



First Presbyterian Church

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 24, 2023, 10:00 AM

GATHERING

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

Prelude *Adagio from Sonata no. 1, Op 65 - Felix Mendelssohn* Lucas Brown, organ

Call to Worship (from Psalm 107:1-3, 43)

One: O give thanks to the Lord. God is good!

All: God's steadfast love endures forever!

One: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those God redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

All: Let those who are wise give heed to these things, and consider the steadfast love of the Lord. Let us worship God!

* **Hymn #476**

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

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

One: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. With that assurance and the promise of God's grace through Jesus Christ, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

* **Laying Down Our Burdens**

All: Gracious God, forgive us when we grumble and complain. We judge and weigh your gifts according to our standards. We often question your fairness instead of receiving your grace with thanksgiving and joy. Help us to see your world through your eyes and with your spirit of generosity and grace, that we may welcome the chance to serve in your kingdom and all who join with us. Forgive us, Lord, in your grace and mercy through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***Silent Prayer**

*** Declaration of Forgiveness (Psalm 145:9 and Ephesians 2:8-9)**

One: The Lord is good to all! God's compassion is over all that God has made. For by grace, you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast. Friends, believe the good news!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia!

*** We Celebrate God's Forgiveness**

#579

Gloria Patri

579

Glory Be to the Father

Gloria Patri

Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men."

*** 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: A Blessing for the School Year

Celebrating the Life of the Church

THE WORD

* Prayer for Illumination (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

All: Holy God, your Word teaches us that all Scripture is inspired by you and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. As we hear your Word read and proclaimed today, speak to us, and inspire us that we may be proficient and equipped for every good work; through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

Scripture Reading

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

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

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.

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



Offertory: *I Waited for the Lord* by Felix Mendelssohn, Chancel Choir
Karen Dante, soprano, and Kelly Leibensperger, soprano

* Doxology #592 *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

* Prayer of Dedication

LEAVE TO SERVE

* **Hymn #115** *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

* **Charge and Benediction**

Sending Music *Grand Chœur Sortie* by Alexandre Guilmant
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.

Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with Permission Under OneLicence #740987-A.
All Rights Reserved.

Portions of the order of worship were written by John Wurster and provided for free distribution. © Presbyterian Outlook, 2023.

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given in memory of Harold M. Sellon and Charles Dowd by John and Virginia Dowd and in memory of Dorothy G. Westermaier and Evelyn R. Feinberg by the Westermaier 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.

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 or join us on Zoom!

PORCH BIBLE STUDY EVENTS:

- 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 debranussbaum1987@gmail.com or call the church office.

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: <https://bit.ly/3R1dooF>

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2023 CROP WALK -- On Sunday, Oct. 8, from 1 to 3 p.m. we will join congregants of Trinity Presbyterian Church at Challenge Grove Park, located at the corner of Bortons Mill Road and Caldwell Road (near Jake's Place), for an easy 5K walk. The event also includes a kids' walk and a pet blessing. Sign up in the Bean Parlor after worship on Sundays. For more information, contact Caroline Yount at cnyount@gmail.com.

JUSTICE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Everyone's invited to the Justice and Advocacy Committee meeting before worship on Sunday, October 1, 2023. We will meet in the Parlor at 9am. These days we face many challenges and stresses. It's said that the best cure for anxiety is to do something! And there is so much that can be done. Bring your ideas, your curiosity and hope for a better world.

September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Just like 911, **988** can be dialed by anyone, anywhere to connect to the help they need. It's free, confidential and available nationwide, and people experiencing a mental health crisis or emotional distress can call, text or chat with mental health professionals in real time.

A MESSAGE FROM ST. WILFRIDS: As autumn descends upon us, it's time to think about putting away our shorts and t-shirts and getting out our sweaters and pants. But wait! Did you actually wear all the clothes that you are putting away for the winter? What would happen if you decided to donate one (or even five) pieces of warm weather clothing to the impoverished and unsheltered families we serve in North Camden? My guess is that for most of us, they would hardly be missed next spring. Can you also give some thought to the winter clothes you will be pulling out. Can you still stay warm with one or two fewer sweaters? Do you really need four pairs of gloves or a variety of scarves? We are seeking clothing donations for all seasons, all genders and all ages. They can be dropped off in the alcove closest to the playground side entrance.

