

First Presbyterian
Church of Ocean City



“The Gospel
according to
Micah”

April 19, 2026

701 Wesley Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226
609.399.1833 | www.firstpresocnj.net

Welcome and Announcements

Elder Kim Murphy

We Enter God's Presence

Organ Prelude

"Morning Has Broken"

(arr. Smith)

Responsive Call to Worship - Psalm 51:10-12

Elder Kim Murphy

Leader: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

People: and renew a right spirit within me.

Leader: Cast me not away from your presence,

People: and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Leader: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

People: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

*Hymn No. 16

"Give to Our God Immortal Praise"

(DUKE STREET)

*Prayer of Invocation & The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Luke Bert

Scripture Reading - Revelation 2:18-29

Deacon David Laielli

Unison Prayer of Confession

Pastor Luke Bert

Dear Lord God, just like your church in Thyatira, we want to serve you faithfully.

However, we often overlook sin. We justify our actions. Forgive us. Teach us to hold

fast to your word. Give us the strength of your Holy Spirit to wait on you until you

return. Put our hope in Jesus, who has conquered our sin. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

In a word or phrase, you may share a confession to God quietly.

Assurance of God's Pardon - 1 John 1:9

Pastor Luke Bert

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Tithes and Offerings

"God Loved the World So Much"

(Lister/arr. Fettke)

*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Luke Bert

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below,

Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Q & A 62

Q. Why can't our good works be our righteousness before God, or at least a part of our righteousness?

A. Because the righteousness which can pass God's judgment must be entirely perfect and must in every way measure up to the divine law. But even our best works in this life are imperfect and stained with sin.

(Rom. 3:20; Gal. 3:10 (Deut. 27:26); Isa. 64:6)

Q & A 63

Q. How can our good works be said to merit nothing when God promises to reward them in this life and the next?

A. This reward is not earned; it is a gift of grace.

(Matt. 5:12; Heb. 11:6; Luke 17:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

Q & A 64

Q. But doesn't this teaching make people indifferent and wicked?

A. No. It is impossible for those grafted into Christ through true faith not to produce fruits of gratitude.

(Luke 6:43-45; John 15:5)

Minute for Missions

John Henry
YWAM

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Luke Bert

*Songs of Worship

“The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want”

(Scottish Psalter 1650)

“All We Like Sheep”

(Moen)

“Have Mercy On Me”

(Gustafson)

“Create In Me A Clean Heart”

(Green)

(At this time, children may leave to attend Children's Church led by Gretchen Murphy)

Sermon

Pastor Luke Bert

Micah 6:9-16 - The Voice and the Staff

*Hymn

“God, Be Merciful to Me”

(REDHEAD)

We Leave to Serve in God's World

*Benediction

Pastor Luke Bert

Postlude

“Glory to God”

(Peterson)

*Congregation will please rise

Note: Please take this bulletin home with you. Please do not leave it in the pew.

After worship service, there will be Church Elders available to pray for you and with you in the Prayer Room (drum room) up front on the left side of the Sanctuary.

Sermon | Micah 6:9-16

[9] The voice of the LORD cries to the city—
and it is sound wisdom to fear your name:
“Hear of the rod and of him who appointed it!
[10] Can I forget any longer the treasures of
wickedness in the house of the wicked,
and the scant measure that is accursed?
[11] Shall I acquit the man with wicked scales
and with a bag of deceitful weights?
[12] Your rich men are full of violence;
your inhabitants speak lies,
and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.
[13] Therefore I strike you with a grievous blow,
making you desolate because of your sins.

[14] You shall eat, but not be satisfied,
and there shall be hunger within you;
you shall put away, but not preserve,
and what you preserve I will give to the sword.
[15] You shall sow, but not reap;
you shall tread olives, but not anoint yourselves
with oil;
you shall tread grapes, but not drink wine.
[16] For you have kept the statutes of Omri,
and all the works of the house of Ahab;
and you have walked in their counsels,
that I may make you a desolation, and your
inhabitants a hissing;
so you shall bear the scorn of my people.” (ESV)

Tithes and Offerings | “God Loved the World So Much”

Chorus 1
And I shall not perish
I shall not perish
For God loved the world so much
I shall not perish
I shall not perish
For God loved the world so much

Verse 1
God loved the world
Much more than I can imagine
He loved the world
Much more than I can express
He sent His Son to save
My soul from the darkness
In spite of all of my unworthiness

Verse 2
I now believe
And death is banished forever
I now believe
And life unending is mine
For God has said
That he who cometh receiveth
Receiveth life the gift of love divine

Chorus 2
And I shall not perish
I shall not perish
For God loved the world so much
I shall not perish
I shall not perish
For God loved the world
God loved the world
God loved the world so much

Mosie Lister

CCLI Song #45813

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

FPC Ladies

Daughters of the King

Mon. May 11th @ 7:00pm

Salem Bible Study

Tues. May 12th @ 1:00pm
(Last meeting until September)

Membership & Evangelism Committee

Meeting on Mon, April 20th at 6:30pm off the parking lot door.
New members welcome.

Next Week's Sermon:

Psalm 96 | A New Song

After Worship Refreshments are back!

Join us April 26th in fellowship hall for after worship refreshments.
Sign ups are on the app and downstairs on the bulletin board.

Did you know we have fresh coffee downstairs in the welcome center off the parking lot entrance?

