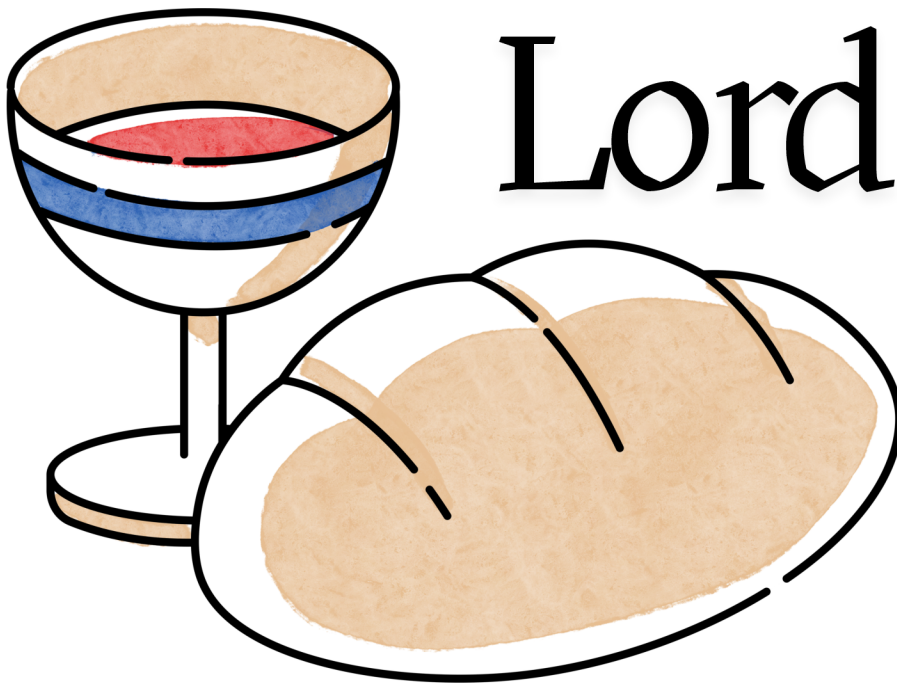


# First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City

## Great is the Lord



June 28, 2026

701 Wesley Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226  
609.399.1833 | [www.firstpresocnj.net](http://www.firstpresocnj.net)

Welcome and Announcements

Elder Kim Murphy

We Enter God's Presence

Organ Prelude

“I Waited for the Lord”

(Mendelssohn/arr. Peterson)

Responsive Call to Worship - Psalm 46:1-7

Leader: God is our refuge and strength,

**People: a very present help in trouble.**

Leader: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,

**People: though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

Leader: though its waters roar and foam,

**People: though the mountains tremble at its swelling.**

Leader: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

**People: the holy habitation of the Most High.**

Leader: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;

**People: God will help her when morning dawns.**

Leader: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;

**People: he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

Leader: The Lord of hosts is with us;

**People: the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

\*Hymn No. 43

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

(EIN' FESTE BURG)

\*Prayer of Invocation

Elder Joe Laielli

Scripture Reading - Hebrews 12:18-29

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Mighty King of Heaven, you have promised that you would build your church and the gates of Hell would not prevail against her. You commanded us to seek your kingdom and your righteousness. But we have sought out our own desires. We have built our own little kingdoms in the sand. Lord, forgive us. Give us hearts that serve you. Build your kingdom in our hearts that we might be a light in this world. 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

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 "Remember to Remember" (Choplin)

## \*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

**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.**

Pastoral Prayer Mr. Ryan Soldano

\*Songs of Worship "By Faith" (Getty/Townend)  
"God of This City" (Tomlin)

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

Sermon Mr. Ryan Soldano

Psalm 48 | City of the King

\*Hymn "Great Is the LORD Our God" (DIADEMATA)  
(Trinity Psalter - see words on screens)

## We Are Invited to the Lord's Supper

Please hold the elements until instructed to partake, all communion bread is gluten-free.

\*The Lord's Prayer Elder Kim Murphy

## We Leave to Serve in God's World

\*Benediction Pastor Luke Bert

Postlude "Oh, Worship the King" (Croft/arr. Birchwood)

