

First Presbyterian Church

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 3, 2023, 10:00 AM

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Lucas Brown, piano

Opening Sentences

One: The God of our ancestors calls us to worship **ALL: Praise the Lord!** One: Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. **ALL: Let us worship God!**

* Hymn #39 (insert)

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

* Invitation to Experience God's Grace

One: Sisters and brothers, with hope in the mercies of God, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

* Laying Down Our Burdens

Compassionate God, you have always cared for your people with infinite love and power. We gratefully acknowledge that you have unfailingly given to us that which is for our good. Still, we have turned away from you, and have sought instead to make our own way, to depend upon our own strength, to live by our own wisdom. We have been more concerned to defend ourselves than to glorify you. Forgive us for forgetting that in your hands, our lives are safe and secure. Free us by your Spirit from our urge to protect and promote ourselves, so that we can joyously lay down our lives for the sake of the Gospel, according to the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

*Silent Prayer

* Declaration of Forgiveness

One: The steadfast love of the Lord never ends. When we call out to God, God answers.

ALL: God saves us with a strong and outstretched hand. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and helped to live in grace. Amen.



* Celebrating God's Forgiveness #581 Glory Be to the Father

* Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Time with the Children

Celebrating the Life of the Church

THE WORD

* Prayer for Illumination

ALL: Holy Spirit, who spoke to Moses from the burning bush, speak to us now in the reading and proclaiming of your word. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Exodus 3:1–15

Sermon

A Question of Identity

Rev. Nikki Passante

* We Affirm our Faith The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

GIVE THANKS

Practicing Abundant Generosity <u>https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/give/now</u>



Offertory: *You Are Mine*, by David Hass; Nancy Ruth Wainwright, alto * Doxology #592 (below) *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* * Recommitting Our Lives to Service



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 up to the Lord.

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

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: Everlasting God, we thank you for commanding light out of darkness...

...we lift our hearts in joyful praise, for you alone are holy.

- ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!
- One: Living God, give us your Holy Spirit in the breaking of this bread... ...all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

- One: The Lord Jesus on the night of his arrest... Great is this mystery of faith:
- ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- One: This is the body of Christ broken for you... ...These are the gifts of God for the people of God.
- ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Distribution of the Elements Prayer

LEAVE TO SERVE

* Hymn #409 (insert) God Is Here!

* Charge and Benediction

Sending Music

Lucas Brown, piano

Please use the Postlude time and music to reflect on today's worship experience and how it will support you in the week to come.

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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 <u>email newsletter</u>, available on the church website. Subscribe on the <u>Contact Us</u> tab.

NURSERY care is available in the Hospitality Center – across from Fellowship Hall.

PASTOR NIKKI'S BIBLE STUDY THURSDAYS @ **7** – Pastor Nikki is hosting a Bible Study via Zoom on the book of Genesis entitled "Genesis: Relational and Family Dynamics." The reading schedule is linked on <u>the Adult Ed page</u> of the website. The Zoom link is <u>https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81798184993</u>, and we will also meet in person at predetermined times. Please contact Pastor Nikki if you have questions, or join us on Zoom!

PORCH BIBLE STUDY EVENTS:

- Fellowship Lunch, September 5th, Noon, Mulligan's Bar and Grill, 1208 White Horse Pike, Oaklyn.
- Bible Study, September 19th, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., Church Hospitality Room. Topic: the Book of Esther.
- October's Lunch (date TBD) will return to the Legacy Diner, 136 S White Horse Pike, Audubon.
- We will go back to 7 p.m. Zoom meetings in October, when we will study *Life Lessons in Colossians and Philemon* by Pastor Max Lucado. All are welcome. If you are interested in being on the Porch Study email list, contact Deb Nussbaum at <u>debranussbaum1987@gmail.com</u> or call the church office.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 8/27/23: 87 in person and 16 online.

