



**First Presbyterian Church
of Metuchen**

Where God's Love Welcomes All



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF METUCHEN

June 22, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

2nd Sunday After Pentecost

**Our vision is to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength,
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

Livestreamed on our website and Facebook/FPC Metuchen

270 Woodbridge Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840

www.fpcweb.org

(732) 491-2300



Senior Pastor and Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Fred G. Garry
Associate Pastor: Rev. Khayla Johnson
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Robert A. Beringer
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Glory J. Thomas
Indonesian Pastoral Supply: Rev. Leksmana Leonard
Director of Music Ministries: Jordan Klotz
Minister of Music Emeritus: Brenda Arnold Day
Director for Christian Education: Nancy Leardi

ASSEMBLE TO WORSHIP THE LIVING GOD

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME/TIDINGS

Rev. Khayla Johnson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Virginia Shaw

Leader: When forces in the world threaten us, when our bodies or spirits turn against us,

All: There is One who seeks us, One who meets us, One who heals us.

Leader: Whose love washes over us and sets us free for joy.

All: This One is the Lord. Come, let us worship.

*HYMN # 393 O Day of Rest and Gladness

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

*OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION – Unison

Rev. Khayla Johnson

Holy One, God Most High, grant us faith to confess our sins and seek your mercy. There are barren places in our lives where we have wandered far from you. We have listened to voices that distracted us from your call. We have submitted to powers competing for our loyalty to you. God our Savior, forgive us. Speak tenderly to us of your presence. Feed us your Word. Deliver us from evil. Let us enter into your kingdom; then send us out to serve you by the power of the Holy Spirit, in the name of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*HYMN # 583 Glory to God

GLORIA (TAIZÈ)

CHILDREN'S TIME

Nancy Regan

Nursery care is available in Room 107. Older children remain in worship.

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 42

Janet Aspinwall

This is the Word of the Lord . . . **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

1 Kings 19:1-4, 8-15

This is the Word of the Lord . . . **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Called to Self-Care”

Rev. Khayla Johnson

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

SETTLING OF THE WORD

***HYMN # 834** Precious Lord, Take My Hand

PRECIOUS LORD

CONFESSION OF FAITH (from the Brief Statement, 1983)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed, and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

CALL TO OFFERING

Rev. Khayla Johnson

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts, Creator Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

COMMISSIONING OF VBS VOLUNTEERS

Rev. Khayla Johnson, Nancy Leardi

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you . . . *And also with you.*

HYMN # 48 Rain Down

RAIN DOWN

PASTORAL PRAYER 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 let us not fall into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***HYMN # 546** Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

***Please rise in body or spirit.**

Today's greeter is Wendy Kukowski, and the ushers are Maggy Cook, Sandra Lалуw, and Beth Russian.

*The flowers in the Sanctuary from Linda Amato and Bob Krebs, given in loving memory of their father,
Al Krebs, and Linda's husband, Tony Amato, and*

*from Wendy Kukowski given in honor of the Food Pantry expansion and dedication, and in loving
memory of Arnold Csipo, always a much loved member of the Food Pantry.*

The Niche flowers are from Allison Brennan in celebration of Pride Month.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 42

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar. Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts; all your waves and your billows have gone over me. By day the Lord commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

I say to God, my rock, "Why have you forgotten me? Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?" As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me continually, "Where is your God?" Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

SCRIPTURE READER: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

PEOPLE: *Thanks be to God.*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

1 Kings 19:1-4, 8-15

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like

the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.

SCRIPTURE READER: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

PEOPLE: *Thanks be to God.*

June 22, 2025 WORSHIP HYMNS

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#393 O DAY OF REST AND GLADNESS

1- O day of rest and gladness,
O day of joy and light,
O balm of care and sadness,
Most beautiful, most bright;
On you, the high and lowly,
through ages joined in tune,
Sing, Holy, Holy, Holy,
To the Great triune.

2- On you, at earth's creation
the light first had its birth
On you for our salvation
Christ rose from depths of earth;
On you our Lord victorious
Sent Spirit forth from heaven.
And thus on you, most glorious,
a triple light was given.

