



# *First Presbyterian Church*

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

July 26, 2026; 10:00 AM | Ninth 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

**Opening Sentences** (Psalm 19, selected verses)

One: The decrees of the Lord are wonderful!

**All: The unfolding of God's word gives light and understanding.**

One: Turn to us, O God, and be gracious to us.

**All: Make your face shine upon your servants.**

\* **Hymn** #267 ["Come, Christians, Join to Sing"](#)

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

One: We need to begin again for we have fallen short of the glory of God. So we come into God's presence seeking a fresh start. With confidence that God hears our prayers, let us confess our sins.

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**All: God of grace, we want to know you and understand your ways, but our minds are clouded by the cares and concerns of the world. We fail to trust your power, hidden in all things. We do not watch for you working out your purposes in mysterious ways. Our faith and discipleship is not whole-hearted. We do not put our trust in the treasures of your kingdom; instead, we invest in the treasures of the world.**

Gracious God, hidden and manifest, give us eyes to see and ears to hear your good news. Transform our lives and our world by your grace.

**\* Silent Prayers of Confession**

**\*Declaration of Forgiveness**

One: The empires of this world will rise and fall, but the mercy of the Lord is neverending. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**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: Bear with one another, and if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other;

just as the Lord has forgiven you. The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## **Time with the Children**

### **Celebrating the Life of the Church**

#### **THE WORD**

##### **Prayer of Illumination**

**All: Inspire us, Creator God, by your Holy Spirit, that the words we read on the page might become living words in our lives as we encounter the grace, love and peace of Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

##### **Scripture Reading**

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

31 He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; 32 it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

33 He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

44 "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; 46 on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; 48 when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. 49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50 and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

51 "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." 52 And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

**One: The word of the Lord.**

**All: Thanks be to God.**

##### **Sermon**

"Small Is Beautiful"

Rev. Marvin Lindsay

##### **\* Affirmation of Faith**

(from "The Barmen Declaration")

**All: As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures.**

**We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords — areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him.**

## 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:

Barry Wilhjelms and Sam Milone

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

\* **Prayer of Dedication**

## LEAVE TO SERVE

\* **Hymn #649** "[Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound](#)"

**Sending Music** I Really Love the Lord - Jimmy Dowell ~ 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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## NEWS AND EVENTS

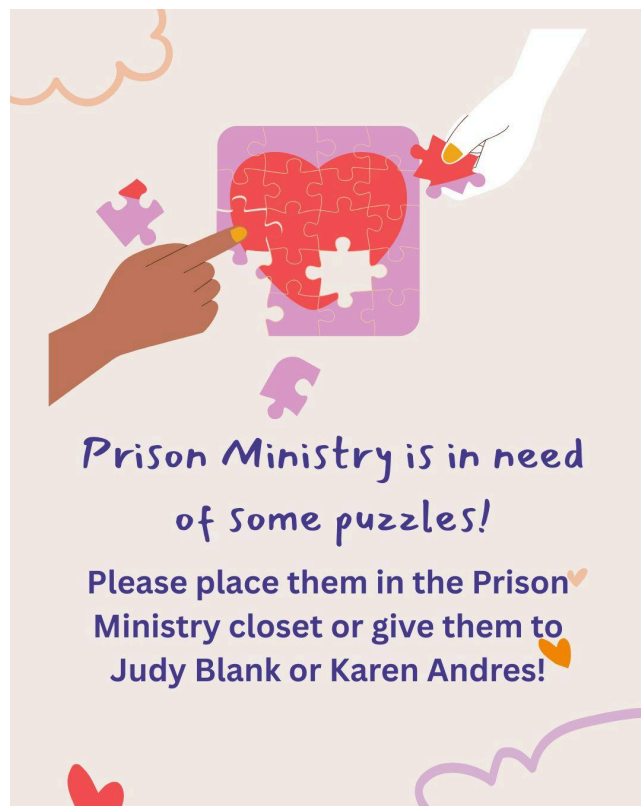
**TO REQUEST A RIDE TO WORSHIP**, call the church at 856-429-1960, ext. 103. Leave a message (including your phone number), and a deacon will call you back regarding your request.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:jmfiorella@gmail.com) or Pete Hurd at [phurd75@gmail.com](mailto:phurd75@gmail.com).

