



First Presbyterian Church

Fifth Sunday of Eastertide
May 7, 2023 at 10:00

THE CHURCH GATHERS

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

Prelude

Communion – Juliette Folville

Lucas Brown, organ

Opening Prayer

We behold your glory, O God, in the love shown by your Son, lifted up on the cross and exalted on high. Be glorified anew in the love we have for one another as disciples of the risen Lord Jesus, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

* Hymn #507

“I Come with Joy”

* Call to Confession

Hebrews 4:14-16

One: Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weaknesses, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin.

All: Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

One: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

* Prayer of Confession

All: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord. We feel sorrow and shame for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light, and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

* Declaration of Forgiveness

One: Friends, the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

* Silent Prayer

* Hymn of Response

Glory to God

Lucas Brown

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Glory to God in the Highest'. The first staff is a vocal line in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time, with lyrics 'Glo-ry to God in the High - est , and peace to his peo-ple on Earth.' The second staff is a piano accompaniment starting at measure 5, with lyrics 'Glo-ry to God in the High - est , and peace to his peo-ple on Earth!'.

* 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.**

Anthem

“You Renew My Soul” – Ruth Elaine Schram
Chapel Choir and the Thomas Sherrerd Memorial Choir

Children’s Message

Celebrating the Life of the Congregation

(Please sign and pass the Friendship Registers and note those sitting around you)

GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED

Prayer for 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.**

Gospel Reading:

Acts 6:1-8 (Common English Bible)

¹ About that time, while the number of disciples continued to increase, a complaint arose. Greek-speaking disciples accused the Aramaic-speaking disciples because their widows were being overlooked in the daily food service. ² The Twelve called a meeting of all the disciples and said, “It isn’t right for us to set aside proclamation of God’s word in order to serve tables. ³ Brothers and sisters, carefully choose seven well-respected men from among you. They must be well-respected and endowed by the Spirit with exceptional wisdom. We will put them in charge of this concern. ⁴ As for us, we will devote ourselves to prayer and the service of proclaiming the word.” ⁵ This proposal pleased the entire community. They selected Stephen, a man endowed by the Holy Spirit with exceptional faith, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶ The community presented these seven to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷ God’s word continued to grow. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased significantly. Even a large group of priests embraced the faith. ⁸ Stephen, who stood out among the believers for the way God’s grace was at work in his life and for his exceptional endowment with divine power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people.

One: Jesus said, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Believe in me.”

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Stephen Minister Commissioning**Presentation of Ministers****Requests:**

One: Brother and sister, each of you has been comforted by God with the Good News of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection for you.

All: We ask you now to join in serving our Lord and those in our congregation and neighborhood who need to be comforted.

One: As the Lord Jesus has responded to your needs

All: We ask you to strive to be responsive to the needs of others.

One: As the Lord Jesus patiently listens when you turn to him,

All: We ask you to be a patient listener in a hurried world.

One: As the Lord Jesus has broken down the barriers that separated you from God,

All: We ask you to heal divisions wherever you find them and strive to make people whole.

Vows:

Leader: *(to the Stephen Minister trainees)* Are you prepared to meet those requests that are asked of you?

Answer: Yes, with the help of God.

Leader: Are you prepared to nurture the skills you have learned and use them in service to others – to support, encourage, build up, and comfort people in all their needs?

Answer: Yes, with the help of God.

Leader: *(to the congregation)* Now, we ask you, members of First Presbyterian, to open your hearts to the ministry of these people and to pray for them, that they may be effective servants of Christ. Are you prepared to meet this request? If so answer, "Yes, with the help of God."

Congregation: Yes, with the help of God.

Leader: We ask you to accept their ministry when you need help, to allow these individuals to work with you as you face struggles in your life, that you might receive support and help from your Christian brothers and sisters. If you are prepared to meet this request, answer, "Yes, with the help of God."

Congregation: Yes, with the help of God.