3- On you, God's people, meeting,
The Holy Scripture hear,
Christ's living presence greeting,
Through bread and wine made near.
New graces ever gaining
From this our day of rest,
We reach the rest remaining
To spirits of the blest.

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#583 GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

Music © 1979, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI license numbers 20354270 & 20397330

#834 PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND

1- Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand, precious Lord, Lead me home.

2-When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call,
Hold my hand lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord, Lead me home.

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#48 RAIN DOWN

Rain down, rain down, rain down your love
on your people
Rain down, rain down, rain down your love
God of life.

*Text & Music © 1992 Jaime Cortez (Published by OCP)
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#546 LORD, DISMISS US WITH YOUR BLESSING

1- Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.

2- Thanks we give and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound;
may the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
to your truth may we be found.

3- Savior, when your love shall call us,
from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us,
glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
reign with you in endless day.

OUR WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

The First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen has adopted a policy that individuals listed must grant permission for their names to be included on the weekly prayer list. PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE – 732-491-2300 to add a person to the prayer list. Persons requested to be on the prayer list will remain for one month and then be removed unless requested to keep for a longer period.

Dey Adam (*Dawn Adam's sister*)
 Jackson Alcantara (*grandson of Lori Nielsen*)
 James Angley (*Lynne Angley's son*)
 The Bellini family (*friends of the Brennan's*)
 John Bertelsen (*Brother of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)
 Gerrie Bishop (*Cathy Ostermueller's mother*)
 Dawn Burke (*June Keehler's relative*)
 Pat Byrne (*Sue Harmon's brother-in-law*)
 Anna Cackowski (*daughter of Al & Helen Burr-Cackowski*)
 Dorothy Canary (*aunt of Sue Harmon*)
 Cassidy family (*Marty Brennan's relatives*)
 Sue Coyle (*friend of Amy Bertelsen-Robles*)
 *Lois Crespy
 Bruce Dangremond (*brother of Mary Kay Dangremond*)
 *Mary Kay Dangremond
 *Henry and Rita Dengah
 *Laura Fischer
 Lisa De La Fuente (*friend of the Kozo/Mollison family*)
 Darla Dimatteo
 Robert Doeg (*friend of Niall Corbalis*)
 *Ruth Endicott
Mario Figueroa (*friend of Heather Koball*)
 Hank Frank, Jr. (*Deb Teall's partner*)
 Marc Gale (*Marie Gale's husband*)
 *Marie Gale
 Lane Gibson (*friend of Bill Nann*)
 *Joey Hale (*Son of Matt and Laura Hale*)
 *Margaret Hathaway
 *Audrey Hausser

*Susan Kozo
 Elaine LeSter (*Lorraine LeSter's sister*)
 Jetty Mailangkay (*wife of Rev. Herby Moningka*)
 Dennis Maiuro (*Colleen Walker's brother-in-law*)
 Patricia Maktal (*friend of Messina Family*)
 *Bill Marquard
 Elliot Miller (*Larrie Servino's brother*)
 Michael Murach (*Kristina Scoglio's cousin*)
 Joan Murray (*Allison Brennan's mother*)
 Virginia Newton (*Virginia Shaw's mother*)
 Marian Pflaumer (*Cook Family relative*)
 Carol Roberts (*friend of Jane & Ed Meyer*)
 Jeff Rubin (*friend of June Keehler*)
 *Dave Ryder
 Angela Sampoli (*friend of Dawn Adam*)
 Karen Scoglio (*Kristina Scoglio's mother*)
 *Tomara Situmeang
 Mary and Michael Thompson (*family of Jim & Jen Thompson*)
 Crystal Smith Williams (*friend of the Food Pantry*)
 David Wong
 *Lynn Hendricks Wong
Names highlighted in boldface were recently added
 *Members of the church

CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS OF COMFORT FOR
 the family and loved ones of **Alethea Will Kinsey** who
 passed on June 13. Alethea was an active member
 since joining FPC in 1953 until she moved to California.

PASTORAL CARE:

If you or a family member is in the hospital, please contact the pastors: Rev. Khayla Johnson at (843) 312-7288.
The hospitals no longer contact clergy when a parishioner is admitted, nor do they keep a list of patients by denomination. The only way the pastors will know if you or a loved one are in the hospital is if you contact us.
 We are more than ready and glad to visit. Please contact us even if it is to pray for you. You can also call the church office (732) 491-2300 during office hours.