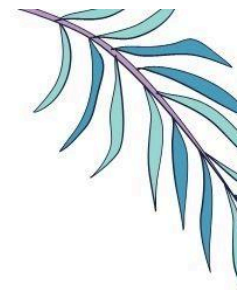
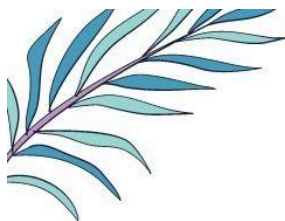
**REMINDER: [PER CAPITA is due](#).** For 2026 Per Capita is \$40.00 per confirmed member.

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](mailto:pegmanochi@gmail.com) or message her at 609-230-4158.



**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.



## **Stephen Ministry is Ready to Help!**

If you or someone you know is navigating a significant life crisis or difficult transition, a Stephen Minister might be right for you. Please reach out to either Lisa Hurd or Donna George to have a confidential conversation about what a Stephen Minister can do for you.

Lisa Hurd [lhurd330@gmail.com](mailto:lhurd330@gmail.com) 856 220-7363

Donna George [djheffel@icloud.com](mailto:djheffel@icloud.com) 856 857-7795



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 ([laurenl@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:laurenl@haddonfieldpres.org)) or Deb Nussbaum ([debranussbaum1987@gmail.com](mailto:debranussbaum1987@gmail.com)).

**VBS starts tomorrow! 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!**



|                    |         |                 |
|--------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Pledge Giving:     | 272,687 | Budget: 455,000 |
| Non-pledge giving: | 50,567  | Budget: 120,000 |
| Per Capita:        | 8,535   | Budget: 9,000   |
| Loose:             | 4,458   | Budget: 9,000   |

**LAST WEEK'S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:** 78 in person and 17 online

### Prayer List July 12, 2026

To add a request to the Prayer List please contact Rev. Marvin or email [support@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto: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.

- Please remember **Donna** and **Bruce** in prayer as they await a diagnosis and treatment plan (7/17-C. Carty).
- Keep **Marie** and **Steve** in your prayers as they discern the plans to repair a hip after several hip revisions (7/17-C. Carty).
- Please hold **Marge Groeling** in your prayers. She has recently started treatment for cancer (7/12-R. Wright).
- Pray for **Linda Nussey**, who is recovering from a fall and subsequent surgery on her leg (7/12-R. Wright).
- 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](mailto:mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org)  
 Peter Leibensperger, Minister of Music, Asst. Head of Staff – [pleibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:pleibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org)  
 Lucas Brown, Principal Organist – [lbrown@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:lbrown@haddonfieldpres.org)  
 Nancy Ruth Wainwright, Director of Children's Choirs – [nrwainwright@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:nrwainwright@haddonfieldpres.org)  
 Marisa McGovern, Preschool Director – [preschool@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:preschool@haddonfieldpres.org)  
 Eric Walker, Youth Director – [ewalker@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:ewalker@haddonfieldpres.org)  
 Lauren Sewall LaRosa, Director of Family Ministries – [lauren1@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:lauren1@haddonfieldpres.org)  
 Kris Bean, Business Manager – [kbean@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:kbean@haddonfieldpres.org)  
 Travis Bogetti, Building Manager – [tbogetti@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:tbogetti@haddonfieldpres.org)  
 Délia Campos-Ferreira, Office Assistant – [dcamposferreira@haddonfieldpres.org](mailto:dcamposferreira@haddonfieldpres.org)  
 Kyrlo 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 Kouhought        | 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) | Kathi 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).