2023 CHURCH OFFERING UPDATE – Please note that target numbers on the right now represent a 12-month budget.

•	Received to date	<u>Twelve-month budget goal</u>
Envelope Giving:	\$ 387,741.00	\$ 570,270.00
Loose Offering:	\$ 7,031.00	\$ 12,000.00
Per Capita:	\$ 8,777.00	\$ 16,000.00

CHERISHED women of First Presbyterian! If you're looking for a Bible study, a walking group, a quilting group, or any number of things, click here to check out the fall activities that Presbyterian Women are offering: <u>https://bit.ly/3R1dooF</u>

JUSTICE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- <u>September 10th</u> at 2:00 the League of Women Voters Kick-Off detailed in the flyer found in our on-line newsletter. At 3:30 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Rte. 70, Marlton, GREENFAITH Circle of South Jersey welcomes guest speaker Maya K. van Rossum, author of *The Green Amendment: The People's Fight for a Clean, Safe, and Healthy Environment.* <u>Thursday, September 14th</u> at 7pm Embracing Race- the Conversation will host Fair Share Housing at the Haddonfield Commons community room 400 Haddon Avenue.
- <u>Sunday, September 17th</u> there will be a March to End Fossil Fuels in New York City. For more details and to sign up go to <u>https://actionnetwork.org/events/faith-hub-the-march-to-end-fossil-</u><u>fuels?source=Medford</u>.

WE INVITE YOU to ring the church bells on Monday, September 11 at 8:46 AM, 9:03 AM, 9:37 AM, and 10:03 AM. We need your help! If you are or know a family member of a victim, or would otherwise like to honor them, please join us and help us ring. Contact Margot Dark <u>margotdark@msn.com</u> & let her know your availability ASAP.

COMING IN THE FALL:

Discipleship Class



When & Where: Sundays after worship in the Bean Parlor, Sept. 17 to Oct. 8. Wednesdays, Sept. 13 to Oct. 11, 7:00 PM, online. Register: For Sundays, use the first QR Code or go to <u>https://bit.ly/3OIzERz</u>. For Wednesdays, use the second QR code or go to https://bit.ly/3qzB6Oh.



What: In this four-week series, you'll explore how you can follow Jesus Christ through worship, service, and *membership* at First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield. Through reading the Bible and conversations, you'll learn how prayer and worship can strengthen your relationships with God and others, discover your calling to increase

peace, freedom, and human fulfillment in God's world, and learn how we as Presbyterians make decisions. You'll meet people seeking new connections and longtime members of FPC-Haddonfield. A building tour is included!

Discovering God's Vision For Your Life: You and Your Spiritual Gifts		
When:	Sunday mornings after worship beginning September 17th	
Where:	The Hospitality Center	
Contact:	Rev. Nikki Passante, <u>NPassante@HaddonfieldPres.org</u>	

What: Classes will begin on September 17th and will run for 6 weeks, through October 22nd. We will learn about our Spiritual Gifts- we'll both take a Spiritual Gifts Inventory and score it. Topics will include: *What Does God Want me to Do with My Life? Who Am I? What Makes me Unique? Your Calling. God's Vision and Your Vision Coming Together.* This offering is generously provided for by Stephen Ministries in St. Louis. All are welcome to attend.

THE CHANCEL CHOIR will hold its retreat Sept. 9 from 9:00am to 2:00pm. If you are interested in joining the Chancel Choir, the Choir Retreat is a great time to familiarize yourself with our members and our mission. Please contact Peter Leibensperger if you're interested: <u>PLeibensperger@haddonfeildpres.org</u>

NEW Backpacks and School Supplies Collection– We are now collecting backpacks and school supplies for kids served by Camden Community Center. Look for sales when you shop and bring donations to worship or drop off at the office. Needs include:

- · Erasers
- · Colored Pencils
- · Crayons
- · Glue Sticks

Calculator

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- · Handheld Pencil Sharpeners
- · Pencil Box or Pouch
- · 3-Ring Binders 1" or 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
- · Loose Leaf Filler Paper Wide Rule

