts. Draw us away from our love of power, our tolerance of injustice, our ignorance of suffering. Drive us towards what is fearfully and wonderfully made, so that we may inspire hope, offer forgiveness, and love our neighbors through faithful living, according to the way of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*** Silent Prayers of Confession**

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

One: For those who are in Christ, there is no condemnation; for by Christ's death and resurrection, God has done what the law and works of human righteousness alone could not: breathed new life through the Holy Spirit into the world, turning it upside down. Believe this

scandalous, joyous good news: through Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and restored to new life. Alleluia! Amen!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

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

***Sharing the Peace of Christ** (Jude 2)

One: May mercy, peace, and love be in abundance with you.

All: And also with you.

Time with the Children

Celebrating the Life of the Church

THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

All: God, grant us hearts open to your grace, eyes open to your wonders and ears open to your Holy Word. Let your Holy Spirit dwell with us, that we may be renewed in our commitment to the way, the truth and the life of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

13 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 If you have ears, hear!"

18 "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 21 yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. 23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Sermon "How Does Your Garden Grow?"

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

GIVE THANKS

2026 Mission Trip Recognition

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: Lucas Brown, piano

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

* **Prayer of Dedication**

LEAVE TO SERVE

* **Hymn #273** “[He Is King of Kings](#)”

Sending Music Lord I Have Seen Thy Salvation - John D. Cooper ~ Lucas Brown, piano

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.

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 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**.

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.

REMINDER: [PER CAPITA](#) is due. For 2026 Per Capita is \$40.00 per confirmed member.

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.



What do FPC and P.J. Whelihan's have in common? **Trivia Night** sponsored by the Congregational Life Committee, of course! **Please join us on Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at 7 pm at P.J.'s 700 North Haddon Avenue** location for a fun night of socializing and friendly (hopefully!) competition, regardless of how much (or how little) trivia you know. **Please RSVP to Vani Elgart at: velgart@comast.net by July 20, 2026.** Hope to see you there!

The Prison Ministry is in need of some jigsaw puzzles for the ladies at the Camden County Jail. Please place them in the Prison Ministry closet or give them to Judy Blank or Karen Andres. We thank you for your generosity!

St. Wilfrid's Update: Our church community has been incredibly generous in donating clothing, diapers, wipes, and toiletries to our neighbors in Camden through The Open Door at St. Wilfrids. We have one more request: as the temperatures rise, box fans become a crucial need for the Camden community during the hot summer months. Most of the people we serve at St. Wilfrids cannot afford air conditioners or even the power to run them. Box fans are an excellent alternative that can make a significant difference for those we serve. They usually live in row homes or small apartments with limited ventilation. Box fans are available for purchase at Walmart and Target for \$20 to \$25. You can drop off your fan donation at the alcove closest to the Playground door. If its more convenient, you can have them sent to: Norman Valentine, 4223 Remington Ave, Pennsauken NJ 08110. Thanks for considering a fan donation.

Children's summer church runs through Sunday, August 9. The nursery will be open and available every Sunday. If you would like to help with Children's Church some Sunday or with Vacation Bible School from July 27-31, please contact Lauren Sewall (lauren1@haddonfieldpres.org) or Deb Nussbaum (debranussbaum1987@gmail.com).

VBS is only a couple of weeks away! We are still in need of Shepherds for VBS! To sign up you must be at least 12 years old. Scan the QR Code to sign up now!



2026 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Pledge Giving:	261,825	Budget:	455,000
Non-pledge giving:	49,547	Budget:	120,000
Per Capita:	8,295	Budget:	9,000
Loose:	4,404	Budget:	9,000

LAST WEEK'S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 53 in person and 25 online

Prayer List July 12, 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:
 - **Brandi** – Prayers for her sentencing on July 10 that it goes smoothly. Pray that Brandi gets 2 years' probation and will have housing, a cell phone and a job.
 - **Gabriel** – Pray that her tooth will heal. Prayers that everything goes well in court.
 - **Tiffany** – Thanks for all God's blessings on her. Prayers that God will continue to watch over her son, her mom and friends and family and Tiffany. Pray that Tiffany's work credits will apply to her new release date. Prayers that her son's mind, heart and physical body will be protected. Prayers that Tiffany will meet a future husband who is god-fearing/loving. Please guide Tiffany to a career/job and bless her with a daughter.
 - **Brianna** – Prayers for her step-father who passed away on June 24 after being on dialysis. Pray he is no longer in pain and is home with the Lord.
 - **Ediamond** – Thanks for waking Ediamond up today and providing energy and love. Thanks for the Good Ladies.
 - **Phillaina** – Prayers for Shaunte, Danielle and her kids and grandkids (Zyanah, Manaislia, Bra'don, Chris and N'Pyeyah, Katyyah, A'Hil, Azaneigh, Ckai'Moni). Pray that Phillaina will reconnect with God.
- Remember **Susan Waller** in your prayers who recently suffered a stroke (**7/2-L. Lindsay**).
- Pray for the people of **Venezuela** who are mourning, healing, and rebuilding after two devastating earthquakes (**07/02-S. Oswald**).
- Continued prayers are asked for **Gene** whose cancer treatments are ongoing. He appreciates the prayers (**7/1-R. Wright**).
- Remember the family and friends of **Dick Webster** in your prayers. Dick passed away June 16 at the age of 96 (**6/16-M. 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
Nancy Ruth Wainwright, Director of Children’s Choirs – nrwainwright@haddonfieldpres.org
Marisa McGovern, Preschool Director – preschool@haddonfieldpres.org
Eric Walker, Youth Director – ewalker@haddonfieldpres.org
Lauren Sewall LaRosa, Director of Family Ministries- lauren1@haddonfieldpres.org
Kris Bean, Business Manager – kbean@haddonfieldpres.org
Travis Bogetti, Building Manager – tbogetti@haddonfieldpres.org
Délia Campos-Ferreira, Office Assistant – dcamposferreira@haddonfieldpres.org
Kyrylo Chastukhin, Sunday Caretaker

CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session
(David Stedman, Clerk)

Elders, Class of 2026	Elders, Class of 2027	Elders, Class of 2028
Vani Elgart	Kristin Carberry	Rebbeca Earnhardt
Lee Federline	Lisa Hurd	Katie Nelson-Mueller
Lexa Liggera (youth)	Rich Kouhoupt	Mark Oswald
Brian McGlade	Deb Nussbaum	Steve Pazan
Margaret O’Neil	Peter Seibert	Betsy Westermaier
Gene Spinelli	Maggie Sell	Barry Wilhjelm
Rich Woodland		

The Board of Deacons

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Thomas Andrews (youth)	Kathy Bell	Terry Carpenter (chair)
Michael Liggera	Joan Fiorella	Pete Hurd
Peg Manochi	Jim Groeling	Jack O'Malley
Liz Olson	Pat MacCluen	Cheryl Federline Peric
Sophia Oswald	Janet Shoemaker	Larry Rugen
Finnley Ritter (youth)	Judy Sikora	Jeremy Scott
John Wackes	Diane Thorne	Alan Stedman
		Sally Seddon



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).