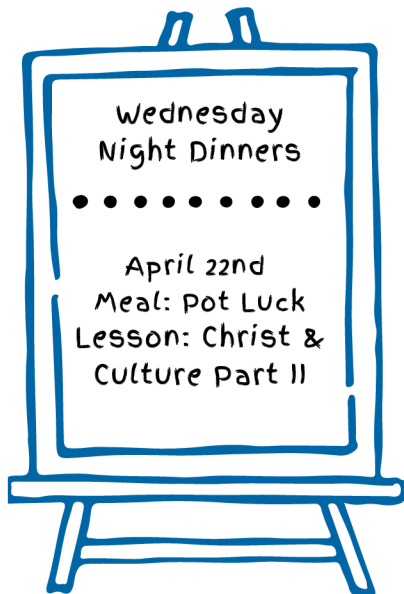
Join us before and/or after service for a fresh cup of coffee and fellowship to connect with your Pastor, elders, new and old friends!

Small Groups Are Back!

Starting again April 12th - May 23rd. If you would like to join or change your small groups; contact your leader. If you would like to host a new small group, see Pastor Luke!

Men's Bible Study

will meet on Thursday, May 14th at 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall



Next Sunday morning - The Lord's Supper

The session encourages all baptized believers to prepare their hearts to participate in the Lord's Table. Please read and meditate on 1 Corinthians 11:17-34. Examine yourself as to your relationship with the Lord and those in your life. If there is sin that needs to be confessed, forsaken, and restitution needed, then do so, so that the celebration of the table may be a blessing to the whole body of Christ. Two other verses to think about have to do with dealing with broken fellowship with God and others so God hears us and so we can participate in worship, see Psalm 66:18 and Matthew 5:23-24. Despite our failures, the table is a means of grace, so let us prepare to fellowship with God and one another.

Prayer Group meets Tuesdays at 2:30pm in the classroom near the parking lot entrance.
Join us as we pray for our church among other needs. All are welcome.

Church App!

Have you downloaded our church app yet?

- Go to your Google or Apple App Store
- Search "First Presbyterian Church OCNJ"
- The image on the app is the PCA logo
- Download
- Create Account
- Here you will be able to watch sermons, make prayer requests, connect, read the bible and have access to online giving.



ONLINE GIVING
<< SCAN HERE

OR AVAILABLE ON CHURCH WEBSITE

YOUTH

Tuesday, April 28 - Service Project

6:30pm - 8:00pm | All are welcome | Meet in Church Kitchen
Make Sandwiches for homeless in Philadelphia and deliver to EHT
WAWA or Ice Cream stop, cost is on your own

Wednesday, May 6 - Lounge Study & Games

6:00pm Dinner Nights | 6:45pm - 8:00pm Non-Dinner Nights
High School - Church Lounge | Grades 4-8 - Church Youth Room

Wednesday, May 13 - Shuffle Board & Ice Cream

6:00pm - 8:00pm | All are welcome | Meet at Church

Wednesday, May 27 - VBS Art Night

6:00pm - 8:00pm | All are welcome | Fellowship Hall
Drawing, painting, puppets and constructing! Wear your painting clothes!

Vacation Bible School | Emerald Crossing: An Irish Adventure Through Psalm 23

Monday through Friday August 3rd - 7th, 2026

9:00am - 12:15pm | Ages 4 - 6th Grade

If you are interested in helping with this years VBS,
please contact Connie Young or Gretchen Murphy!

National Day of Prayer May 7th, 2026

First Pres will have a special time of pray after Wed Night Dinner on May 6th.

Be on the lookout National Day of Prayer Events on May 7th.

www.nationaldayofprayer.org

Volunteers Needed – Children’s Ministry

We’re looking for volunteers to serve in Sunday School, Children’s Church, and the Nursery. Whether you can help weekly, monthly, or as a substitute, your time can make a lasting difference in the lives of our children.

For more information or to get involved, please contact
Connie Young or Kristen Ali.

Thank you for prayerfully considering serving!

New for Youth!

We now have fidget toys available downstairs by the kid's table in the entrance. Kids can take one for service and put them in the used box below to be cleaned.

Childcare is provided during the 10:30am Sunday Church Service.

There is a fully stocked and staffed nursery downstairs for newborn - 3 years old.

Children’s Church (4 - 10 years old) is after Praise and Worship.

Please contact Connie Young for more details!

WELCOME

Our vision is to see our Church and our communities delighting in God, passionately following Jesus, and loving all people.

Welcome Visitors! Glad you could join us. Please fill out the **CONNECT CARDS** located in the pews. We want to connect with you, pray with you, and welcome you to church. Please place them in the offering plate or in the basket in the Narthex. If you are visiting for the first time, please ask one of the ushers for a **first-time visitor's packet**.



First Pres Business Cards are in the Narthex, please take some and hand them out to invite family, friends and others to join us in fellowship here at First Pres!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for children and adults meets every Sunday at 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall
Contact: Kevin Olandt | All are welcome and child care can be provided!

Adult Sunday School

- Verse by verse Bible Study
 - Ezra–Nehemiah

Pre K - 12th Grade

- Spring Session
 - The Gospel Project - The Son Has Come!

Contact Us:

Senior Pastor: Pastor Luke Bert - PastorLuke@firstpresocnj.net

Director of Music and Family Ministry: Kim Murphy - Kim.Murphy@firstpresocnj.net

Secretary: Breanna Young - Hello@firstpresocnj.net

Tech Manager: Dan Ahmad - Tech@firstpresocnj.net

Greeters: Annette Bennett & Kim Bennett

Ushers: Carol Evans, Frank Gillet, Shane Gillet, Bob Krayner, Gregg Matis, Jane Shea

Bulletin Announcements, Prayer Requests & Newsletter Please be sure to email all bulletin announcements, newsletter articles, and updates to Breanna at hello@firstpresocnj.net



First Presbyterian is a biblical, confessional, Reformed congregation, of the PCA, committed to the Good News of Jesus Christ as revealed in the Bible (the Word of God). We are called to glorify the Triune God and enjoy Him forever.