



First Presbyterian Church

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

October 4, 2026; 10:00 AM | 19th 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 Let us Break Bread Together - Martha Sobaje ~ Lucas Brown, organ

Opening Sentences (Luke 13:29)

One: People will come from east and west,

All: from north and south,

One: and will eat in the kingdom of God.

All: Thanks be to God for welcoming us to the table.

*** Hymn** #525 ["Let Us Break Bread Together"](#)

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

One: Sin is a stumbling block in the path to God's realm. Repentance clears a path to hearing and receiving God's truth. Let us confess our sins together.

***Prayer of Confession**

All: Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

*** Silent Prayers of Confession**

***Declaration of Forgiveness** (Isaiah 43:1, 19)

One: Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace of Jesus Christ, we 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** (Ephesians 4:32)

One: Be kind to one another, and tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

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: "Yesu Kwetu Ni Rafiki" by Mark Burrows (Matty Hall and Colin Scott, percussion)
(Chapel Choir, Thomas Sherrerd Choir, and Chancel Choir)

Doxology: #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Time with the Children

Celebrating the Life of the Church

THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

All: Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.

Scripture Reading Matthew 21:33-46

³³ "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes?'

⁴³ "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a

people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

One: The wisdom of God for all people, the call of God to all who live.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“All Along the Watchtower”

Rev. Marvin Lindsay

* **Affirmation of Faith** “The Apostles’ Creed,” pp. 35 in *Glory to God*

GIVE THANKS

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, Holy, Holy 552

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D) (D) (A) (D)

F C F B^b C F

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the

(A) (D#) (F#m) (G) (A) (Bm)

C F/A Am B^b C Dm

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

(G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)

B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

full of your glo - ry: Ho - san - na in the high - est.
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

TEXT: Traditional hymn
MUSIC: American folk melody; adapt. Marcia Pruner, 1980; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984
Music Adapt. © 1980 Church Pension Fund
Music Arr. © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

One: You are holy, O God of majesty... that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

SERVICE MUSIC

553 Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D) (A) (D#) (F#m)

F C F B^b C F C F/A Am

Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

(G) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)

B^b C Dm B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

TEXT: Traditional hymn
MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984
Music Adapt. © 1988 GIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

One: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us... with the Holy Spirit in the holy

church, now and forever.

554 Amen

Capo 3: (G) (A) (Bm) (G) (A) (Bm) (G) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
B $\flat$ C Dm B $\flat$ F C Dm Gm7 C F#us F



A - men, a - men, a - men.

TEXT: Traditional text
MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Prosser, 1995
Music Arr. © 1995 CIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

The Lord's Prayer, pp. 35, *Glory to God*
Breaking of Bread
Communion of the People
Prayer

LEAVE TO SERVE

*Hymn #707 ["Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"](#)

Charge and Benediction

Choral Amen

Sending Music Fanfare - Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens ~ 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.

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.

Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with Permission Under One License #740987-A. 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.

The Flowers in the Sanctuary are in memory of Elsie L. Sellon given by John and Virginia Dowd and in memory of Evelyn G. Westermeier and Evelyn G. Feinberg, given by the Westermeier family.

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.

CHURCH PICNIC - Join us today after service for a picnic in Fellowship Hall, hosted by the Deacons!

EMBRACING RACE - The Conversation invites you to a Conversation with Rev. Dr. Robert Turner on **Thursday, October 8th, 7-8:30 pm in person** at **Hope Church, 700 Cooper Road, Voorhees Twp, NJ**. Rev. Turner is the author of Creating a Culture of Repair - Taking Action on the Road to Reparations. Whether you are all in for reparations, or you don't think this is the way to go, or you're somewhere in between --you'll want to be a part of this important conversation! Pre-REGISTER HERE: <https://forms.gle/yi1SmwNirZ3we7HQ9>. For more info contact embracing.race.conversation@gmail.com.

The Social Connection, our evening of fun and friendship for adults of all abilities, will meet **Tuesday, Oct. 20**, in the church Hospitality Room from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Our November meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 17. For more information, email Joyce Stout at billandjoyce1@aol.com or see Joyce, Peg Manochi, Katie Mueller or Deb Nussbaum at church. We always need gift cards for Bingo prizes.

Back by popular demand (and perhaps a second chance to claim the FPC Trivia champ title): **Trivia Night** sponsored by the Congregational Life Committee. Please join us on Wednesday, **October 21, 2026 at 7 pm** at **P.J. Whelihan's 700 North Haddon Avenue** location for a fun night of socializing and friendly competition, regardless of how much (or how little) trivia you know. Please RSVP to Vani Elgart at: velgart@comcast.net by October 19, 2026. Hope to see you there!

Coffee and Connection, our grief support group, will meet again on Saturday, November 7, in the church parlor from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Join us for a warm and welcoming conversation where you can speak or just listen as we talk about loss. For more information, email Vani Elgart at velgart@comcast.net or Deb Nussbaum at debranussbaum1987@gmail.com.

Prison Ministry: Check our **Newsletter** to learn more about what Prison Ministry is about and how you can be a part of it. Thank you for your donations of puzzles, they are greatly appreciated!