Leader: *(again addressing Stephen Minister trainees)* Are you prepared to serve as Stephen Ministers at First Presbyterian Church?

Answer: Yes, with the help of God.

Leader: Come forward now and receive a blessing.

Blessing and Laying on of Hands**GIVE THANKS TO GOD****Offering Our Lives to God**

Offertory "Cantique de Jean Racine" – Gabriel Fauré

Chancel Choir

* Doxology. #592 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

* Prayer of Dedication

The Sacrament of Holy Communion
Invitation to the Lord's Table
Prayer of Thanksgiving
The Lord's Prayer, p. 16, *The Presbyterian Hymnal*
Breaking of Bread
Communion of the People
Prayer After Communion

* Hymn

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind-ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus)(A)
 Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at-tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

LEAVE TO SERVE

*** Charge and Benediction**

Choral Amen

Sending Music

Carillon — Herbert Merrill

Lucas Brown, 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.

** Please stand in body or spirit*

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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 [email newsletter](#), available on the church website. Subscribe on the [Contact Us](#) tab.

THE NURSERY is in the Red Balloon Room (#103) on the first floor of the Preschool. The nursery is open to infants–3-year-olds. We look forward to welcoming you!

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM – “Cantique de Jean Racine” by Gabriel Fauré

O Redeemer divine,
Our sole hope of salvation,
Eternal Light of the earth and the sky,
We kneel in adoration.
O Savior, turn on us Thy loving eye!

Send down on us the fire of Thy grace all-consuming,
Whose wondrous might dispersed the powers of hell,
And rouse our slumbering souls with Thy radiance,
That they may waken Thy mercy to tell!

O Christ, bestow Thy blessing on us, we implore Thee,
Who here are gathered on penitent knee.
Accept the hymns we chant to Thine eternal glory
And these Thy gifts we return unto Thee.

MAKE AN OFFERING FROM YOUR PHONE – Use this QR code to call up the online giving page on your phone. You can still use this link: <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/give/now>. Cash and checks are also gladly accepted. Include your name so your giving can be recorded.



PLEASE JOIN PETER IN THANKING OUR CHAPEL CHOIR for their dedication and energy all season: Nicholas Adkins, Alexis Chamberlin, Beatrice Dunn, James Gushue, Matty Hall, Mikey Hall, Ariella Liggera, Owen McGovern, Ellie Murphy.

MANY THANKS TO OUR HARDWORKING THOMAS SHERRERD CHOIR for their dedication and joy all season long: Chloe Adkins, Lily Adkins, John Caruso, Gavin Dunn, Maggie Dunn, Gala Durkin, Stella Heimerling, Kaelynn Jackson, Lexa Liggera, Allison Massaro, Connor McGovern, AnneMarie Naseef, Colin Preihs.

TODAY OUR NEW STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE BEING COMMISSIONED – Paul Sommers and Donna George have been through 50 hours of specialized training in Christian caregiving. As Stephen Ministers, they will provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people experiencing a crisis or going through a difficult time. How can you help? Please pray for our Stephen Leaders, our Stephen Ministers, and their care receivers. Affirm and show our appreciation for this valuable ministry. Tell them how much their hard work means to our congregation and tell others how much we value our Stephen Ministry. You can also become involved in this ministry. Consider applying to be a Stephen Leader or Stephen Minister. Are you hurting, in need of someone to talk to? Accept the care of a Stephen Minister. Be a minister of referral, watching for people in need and suggesting a Stephen Minister's care. Want more information?

- First Presbyterian Stephen Ministry website: <http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/stephenministry>
- Stephen Ministry <https://www.stephenministries.org>
- Contact a Stephen Leader or pastor: The Stephen Ministry email address is stephenministry@haddonfieldpres.org. Leaders are Carol Carty, Lisa Hurd, Joyce Stout, or Pastor Nikki if you have questions, would like to have a conversation about this ministry, or want to know how to get involved.