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

David Garry, Coast Guard Cutter Bear, Philadelphia, PA (*Son of Fred & Kathy Garry*)
 MSgt. David Hansen, USAF (*Son of Elaine Hansen*)
 MC1 Kevin Leitner, U.S. Navy, San Diego, CA (*Sue Harmon's cousin*)
 Lt. Cmdr. Krista Marquard, U.S. Public Health Service, Lawrence, KS (*Bill & Susan Marquard's daughter-in-law*)
 Major Matthew McQueeney, Pilot & DO, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho (*Son/Stepson of Amy & Pete Bellisano*)
 LT John Alexander Petr, U. S. Navy, San Diego, CA (*Pennix Family friend*)
 *CPT Bradley Shaver, U. S. Army – Ft. Carson, CO (*Brother/Son of Greg and Julie Walton Shaver*)
 CPT Julia Harris Switzer, MD USAF (*Granddaughter of Grace Hammesfahr*)
 Petty Officer 1st Class Mason Weingarten, Coast Guard (*Bill & Susan Marquard's grandnephew*)

THIS WEEK

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

And by appointment for other times

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

Worship Service – Sanctuary and Virtual 9:30 a.m.

Dedication of the Food Pantry – Social Center

. After worship

Indonesian Worship Service – Sanctuary Noon

VBS Set Up – Sanctuary 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 23

Circle G Ranch VBS 9:00 – 11:45 a.m.

DBSA Support Group – Room 109. 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 24

Circle G Ranch VBS 9:00 – 11:45 a.m.

AA Support Group – Room 109 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

Circle G Ranch VBS 9:00 – 11:45 a.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26

Circle G Ranch VBS 9:00 – 11:45 a.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

Circle G Ranch VBS 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Women's AA Support Group – Room 109. . . 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

ONLINE CHURCH CALENDAR:

To access FPC's website calendar for more details of what's happening in the coming weeks, please **scan the QR code here** or go to <https://bit.ly/4emWby6>



Memorial Service Celebrating the Life of Marion Guthjahr

June 28, Saturday, 11:00 am in the Sanctuary

Please join us and the Guthjahr family in remembrance of Marion Guthjahr. The Presbyterian Women will host a repast in the Chapel after the service.

COMING SOON

Jul 9 Metuchen Human Relations Presentation

Dining Room – 7:00 pm

Jul 20 – 26 Youth Group Habitat Trip – Roanoke, VA

TREASURER'S TWO CENTS

Offerings & Gifts Received June 15

Pledge	\$ 4,613
Non-pledge	\$ 715
Cash	\$ 96
Per Capita	\$ 53
Special Offering	\$ 26

TOTAL: \$ 5,503

OTHER RECEIPTS \$695

(Parking & Bldg. Rental)

HERE ARE WAYS YOU CAN GIVE:

- Direct** Cash or check in the plate are always welcome!
- Online** From our website fpcweb.org/give, click on the **Give Online** button. This will redirect you to the Vanco app to set up your donation.
- Text** Text to give using this number: (855) 964-5393, and follow the prompts.

Thank you for your generous support!



PW is again offering Nancy's Camperships for FPC youth (Grades 1 to 12) attending Camp Johnsonburg this summer. Camperships are given in memory of Nancy Blomn-Kipnis, an advocate for Camp Johnsonburg.

To learn about Camp Johnsonburg's 2025 Summer offerings, visit their website for the complete listing: <https://www.campjburg.org/summer-camp/>

Avail now of Nancy's Camperships by filling out a form available in the Narthex, Church office and website - <https://fpcweb.org/resources/forms/>

SUBMIT FORMS TO THE CHURCH OFFICE NO LATER THAN: JUNE 25, Wednesday



July 20-26, 2025

Our Youth are heading back to Roanoke, VA, for our annual Habitat Mission Trip. This includes 21 youth and 8 adult chaperones. Thank you for your prayers and support of our mission trip.

