



First Presbyterian Church

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 8, 2023, 10:00 AM

GATHERING

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

Prelude “Yonder Come Day” by Michael Burkhardt
Chapel Choir and the Thomas Sherrerd Choir

Opening Sentences (Psalm 1)

One: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers, but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on God’s law they meditate day and night.

All: **They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.**

One: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,

All: **for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Hymn #694 “Great God of Every Blessing”

Invitation to Experience God’s Grace

One: Jesus calls us to enter the joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ’s invitation. Let us seek God’s forgiveness so that we may know more deeply the joy God intends.

Laying Down Our Burdens

All: **Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.**

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name.

Silent Prayer

Declaration of Forgiveness

One: Relentlessly God seeks us out. With abundant grace and boundless mercy, God seeks us out. This is good news!

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

* **We Celebrate God's Forgiveness** Hymn #579 "Gloria Patri"

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.**

Moore Bells "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" arr. Kevin McChesney

Time with the Children

Celebrating the Life of the Church

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination:

All: **Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Exodus 20:1-17 (Common English Bible)

20 Then God spoke all these words:

2 I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

3 You must have no other gods before me.

4 Do not make an idol for yourself—no form whatsoever—of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters under the earth. 5 Do not bow down to them or worship them, because I, the Lord your God, am a passionate God. I punish children for their parents' sins even to the third and fourth generations of those who hate me. 6 But I am loyal and gracious to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7 Do not use the Lord your God's name as if it were of no significance; the Lord won't forgive anyone who uses his name that way.

Prayers of the People and 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.

GIVE THANKS

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



Offertory: "If Ye Love Me" by Philip Wilby, Chancel Choir
* Doxology #592 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"
* Prayer of Dedication

LEAVE TO SERVE

Hymn #392 "Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"

Charge and Benediction

Choral Amen, Chancel Choir

Sending Music "Chaconne in G Minor" by Louis Couperin
Jeremy Strong, organ

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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THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given in loving memory of Dorcas B. Reilly by her husband Tom and family.

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 in the Hospitality Center - across from Fellowship Hall.

WORSHIP NOTES

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM *If Ye Love Me* by Philip Wilby

If ye love me, keep my commandments,
And I will pray the Father,
And He shall give you another Comforter,
That He may abide with you forever;
E'en the Spirit of Truth.
And ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you,
And shall be in you.
I will not leave you comfortless
I will come to you.

NEWS AND EVENTS

PORCH BIBLE STUDY: will meet on Zoom on Tuesday, November 7, at 7 p.m. Paul Urian will send the Zoom link. We will be doing a Pastor Max Lucado study on Colossians & Philemon. These studies are about applying the Bible to daily life and all levels of Bible readers/explorers are welcome. We will also have prayer time.

On Tuesday, October 10, at noon, Porchers and any friends who would like to join us, will meet at the Legacy Diner on the White Horse Pike at noon. In November, our Porcher lunch will be Tuesday, November 14, at noon. Location to be determined. If you are not on the Porcher email list, and would like to attend, please contact Jill Mascena or Deb Nussbaum at church or email Deb at debranussbaum1987@gmail.com. Our Porchers are always happy to take your prayer requests.

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 her to check out the fall activities that Presbyterian Women are offering: at www.haddonfieldpres.org/presbyterian-women.

Registration is open for the women of the Presbytery of South Jersey FALL GATHERING – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST ON ZOOM 9:45 – NOON. You can register for the zoom using the link found in the weekly email or on the website.

WALKING GROUP: Get your sneakers ready! On Tuesday, Oct. 10th, join PW Walkers for a brisk walk throughout the church neighborhood. Our walk will be approximately 2 miles long and should take less than an hour. Meet Linda Hess under the church portico at 10 AM where we will begin our walk together and time of fellowship.

SAVE THE DATE: The Advent Festival will be Sunday, December 3rd from 11am - 1pm: We are changing things up and having the festival after church, but the format will be the same...soup, sandwiches, desserts and crafts. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Cheryl Tarditi: cheryltarditi@gmail.com.

BIBLE BUDDIES: What's Bible Buddies? Bible Buddies is a group for families with young children (Infants-5th Grade) that periodically meets for events during the year. Playground After Church: From September-November and March-June, our group will meet on the playground after church from 11am-11:30am each week! Join us after church or if you just need to get out of the house on a Sunday.

Let's Talk! The Justice and Advocacy Committee ZOOM meeting will be on October 10, 2023 at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to join us in this safe space. Bring your ideas, questions and hope for a better future. To receive the Zoom link, please contact Rita Brown at rbrown6115@verizon.net.

Thursday, Oct. 12th The author of The Color of Law and Take Action, Richard Rothstein, will be the guest speaker during the Embracing Race - the Conversation 7pm zoom meeting. The meeting is open to everyone. You must email embracing.race.conversation@gmail.com to request the link. The Color of Law is a New York Times Best Seller and one of our book studies last year.