JOIN US AFTER TODAY'S SERVICE as we dedicate the renovated Parlor and honor Skip Bean and the Bean family for their generous gift.

CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CLASS does not meet today. The next scheduled meeting will be May 14, on the topic of Pentecost. Pentecost is celebrated on May 28, 2023. It is the Greek name for the Feast of Weeks, a prominent Levitical feast in the calendar of ancient Israel, and for Christians Pentecost is the "birthday of the Church."

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 the [Adult Ed page](#) of the website. The Zoom link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81798184993>, and we will also meet in person at pre-determined times. Please contact Pastor Nikki if you have questions and are interested, or simply join us on Zoom!

WOMEN'S WALKING GROUP will walk again on **Tuesday, May 9 at 10 a.m.** Yes, that it is the day of the PW luncheon at 12, but the previous walkers want to go again. As before, we will walk between 1.5 and 2 mi. over an approximate 1 hr. Meet in the portico.

2 COOKING DAYS FOR JOSEPH'S HOUSE – Please note that last month's cooking date has been rescheduled for Tuesday, May 16. That means that we will have two cooking dates in May – **Tuesday, May 16, and Tuesday, May 30.**

ASCENSION WORSHIP SERVICE – **Thursday, May 18, 12:00 p.m.** in the Chapel. After 40 days of appearing to and instructing the disciples, the Resurrected Jesus rose into heaven, but not before promising to send his Holy Spirit. Join us for this prayerful worship service.

PORCH BIBLE STUDY – The Porchers will study Daniel and Esther beginning **Tuesday, May 30**, on Zoom at 7 p.m. We will follow a Pastor Max Lucado study guide. Our group also prays for many joys and concerns and is happy to hear prayer needs. All are welcome.

THE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL IS BACK! Friday, June 2, 6 – 8 p.m. Sweet strawberry short cakes will be smothered with berries and “sugared” with Musical Notes from Peter and our adult choir for your entertainment.

VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN! This year’s VBS: Operation Restoration! invites kids to be menders in God’s world. As they make connections between Bible stories and mending actions, they’ll discover simple ways to live out faith in daily life by exploring the daily themes of Feed, Heal, Forgive, Pray, and Rest. Dates are July 24-28, 2023. Register [here](#) or through the church website: <http://www.haddonfieldpres.org/children>. *As always, we look forward to including youth shepherds and adult volunteers in the adventure!* The cost of the camp is \$25 per Mender, payable via Check (First Presbyterian of Haddonfield memo line: VBS), Venmo (@FPCHaddonfield), or through Realm (QR code links directly to Realm). We look forward to seeing you in July!



YOUTH SERVICE NIGHT ON SUNDAY, JUNE 4 – The next monthly service night for Middle School and High School youth will be Sunday, June 4. Middle schoolers will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and high schoolers will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Details will follow on service projects for the evening.

YOU’RE INVITED! *Come join other people of faith to learn, take action and socialize.*

- **Embracing Race – The Conversation** will meet on Thursday, May 11 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Haddon Twp. Branch of the Camden County Library, 15 MacArthur Blvd. There will be a discussion with the authors who adapted Robin DiAngelo’s *White Fragility* for young adults. Find more info at embracinggraceconversation.org.
- **GreenFaith’s Southern New Jersey Circle** will meet on Sunday, May 21 at 3:30 p.m. in Prince of Peace Church, 61 E. Rt 70 Marlton, NJ. In addition to the regular agenda, members of the plastics working group will share their presentation on plastic pollution and solutions. Go to greenfaith.org for more information.
- Explore our **Newly Updated Social Justice Site** on the church website (www.haddonfieldpres.org). The Justice and Advocacy Committee thanks Anne Vial for a tremendous job making it more user friendly. It is now much easier to access the various resources especially those offered by PC(USA).