We could use help with the following donations:

- Boxed cereals, large or snack-pack size
- Peanut butter, smooth only
- Jelly (grape, raspberry, strawberry)
- Nutella
- Marshmallow Fluff
- Condiments: Mayonnaise, Brown mustard, Salsa
- Penne Pasta
- Pasta Sauce, plastic containers (Marinara, Meat, Alfredo)
- Iced Tea and Lemonade Mix
- Ranch and Italian Dressing
- Snacks, individually packed: goldfish, chips, granola bars, cookies, fruit snacks
- Bleach wipes
- Paper towels
- Gallon Ziploc baggies
- Lidded boxes for packing food

Please label your donations with H4H. You may drop off your donations at the Church office until July 15. Thank you!

Questions? Email Rev. Johnson: kjohnson@fpcweb.org



COME TO THE TABLE

The Community Dinner team brings to us this compilation of tried and tested, delicious and easy recipes for you to enjoy in the comforts of your kitchen. The curated menus are grouped by seasons, where simple ingredients are transformed into soulful dishes.

Read about the story behind the creation of this cookbook, and enjoy what is like a scrapbook of many community dinners and the passionate cooks and the amazing volunteers who make the community dinners a success!

This Community Dinner Cookbook is a fundraiser of our Deacons that will allow them to continue their outreach beyond our community.

Now on sale for \$20.00. To get your copy, please see Gilly



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CIRCLE G RANCH

2025 June 23– June 27

Mon.—Thurs. 9:00-11:45 am, Friday 9:00-10:30 am

**Join us at the Ranch where God is at the center and the love never ends.
Prayers for a time of blessing for the campers and the volunteers.**

Our amazing volunteers allow us to offer Vacation Bible School each year to grow the faith of the young.
WE THANK GOD FOR ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Director of Christian Ed: Nancy Leardi

Pastoral Support: Pastor Khayla Johnson and Rev. Leksmana Leonard

Assembly Director: Julie Shaver

Puppeteer: Greg Shaver

Assembly Assistants: Emma Staal, Anna Davis and Johannes Staal

Photographer: Jack Teti

Dance Team: Mia Garcia, Julia Hajjar, Lucy Ongteco, Olivia Valeros, Madison Garcia,
Ally Miller, Brynn Gawronski

Mission Project Food Pantry: Tom Giordano, Wendy Kukowski, Youth: Eli Bourne

MUSIC	Leaders	Jordan Klotz, Elaine Hansen
	Youth	Dray Sequeira, Maggie Brennan, Eli Bourne
CRAFTS	Leaders	Maggie Dickow, June Young, Nancy Gurzo, Cindy O'Neill
	Youth	Beatrice Thomas, Erika Knehans, Olivia Valeros, Phoebe Gathigia Brynn Gawronski
SNACKS	Leaders	Helen Burr Cackowski, Kim Ryder, Alicia Parr, LindaLee Mundy
	Youth	Madison Garcia, Eli Duhme, Carli James Lewis, Meadow Vukovich, Zachary Bedenek
GAMES	Leaders	Janine Haulenbeek, Russ Dickow, Matt Smith (F)
	Youth	Chris Eosso, Anna Knehans, Julia Hajjar, Cameron Hayes Durina, Johannes Staal, Alex Perez
BIBLE TIME	Leaders	Robyn Smith, Rev. Leksmana
	Youth	Puppeteers Johannes Staal, Jack Teti, Eli Bourne
KINDERGARTEN / 1ST GRADE	Leader	Tom Yakowenko
	Youth	Mia Garcia, Kylie Trolaro
2ND & 3RD GRADES	Leaders	Victoria Pennix, Bridget Sanger
	Youth	Bella Staal, Ally Miller
4TH GRADE	Leader	Allison Brennan
	Youth	Anna Davis, Abby Sumilat, Martin Brennan
5th/6th/7th GRADE	Leaders	Amy Bellisano, Beth Russian
	Youth	Emma Staal, Myles Bourne, Ysaac Kingsley
DECORATING		Jonathan Hollenbeck, Bob O'Connell, Robin Kellner, Pennix family
PARKING		Russ Dickow, Tom Giordano, Myles Bourne, Jack Teti