

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City

“The Mystery of The Messiah”



July 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

“Purer in Heart”

(Fillmore/arr. Ritter)

Responsive Call to Worship - Psalm 105:1-6

Leader: Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name;

People: make known his deeds among the peoples!

Leader: Sing to him, sing praises to him;

People: tell of all his wondrous works!

Leader: Glory in his holy name;

People: let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

Leader: Seek the Lord and his strength;

People: seek his presence continually!

Leader: Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

People: his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

Leader: O offspring of Abraham, his servant,

People: children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

*Hymn No. 72

“To God Be the Glory”

(TO GOD BE THE GLORY)

*Prayer of Invocation & The Lord's Prayer

Deacon Solomon Griffith

Scripture Reading - Exodus 19:1-20

Kim Bennett

Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you have called us to be your holy people and set us apart to glorify your name. In your Word, you have given us everything we need to follow you. Yet we continue to choose our own way. We build our own little kingdoms and care little for the spread of the Gospel. Forgive us. Remind us that we are your people. That in Christ Jesus, we are one new people called to glorify you and share the good news with everyone we meet. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

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

Assurance of God's Pardon - Philippians 1:6

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Confession of Faith - Heidelberg W. 32 Q 86-87

Minute for Missions

Laura Matera
FCA

Tithes and Offerings

“Worthy of Glory”

(Fettke)

*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

*Songs of Worship

“Only By the Blood of the Lamb”

(Foster/Nelson)

“All My Boast Is in Jesus”

(Getty/Boswell/Papa/Fowler)

“Make Me A Servant”

(Willard)

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

Sermon

Pastor Luke Bert

Mark 3:7-19 | The Mystery of the New Israel

*Hymn No. 710

“We Are Called to Be God's People”

(AUSTRIAN HYMN)

We Leave to Serve in God's World

*Benediction

Postlude

“Great God of Glory”

(Paxton)

*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

HEIDELBERG W. 32 Q 86-87

Q & A 86

Q. Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why then should we do good works?

A. Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, is also restoring us by his Spirit into his image, so that with our whole lives we may show that we are thankful to God for his benefits, so that he may be praised through us, so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits, and so that by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.

(Rom. 6:13; 12:1-2; 1 Pet. 2:5-10; Matt. 5:16; 1 Cor. 6:19-20, Matt. 7:17-18; Gal. 5:22-24; 2 Pet. 1:10-11; Matt. 5:14-16; Rom. 14:17-19; 1 Pet. 2:12; 3:1-2)

Q & A 87

Q. Can those be saved who do not turn to God from their ungrateful and unrepentant ways?

A. By no means. Scripture tells us that no unchaste person, no idolater, adulterer, thief, no covetous person, no drunkard, slanderer, robber, or the like will inherit the kingdom of God.

(1 Cor. 6:9-10; Gal. 5:19-21; Eph. 5:1-20; 1 John 3:14)

TITHES & OFFERINGS | “WORTHY OF GLORY”

Worthy of glory, worthy of honor, worthy of praise is He.

Worthy of glory, worthy of honor, worthy of praise is He.

He has redeemed me by the blood of the Lamb,

and He has set my spirit free.

Worthy of glory, worthy of honor, worthy of praise is He.

You are the words and music,

You are the song we sing.

You are the melody, You are the harmony, Praise to You we bring.

You are the Mighty God, you are the Lord of Lords,

You are the King of Kings.

Worthy of praise, worthy of praise, worthy of praise is He.

SERMON | MARK 3:7-19

7 Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a great crowd followed, from Galilee and Judea 8 and Jerusalem and Idumea and from beyond the Jordan and from around Tyre and Sidon. When the great crowd heard all that he was doing, they came to him. 9 And he told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, lest they crush him, 10 for he had healed many, so that all who had diseases pressed around him to touch him. 11 And whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, “You are the Son of God.” 12 And he strictly ordered them not to make him known.

13 And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. 14 And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach 15 and have authority to cast out demons. 16 He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); 17 James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); 18 Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot, 19 and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coalition for Christian Outreach is here! Please welcome them warmly, they will be with us for three weeks! If anyone is able to host dinner (5:00pm - 6:30pm) either at your home or at church between now and July 25th for 8 students, please let Kim Murphy or Pastor Luke Bert know!

True Woman 201 - Ladies of the Church,

If you are interested in starting True Woman 201 September, please let Breanna know by July 26th! This will give us time to order the materials.

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 are interested in taking part, please contact Breanna Young at Hello@firstpresocnj.net.

Deadline for registration is July 26th! Hope you will join us. - Kate Gillet

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.

Summer Book Club: Please Join us on August 12th at 6pm to discuss Chapters 6-10 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.

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 July 26th after communion in Fellowship Hall for AWR. Sign up to bring something or help clean up on the First Pres app or contact Rebekah Bert.

Next Week's Sermon: Mark 3:20-35 | The Mystery of the Strong Man

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEKEND Friday - Sunday, July 24 - 26: Youth and Family Tubing Weekend

Friday - Leave church at 10am for Belleplaine State Forest

Saturday - Tubing at Winding River | please RSVP ASAP | You can do tubing and not camp if you want. Just sign up and tell Kim & meet us at Winding River Campground at 10:00am.

Sunday - Campsite worship and clean up!

Cost: \$100/person (includes food, tubing, and camping) - Sign up in Welcome Center

Age: any age with parent or 5th grade and up



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 VBS this year, please contact Connie Young or Gretchen Murphy!

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.



Some positions still open and ready to be filled for this year's VBS!

- Pre K- Kindergarten Art teacher
- Assistants and Helpers

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: Cherie Arias / Camilla

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 - 12th 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: Meredith Neely & Pat Matis

Ushers: Carol Evans, Neil Jordan, Gregg Matis, Jack Shea, and 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.