Sunday, Oct. 15th **GreenFaith in-person meeting at 3:30pm** in The Prince of Peace Church on Rte. 70, Marlton. This will be a follow-up to the presentation by Maya van Rossum, author of The Green Amendment (not to be confused with the Green New Deal.) Learn more at NJGreenAmendment.org.

STARTING October 1, you can have your blood pressure taken in the Bean Parlor following morning worship. Screenings will occur monthly. If any medical professionals are interested in supporting this ministry, please email Linda O'Neill at ElonMail@yahoo.com or Bonnie Manskopf at BonnieManskopf@yahoo.com.

CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CLASS - *Our 34th Year Learning about Our Lord Jesus Christ and His Church through an in-depth study of Church history, theology, art, music – and (sometimes!) pilgrimage travel.* Topic for Fall 2023: **Jesus and His Followers.** All are invited to join Church historian David Stedman after worship!

October 8: NO CLASS

October 15: Mary Magdalene: Apostle to the Apostles! Part 1 “I have seen the Lord!” Seeing is believing. St. Mary Magdalene, also called Mary of Magdala, (feast day July 22), is one of Jesus’ most celebrated disciples – famous, according to Mark 16:9-10 and John 20:14-17, for being the first person to see the resurrected Christ, and

then rushing to the Apostles to witness to His Resurrection. (She was also confused and conflated with other individuals in the Gospels.) Her witness and ministry as Apostola ad Apostolos has led many in the Roman Catholic Church to believe that women should be able to serve as priests. Illustrated lecture.

MISSION PARTNERS: The [Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council](#) is holding a dinner on **Saturday, October 21, 2023** from 6:00-9:00pm at the Catholic Church of St. Mary in Cherry Hill. A buffet dinner will be preceded by a social hour with appetizers. They will also have entertainment, a 50/50 and door prizes. Tickets are \$35. The dinner will include information about their plans to purchase a home for use as transitional housing.

Please contact our Council of Churches social worker Ed Hess (Wednesday and Friday mornings in the main office) for more information or if you would like to purchase tickets.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 10/01/23: 185 in person and 47 online.

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

	<u>Received to date</u>	<u>Twelve-month budget goal</u>
Envelope Giving:	\$ 439,922.00	\$ 570,270.00
Loose Offering:	\$ 7,911.00	\$ 12,000.00
Per Capita:	\$ 8,999.00	\$ 16,000.00

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. 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.

Prayers for the Church

- Pray for the people, government, and country of **Ukraine** as war continues.
- Please pray for physical and mental healing for **Raj (10/4-R. Prasad)**
- Continue in prayer for **Isabel Pross** as she continues cancer treatment (**10/4-pastors**)

- Pray for the **family and friends of Asher Barkan**, who passed suddenly. He is missed **(10/4-N. Passante)**
- Please keep **Connie Reeves** and her family in your prayers as they grieve the sudden death of John, son, father, and brother **(10/2-C. Carty)**
- Please ask the Lord to give **Susan** a sense of peace and tranquility as she experiences the coming days **(10/1-C. Carty)**
- Pray for **the family of Luke Watson** who passed suddenly. Luke was a freshman at Rowan and a 2023 graduate from Haddon Township **(9/28-T. Adkins)**
- Keep **Nancy** in your prayers as she continues cancer treatments **(9/27-C. Carty)**
- Please pray for **Jean Yount**, her medical team, and her family **(9/27-C. Yount)**
- Pray for **Carol DelGiarno** who underwent surgery **(9/20-L. Willison)**
- Pray for **Amy** who is recovering from brain surgery this week **(9/12-J. Russell)**
- Pray for **Rob** and all those who surround him **(9/11-pastors)**
- Pray for the Fitzgerald family who are living through the midst of so much. Pray specifically for **Karen, her husband, and their three young adult children** who are in college- each with their own challenges **(9/11-T. Adkins)**
- Pray for **Viola** and all those surrounding her. God knows the needs **(9/11-V. Bradshaw)**
- Pray for **Maria** who is dealing with health issues **(9/7-L. O'neill)**
- Please pray for **Jeff** who is living with cancer, and pray also for his wife **Wanda (9/4-Seddon family)**

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor and Head of Staff - mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org

The Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante, Associate Pastor - npassante@haddonfieldpres.org

Peter Leibensperger, Minister of Music - pleibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org

Lucas Brown, Principal Organist - lbrown@haddonfieldpres.org

Katie Beth McBurnie, Director of Children's Ministry - kmcburnie@haddonfieldpres.org

Nancy Ruth Wainwright, Director of Children's Choirs - nancyruthw@comcast.net

Marisa McGovern, Preschool Director - preschool@haddonfieldpres.org

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Katie Miller, Office Administrator - kmiller@haddonfieldpres.org



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STEPHEN
MINISTRY