



First Presbyterian Church

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

August 16, 2026; 10:00 AM | Twelfth 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

Opening Sentences (Psalm 67)

One: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

One: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

One: The earth has yielded its increase; God has blessed us.

All: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere the Lord.

*** Hymn** #465 "[What a Friend We Have in Jesus](#)"

***Invitation to Experience God's Grace** (based on Romans 11:32)

One: Scripture says we are "imprisoned in disobedience," but that God is merciful to all. We live in the tension of knowing that the Lord is quick to forgive and recognizing that we need to be forgiven. We also live in the tension of knowing that Christ is making all things new and recognizing that our broken world needs to be transformed. From the discomfort of this tension, let us offer a prayer of confession.

***Prayer of Confession**

All: Merciful God, your world cries out. The fruits of our disobedience are harming your creation. You tasked us to be good stewards of your creation and we have fallen short. You challenged us to love God and love our neighbor, and we have failed to show that love. You promise to bring all people joyfully together in a house of prayer on your holy mountain. We find ways to stay apart.

Bring us together, O Lord. Empower us with a spirit of love for you and love for all our neighbors. Help us live lives of service to you so that all your children will know your peace. Forgive us when we fall short and continue to transform your world, leading us to your promised kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen.

*** Silent Prayers of Confession**

***Declaration of Forgiveness** (based on Romans 11:29)

One: Will God reject God's people? By no means! For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. God will be merciful to all. Hear and believe this good news—in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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**

One: As God in Christ has forgiven us, let us forgive one another. 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: God of every time and place, may your Spirit move among us so that the words we hear and the words we speak will be to your glory, will lead towards justice, and will reveal to us your salvation and deliverance. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 15:10-28

10 Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: 11 it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." 12 Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" 13 He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. 14 Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." 15 But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." 16 Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? 17 Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? 18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. 19 For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. 20 These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

21 Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22 Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." 23 But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." 24 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." 26 He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." 27 She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." 28 Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

One: Happy are those who delight in God's Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Boundaries”

Rev. Marvin Lindsay

* **Affirmation of Faith** “The Apostles’ Creed,” pp. 35 in the *Glory to God* 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: “I Know that My Redeemer Liveth” ~ Kelly Leibensperger

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

* **Prayer of Dedication**

LEAVE TO SERVE

* **Hymn #317** “[In Christ, There is No East or West](#)” †

Sending Music We Are Standing on Holy Ground - Geron Davis

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 be photographed, please email support@haddonfieldpres.org to opt out of photographs for church communications.

NEWS AND EVENTS

The Session has called a **congregational meeting for Sunday, August 30**, to act on a proposal to sell the Wezner House at 20 Chestnut St. Please plan to attend this important meeting.

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.



Interested in membership at First Presbyterian Church? We would like your input as we create a new member class for this fall. Would you take just a couple of minutes to fill out this short survey? We would appreciate it! Use the QR code or the link below. If you're already a member of First Presbyterian and know someone who is interested in joining our congregation, please share this link or the QR code with them!

<https://forms.gle/LjCXGQAHicaVK7YK6>

Philippians Bible Study, Sundays at 9:00am, Aug. 30–Sept. 20. Paul's letter to the church in Philippi is a brief and warm expression of love and concern for a congregation he founded and continues to support him from a distance. Philippians has four chapters, and this study will last four weeks, a chapter per week! We'll gather in the first room on the right on Floor 2R.

Women's Bible Study Online: Thanks to the Presbyterian Women we are starting a Bible Study online where we will spend the school year studying 1 Corinthians, Paul's letter written between 54-57 AD from Ephesus. Paul addresses church divisions, moral questions and much more in this rich book of the Bible. We will be using the same book used by our PW group. Lisa Hurd and Deb Nussbaum will direct the study, but any members are welcome to take turns leading. The book is \$15. We plan to meet on the third Wednesday of the month, starting on Wednesday, September 16. We will meet from 7:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. We will end with prayer requests and prayer time. If you would like to join this study or have a friend who would like to join, please contact Deb at debranussbaum1987@gmail.com or Lisa at lhurd330@gmail.com.