- · Washable Markers
- · Watercolor Paint
- · Art Smock
- · 12″ Ruler
- · Junior Scissors with 5" Blunt Tip
- · Pocket Folders
- · Composition Notebooks
- · Tissue Packets
- Backpacks (esp. for Grades 3-8)

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Please pray for these individuals and situations throughout the week. If you would like to add a personal prayer request, please contact one of the pastors or the Office Administrator. In making requests on behalf of others, please obtain the permission of the person needing prayer. The requestor will have their name printed as the originator of the request. Pastors will revisit these requests every 30 days.

- Pray for the people, government, and country of **Ukraine** as war continues.
- Please pray for **Maui**. Pray for residents, the relief workers, the immense sense of devastation and loss, and the overwhelming grief and exhaustion that is encompassing the island.
- Pray for Florida and everyone in the path of Hurricane Idalia.
- Pray for the **families and the victims on August 23rd's mass shooting** in Trabuco Canyon, California, that left 3 people dead and 6 wounded **(8/30-pastors)**
- Keep **Franci and her son Declan** in prayers of comfort and peace, after the passing of Franci's mom from ALS **(8/29- L. Sommers)**

- Pray that God continues to hold **Susan** tightly as she continues in an experimental cancer treatment. Pray also that Susan feels the love and prayers from her friends and family **(8/29-C. Carty)**
- Pray for **Krystle and her daughter Penny** who are starting out on a new life (8/29-L. Sommers)
- Continue in prayers for Nancy as her cancer treatments continue (8/28-C. Carty)
- Pray for **Patrick** God knows the needs (8/28-pastors)
- Continue to keep Al and Ginny Ritchie in your prayers (8/26-pastors)
- Please pray for the **families of the 4 victims killed** in the mass shooting in Oklahoma City, OK on August 16th **(8/17-pastors)**
- Pray for the **family of Mary Stringfellow**, who passed this week and undoubtedly went on to a great reward! (8/17-pastors)
- Please pray for **Jeff** who is living with cancer, and pray also for his wife **Wanda** (8/9-Seddon family)
- Continued prayers for the health and healing of **Dottie Peatman (8/8- M. Westermaier)**
- Prayers for **Jacob Stefano**, age 9, who has been battling metastatic glioblastoma since age 3. Please ask for God's healing and loving grace upon this sweet little boy **(8/8-L. Kirsch)**
- Continue in prayer for **Amy and Brad Strauss**, that God continues to abide in their lives **(8/4-pastors)**.
- Keep **Todd** in your prayers that God would grant him every good thing in line with God's will **(8/3-N. Passante)**
- Please continue to pray for **Tony's ongoing recovery (8/3-MB Creamer)**
- Please pray for the **personnel at Cooper** who will be involved with Bud Miller's valve replacement, and **prayers of thanksgiving and praise** for the personnel who have been involved in his successful procedures! (8/2-B. Miller)
- Prayers for Isabel Pross as she continues cancer treatment (8/2-pastors)

Church Staff

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor and Head of Staff – <u>mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org</u> The Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante, Associate Pastor – <u>npassante@haddonfieldpres.org</u> Peter Leibensperger, Minister of Music – <u>pleibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org</u> Lucas Brown, Principal Organist – <u>lbrown@haddonfieldpres.org</u> Katie Beth McBurnie, Director of Children's Ministry – <u>kmcburnie@haddonfieldpres.org</u> Nancy Ruth Wainwright, Director of Children's Choirs – <u>nancyruthw@comcast.net</u> Marisa McGovern, Preschool Director – <u>preschool@haddonfieldpres.org</u> Kris Bean, Business Manager – <u>kbean@haddonfieldpres.org</u> Travis Bogetti, Building Manager – <u>tbogetti@haddonfieldpres.org</u> Ed Hess, Community Caseworker – <u>edwh517@aol.com</u> Office Administrator – officeadmin@haddonfieldpres.org