St. Wilfrid's Update: Christmas gifts are being accepted! Unopened/unused items for kids up to age 14. We value all contributions, especially gender-neutral options like games and crafts. Books

are also an excellent choice! Check the Newsletter for Amazon and Walmart wishlists, but they can also be bought anywhere. Items can be mailed or left on Corey Crumley's front porch at 40 Warwick Road, Haddonfield NJ 08033. For questions, email Corey at crumleyc@gmail.com or Larissa Willison at spiderquake@comcast.net.

Feed Our Starving Children: Registration is now open to volunteers!

<https://tinyurl.com/372tu43n>

2026 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Pledge Giving:	348,131	Budget:	455,000
Non-pledge giving:	66,678	Budget:	120,000
Per Capita:	10,895	Budget:	9,000
Loose:	5,584	Budget:	9,000

LAST WEEK'S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 93 in person and 16 online

Prayer List October 4, 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:
 - **Octavia:** Please pray that I can change for the better and prayers for my sister, Sakeeta who is ill and in pain. My prayers that we both can fight the issues in our lives with the help of God. Thank you for sending Judy and Paul here today.
 - **Tiffany R.:** Please pray for a safe and easy transition to prison, a fast release to halfway house and a successful journey. Please pray for continued communication with my children and for loving reunification with them. Please pray for my mother, Patricia, for sound mind and good health. Thank you for all your prayers during my 4 years here. May God bless you always. To the "Good Ladies" Judy, Karen, and Beth, and "Good Laddie", Paul. I love you. Continue the good work. God Bless You!
 - **Brittany:** Please pray for me and my family and allow God to show the judge my heart and give me the strength to walk through this temporary nightmare.

- **Nyasia:** Pray for protection and good health for me and my family. I pray for a new environment to grow and become a better person. Please pray for everyone that is at CCCF with me. Pray for strength for me to grow and leave my past behind and serve a good purpose in life. I pray that when I leave here, I find a career in life and keep it for a long time.
- **Karen:** I would like to ask if you can pray for me to go home. Please look out for my son and my dad as well.
- **Shauntae:** I pray for a court date, and that I get time served, so I can go home sooner. Thank you in Jesus' name. Amen.
- **Tiffany J:** I want to thank God for being all powerful and loving, the Holy Spirit for being my comforter and giving peace and protecting my heart and mind. Thank you, Jesus, for being my savior and dying for my sins. Please continue to bless me, my mom, and my son, Mark, especially through his high school and teenage years. Please pray for his safety and discernment. Please continue to give me peace and patience as I run to the finish line.
- **Jaclyn:** Prayers for freedom soon and a good resolution to finally end my case. Pray for justice and that my innocence comes to light.
- **Desiree:** I was sentenced to 364 days in jail and will have served my time on 9/8/26. I also have to serve time in PA and pray that I can go home with time served.
- **Shiree:** Please pray for the Browning family.
- **Rachel:** Please pray for my children and my upcoming release. That I stay strong and keep my faith. that I walk in his light more every day. That I stay on his path and keep evil from my life. That he may use me to help others and strengthen their faith as well as plant seeds in their hearts.
- **Morgan:** Prayers for courage, safety, health, salvation, happiness and success for my daughters, Willow and Ivy; my sisters Danielle and Ellen; my nieces and nephews and mother Laurie. Prayers for Officers Hilliard and Merrero, and my prosecutor Cynthia. Pray for my attorneys, Lora, Eric, James, Jack. Pray for justice in my case.
- **Nicole:** I would like prayers for my two boys, Nicholas and Tyler as well as my whole family. I am really struggling for another chance at freedom. Pray for my fear to dissolve. I want to gain strength to get my life together. I am trying really hard to stay positive.
- **Anonymous:** Praying for an easy transition between being in jail and getting my life back together afterwards including a place to live. I pray I can get the strength to stay sober.
- **Anonymous:** Please pray for me and my fellow inmates, the correction officers, and the judge. Please pray for my son, Dale, and my daughter Morgan as well as my AA friends and sponsor.
- Please hold **Margie Groeling** in your prayers. She has recently started treatment for cancer (9/30-R. Wright).
- Remember **Christine Torigian** and **Mike Milone** in your prayers. Christine's mother **Rose** died September 25 (9/25-M. Lindsay).
- Please pray for **Brad Strauss** and his family, Amy, Jordan and Brogan as well as his medical team. Brad suffered a stroke on September 23rd. (9/24-R.Davis)

- Prayers for **Eilene** who is searching for a new retirement community that can accommodate her needs (9/17-J. Dowd).
- Please pray for **Karen** and **John**. Karen is suffering from a serious case of shingles (9/17-J. Dowd).
- Remember the family and friends of longtime member **Nancy Bowman**, who died on September 16 (9/17-M. Lindsay).
- We pray for **Al and Nancy Ruth Wainwright**, whose home was damaged by a lightning strike on September 1 (9/2-M. Lindsay).
- Please pray for **Courtney Liggera and her family**. Courtney's father, Bruce, passed away after a long illness. (8/30-C.Liggera).
- Remember **Dana Sewall Zahler**, cousin of Lauren Sewall and Lindsey Peterson, in your prayers. Dana continues to live with a stage four glioblastoma (8/17-L. Sewall).
- Continued prayers are asked for **Gene** whose cancer treatments are ongoing. He appreciates the prayers (8/17-R. Wright).
- 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).

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor – mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org
 Peter Leibensperger, Minister of Music, Asst. Head of Staff – pleibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org
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 Délia Campos-Ferreira, Office Assistant – dcamposferreira@haddonfieldpres.org
 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).