On Monday, August 24th at 3PM and on Wednesday, August 26th at 7pm on Zoom, the Stephen Leadership team will offer information sessions on our exciting and growing Stephen Ministry. These sessions will provide an overview of this important Ministry and what is involved in becoming a Stephen Minister. Becoming a Stephen Minister is a life-transforming experience—an opportunity to serve God, help others, and grow in faith.

Our congregation is one of more than 13,000 worldwide, representing 160 Christian denominations that provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people experiencing a crisis or going through a difficult time through Stephen Ministry.

Prayerfully consider attending an Information Session, hear from our Stephen Ministers about their experience, and learn how to become involved in this important ministry.

August 24th @ 3PM Stephen Ministry Office

August 26th @ 7pm via Zoom

Please let one of us know if you plan to attend

Lisa Hurd, Stephen Leader, (lhurd330@gmail.com)

Joyce Stout, Stephen Leader (joyce.stout@jefferson.edu)

Donna George, Stephen Leader (djheffel@icloud.com)

Want more information about Stephen Ministry?

<https://www.stephenministries.org>

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: Last Call for Summer Clothing Donations plus "WE NEED SIZE 4 DIAPERS" An important part of the services we provide at The Open Door at St. Wilfrids is clean clothing in good condition. Over the years our members have been very generous in their clothing donations. Due to limited storage space this is a "Last Call" for your summer clothing donation. Do you have any summer clothing you've barely worn this year? Then give yourself some closet space and drop those items off in the alcove closest to the playground. Our neighbors in Camden will be grateful. On another note, we are completely out of Size 4 diapers and we are wiped out of Baby Wipes. Both Mamas and Babies alike will thank you for your donation of these items.

The nursery will be open and available every Sunday. If you would like to help with Children's Church some Sunday, please contact Lauren Sewall (lauren1@haddonfieldpres.org) or Deb Nussbaum (debranussbaum1987@gmail.com).

2026 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Pledge Giving:	289,954	Budget:	455,000
Non-pledge giving:	52,932	Budget:	120,000
Per Capita:	8,575	Budget:	9,000
Loose:	4,720	Budget:	9,000

LAST WEEK'S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 64 in person and 12 online

Prayer List August 16, 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:
 - **Karen Q.** – Prayers that Karen will be able to go home after her court date. Pray for Karen's dad, son, Angel, and boyfriend, Patrick.
 - **Hannah** -- Prayers for her court date, her grandma, her release date and her soul.
 - **Rosa** -- Prayers for her daughter who she constantly thinks about. Pray that she will be released to be with her daughter and her family.
 - **Brianna** -- Prayers that she will stay sober and continue to think straight with life on the outside of jail.
 - **Annie** – Prayers for Annie.
 - **La Shanda** – Prayers for her family, children and her mother's health. Pray for La Shanda's health and her upcoming court date. Pray for her release and return to her family.
 - **Tiffany**– Prayers of gratitude for all the things and love she experiences. Pray for her son, Mark, and his peers as they begin the football season. Keep them safe during practice and the games. Thanks for Tiffany's mother and Mr. Sam. Give Tiffany patience. Pray that her work credits and good time count towards her release.

- **Takia** –Prayers that she will be with her children soon.
- **Alisha** – Prayers for her family and loved ones. Pray for a court date to be scheduled soon and the verdict to be in her favor.
- **Karen D.** –Prayers for her children, Dale and Morgan, and for her whole family, friends and fellow inmates.
- **Desiree** – Prayers for her release and transition back home.
- **Chanelle** - Pray for Caine who's going through a hard battle of depression. Pray she will not lose herself but that God will touch her and clear her mind and take away the pain.
- **Rachel** – Prayers for her children and family. Pray her time in the jail will pass quickly so she can return to her family. Prayers that her time at CCJ will be useful and helpful as possible.
- Prayers for **Kamaiaha and Joselyn**.
- Continued prayers are asked for **Gene** whose cancer treatments are ongoing. He appreciates the prayers **(8/3-R. Wright)**.
- Remember **Peter Leibensperger and his family** in your prayers. Peter's grandmother Miriam died after a lengthy illness **(8/2-P. Leibensperger)**.
- 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)**.

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- lauren@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	Rebecca 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).