WORKSHOP ON URBANPROMISE WELLNESS CENTER IN JUNE – Please join us on **Sunday, June 11**, immediately following worship, for an interactive hour-long workshop with Siomara Wedderburn, vice president, programs, and past director of Wellness at UrbanPromise. The Wellness Center at UrbanPromise receives financial support from this congregation by way of an annual donation from the Mission Committee. Ms. Wedderburn will talk about how UrbanPromise has adapted wellness and experiential learning as key strategic initiatives and integrated these across all programs at the school. Join us for conversation and fellowship as we learn more about this wonderful program.

ST. WILFRID NEEDS – The Lord has been providing us with a plentiful supply of donated food, so we ask that you consider donating diapers of any size, baby wipes, bars of soap, bottles of body wash and shampoo, and new socks (black or white) of any size. You can leave your donations in the alcove closest to the Playground doors. The photo below of some of the faithful St. Wilfrid’s crew shows the food warehouse at the South Jersey Foodbank, one of our key suppliers.

2023 CHURCH OFFERING UPDATE – Please note that target numbers on the right represent a 6-month goal, not the full year’s budget.

| | <u>Received to date</u> | <u>Six-month budget goal</u> |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Envelope Giving: | \$ 217,852.00 | \$285,135.00 |
| Loose Offering: | \$ 4,896.00 | \$ 6,000.00 |
| Per Capita: | \$ 8,481.00 | \$ 8,000.00 |

DRESSES FOR KENYA – Kits available in the Parlor hallway.

ATTENDANCE 4/30/23: 143 in person, 54 online.

SCRIPTURE FOR SUNDAY, MAY 14: Acts 17:16-34



CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Please pray for the following individuals and situations throughout the week. If you would like to add a personal prayer request, please contact one of the pastors or Anne Vial. In making requests on behalf of others, please obtain the permission of the person needing prayer. The requestor's name will be printed as the originator of the request. Requests will be revisited every 30 days.

- Pray for the **people, government, and country of Ukraine as war continues.**
- Please pray for **Betsy and her entire family** on the unexpected death of her husband, David, while they were hiking the Camino de Santiago. Betsy is Carol Carty's cousin. **(5/1-C. Carty)**
- Pray for **Helen Brotzman**, who is now on hospice care **(4/26-pastors)**
- Please pray for the **Baggs family, wife Kay and son William**, on the death of Jon **(4/24-M. Dark)**
- Prayers for **Tom Lutz**, a former co-worker of Dr. Lindsay in Missouri who's been battling pancreatic cancer for three years and has recently entered hospice care **(4/24- M. Lindsay)**
- Prayers for **Tim Ross**, a friend of ours in Columbia, Missouri diagnosed with AL (primary) amyloidosis a bone marrow disease similar to multiple myeloma **(4/24 - M. Lindsay)**
- Please keep **Isabel Pross** in your prayers as she undergoes cancer treatment **(4/19-pastors)**
- Pray for **Ha-young Shin and his co-workers** that God will grant God's will **(4/19-pastors)**
- Pray for **Viola**. God knows the needs! **(4/18-pastors)**
- Please pray for **Brian** who is suffering from ampullary cancer and for strength for his family **(4/18-L. Hurd)**
- Pray for the **entire Reed family** on the death of Marsha's mother, Jeanne Barr **(4/11- M. Reed)**
- Please pray for **Amy Strauss, her husband Brad, and their whole family**. Brad is currently on IV antibiotics - pray for healing of an infection so that he can begin cancer treatment. Encircle this family with healing prayers! **(4/8-A. Strauss)**
- Pray for **Roy** who has been diagnosed with Stage 4 prostate and bone cancer, and also pray for his wife **Elise (4/6-P. Manochi)**



Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Marvin Lindsay, 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

Kris Bean, Business Manager – kbean@haddonfieldpres.org

Anne Vial, Office Administrator – avial@haddonfieldpres.org

Travis Bogetti, Building Manager – tbogetti@haddonfieldpres.org

Ed Hess, Community Caseworker – edwh517@aol.com