Our clients continue to need:

- Diapers, size 2-6 in particular
- Baby wipes
- 1 lb bags of dried beans of any variety. If you'd like to donate a larger bag of beans of any size, we will re-portion it into 1 lb bags. Many of the families we serve are of Hispanic heritage and eating Rice and Beans daily is a staple of their tradition. We've got the rice. We need the beans.

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM "I Waited for the Lord" by Felix Mendelssohn
I waited for the Lord, He inclined unto me,
He heard my complaint.
O bless'd are they that hope and trust in the Lord.

COMING THIS WEEK:

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.

Contact: Rev. Marvin Lindsay, MLindsay@HaddonfieldPres.org

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, NPassante@HaddonfieldPres.org

What: Classes begin 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. All are welcome.

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.

COOKING FOR JOSEPH'S HOUSE -- Join us at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 26, in the church kitchen to make another sustaining meal for Joseph's House, a shelter in Camden that is working to engage people experiencing homelessness holistically and individually in gaining stability and control of their lives. **Please RSVP** to Caroline Yount at cnyount@gmail.com by Sunday, Sept. 24. Donations of sweet treats also would be appreciated. You can leave them in the kitchen marked "Joseph's House." Looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday!

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!

September 24: With Jesus (and His Family) in Galilee: (with help from the 5th Gospel) The question was: “Can Anything Good Come out of Nazareth?” (Nezer=offshoot) All historians agree that Our Lord was “Jesus of Nazareth.” But archaeology and epigraphy--the 5th Gospel--further inform us that Jesus was in fact a “Natzorean” – a resident of a recently founded town (Natzorath) peopled by proud offshoots of the old royal Davidic Family back from the Babylonian exile. They were apparently not quite ready to find the Messiah among themselves. *Power-point presentation.*

October 1: The 12 Apostles: “The Sent-Out Ones” - Disciples and Apostles are not necessarily the same. Who were the original Twelve Apostles whom Jesus called to be with Him (the Gospels apparently differ), and what do the Gospels, Church history, Apocrypha, and tradition tell us about their mission and their experiences before and after the Resurrection. *Power-point presentation and film excerpt.*

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 09/17/23: 161 in person and 30 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:	\$ 422,281.00	\$ 570,270.00
Loose Offering:	\$ 7,580.00	\$ 12,000.00
Per Capita:	\$ 8,962.00	\$ 16,000.00

Katie Beth McBurnie will be taking a leave of absence through November 8th and the Christian Education Committee will be managing in her absence.

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.
- Pray for **Morocco and Libya**.
- Pray for **Carol DelGiarno** who underwent surgery this week (**9/20-L. Willison**)

- Please pray for **Patrick Walsh** who is missing (9/20-L. Willison)
- Please pray for **Amy** who is recovering from brain surgery after having a tumor removed (9/15-T. Adkins)
- Pray for **Amy** who is recovering from brain surgery this week (9/12-J. Russell)
- Please pray for **Liz Getman** after a recent car accident (9/20 -L&E. Hess)
- 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)
- Please pray for **Annette and David**, and their family and friends. God knows the needs (9/9-pastors)
- 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)
- Continue in prayer for **Isabel Pross** as she continues cancer treatment (9/2-pastors)
- 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)

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

Kris Bean, Business Manager - kbean@haddonfieldpres.org

Travis Bogetti, Building Manager - tbogetti@haddonfieldpres.org

Ed Hess, Community Caseworker - edwh517@aol.com

Katie Miller, Office Administrator - kmiller@haddonfieldpres.org

856-429-1960 • Fax 856-795-1502 • www.haddonfieldpres.org