\*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 Narthex

## SERMON | PSALM 48

<sup>1</sup> Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised  
in the city of our God!  
His holy mountain, <sup>2</sup> beautiful in elevation,  
is the joy of all the earth,  
Mount Zion, in the far north,  
the city of the great King.  
<sup>3</sup> Within her citadels God  
has made himself known as a fortress.  
<sup>4</sup> For behold, the kings assembled;  
they came on together.  
<sup>5</sup> As soon as they saw it, they were astounded;  
they were in panic; they took to flight.  
<sup>6</sup> Trembling took hold of them there,  
anguish as of a woman in labor.  
<sup>7</sup> By the east wind you shattered  
the ships of Tarshish.  
<sup>8</sup> As we have heard, so have we seen  
in the city of the Lord of hosts,  
in the city of our God,  
which God will establish forever. Selah  
<sup>9</sup> We have thought on your steadfast love, O God,  
in the midst of your temple.  
<sup>10</sup> As your name, O God,  
so your praise reaches to the ends of the earth.  
Your right hand is filled with righteousness.  
<sup>11</sup> Let Mount Zion be glad!  
Let the daughters of Judah rejoice  
because of your judgments!  
<sup>12</sup> Walk about Zion, go around her,  
number her towers,  
<sup>13</sup> consider well her ramparts,  
go through her citadels,  
that you may tell the next generation  
<sup>14</sup> that this is God,  
our God forever and ever.  
He will guide us forever.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome Ryan Soldano to First Pres.** Ryan and his wife Karli welcomed their first daughter Adeline this past year. They are members of Hope Community Church where he is pursuing God's guidance in ministry. He currently owns his own business, Soldano Carpentry and is considering seminary at Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

## **Did you know we have fresh coffee downstairs in fellowship hall?**

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!

**After Worship Refreshments are back!** Join us TODAY after communion in Fellowship Hall for AWR. Next AWR is Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. Sign up to bring something or help clean up on the First Pres app or contact Rebekah Bert.

**Next Sunday:** Pastor Gary Englestad will preach from Matthew 7:1-6 - "Righteous Judgment"

**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.

## **Ladies of the Church,**

Last fall we did True Woman 101. Now this fall we hope to do True Woman 201 Interior Design! True Woman 201 Interior Design is a 10 week study that covers ten elements of redeemed womanhood found in the book of Titus. It is filled with solid, Biblical truth, insightful content and opportunities for personal reflection. If you missed 101, that is no problem. If you are interested in taking part, please contact Breanna Young at Hello@firstpresocnj.net. Hope you will join us. - Kate Gillet

## **Singles of Hope Beach Day - TODAY!**

Single adults from across our Presbytery will be joining us today. After the service, they will go down to the beach for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

Please see the flyer downstairs or contact Jessica Sauer for more information (201-779-0416)

**Summer Book Club:** Please Join us on July 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm to discuss Chapters 1-5 of "The Gospel Comes with a House Key". Bring your dinner while we eat and discuss in Fellowship Hall. No prior sign up needed. All are welcome. Come when you can.

## **FPC Ladies**

Daughters of the King & Salem Bible Study will start again in September

## **Men's Bible Study**

will start again in September

## **The Martinson's New Address:**

Phyllis and Tom Martinson

401 Sparrows Ridge

Glen Mills, PA 19342

## **JULY USHERS**

Carol Evens

Neil Jordan

Gregg Matis

Jack Shea

Jane Shea

**Our Missionary, Rich Ernst,** invites everyone to join him for a 6:00 pm Hymn Sing at South Seaville Camp Meeting (188 Dennisville Road, South Seaville, NJ), on Wednesday, July 15, 2026. A service follows at 7pm.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Vacation Bible School

### Emerald Crossing: An Irish Adventure Through Psalm 23

Monday through Friday August 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026

9:00am - 12:15pm | Ages 4 - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

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

**Vacation Bible School Art Nights:** July 1 & 15 - 7:00pm - 9:00pm. All are welcome! Join us in Fellowship Hall. Drawing, painting, puppets and constructing! Wear your painting clothes!

**Vacation Bible School Prep:** July 28 - 30. 1:00pm - 4:00pm. All are welcome! Join us in Fellowship Hall. Bring board games for those times when there is nothing to do.



### Did you know that our app has special prayer request groups?

Download the app today & join the youth group chat, the Young family prayer group, the church-wide prayer group, & more!

### 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.

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

Please contact Connie Young for more details!

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

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

In the nursery this week: Rebekah Bert

### 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

# 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 please ask one of the ushers for a first-time visitor's packet.

**scan here to get connected >**



**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! Coffee also included!

### Adult Sunday School

- Verse by verse Bible Study
  - Ezra–Nehemiah

### Pre K - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

- Summer Session
  - One Story

K - 2nd: Mrs. Laielli  
3rd - 6th: Mrs. Olandt  
7th+: Mrs. Young

---

## 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

**Organist and Choir Director:** Renee Tobias

**Custodian:** Jack Shea

**Greeters:** Maria White & Renee Laielli

**Ushers:** Carol Evans, Frank Gillet, Shane Gillet, Bob Krayner, Jack 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.