

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City

“The Mystery of The Messiah”



August 23, 2026

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

We Enter God's Presence

Organ Prelude

“Faith Everlasting”

(Warriner)

Responsive Call to Worship - Psalm 30:1-4

Elder Joe Laielli

Leader: I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up

People: and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

Leader: O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,

People: and you have healed me.

Leader: O Lord, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;

People: you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints,

People: and give thanks to his holy name.

*Hymn No. 77

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

(LOBE DEN HERREN)

*Prayer of Invocation

Scripture Reading - 1 Peter 1:13-25

Lisa Newsome

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Lord God, you are holy. You call us to live out that same holiness. You call us to love and obedience anchored in the perfect work of Jesus. We confess that we have become distracted by the things of this world. We do not live holy lives. Forgive us, Lord. Sanctify us through Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit, empower us to put sin to death each day, so that our lives may reflect your holy character. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

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

Assurance of God's Pardon - Hebrews 10:10

And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

People: Thanks be to God.

Tithes and Offerings

“Jesus Took the Cup”

(Hopson)

*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

“Sing”

(Sovereign Grace)

“How Majestic Is Your Name”

(M.W. Smith)

“Great Is The Lord”

(M.W. Smith)

“Holy Holy Holy! Lord God Almighty”

(Heber/Dykes./arr. Coates)

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

Sermon

Pastor Luke Bert

Psalm 99 | The King Who Loves Justice

*Hymn

“Only A Holy God”

(see words on screens)

(Farren/Smith/Robinson/

Thompson)

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

Postlude

“Grand Chorus”

(from Handel's
"Joshua" arr. Honey)

*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

TITHES & OFFERINGS | “JESUS TOOK THE CUP”

Jesus took the bread, He took the bread and blest it,
then gave it to his disciples,
He gave it to them saying:
“Take and eat this bread. Take, eat, this bread is my own body.
Do this and remember, remember me and eat.”
Jesus took the cup, He took the cup, gave thanks,
then gave it to his disciples, He gave it to them saying:
“Take and drink this cup. Take, drink, this cup is my own blood,
Do this and remember, remember me and drink”
Thanks to God forever.

[illegible]

SERMON | PSALM 99

- 1 The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion;
he is exalted over all the peoples.
- 3 Let them praise your great and awesome name!
Holy is he!
- 4 The King in his might loves justice.
You have established equity;
you have executed justice
and righteousness in Jacob.
- 5 Exalt the Lord our God;
worship at his footstool!
Holy is he!
- 6 Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel also was among those who called upon his name.
They called to the Lord, and he answered them.
- 7 In the pillar of the cloud he spoke to them;
they kept his testimonies
and the statute that he gave them.
- 8 O Lord our God, you answered them;
you were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.
- 9 Exalt the Lord our God,
and worship at his holy mountain;
for the Lord our God is holy!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

True Woman 201 Participants

True Woman 201 class starts Tuesday September 8th for the morning group and runs every Tuesday from 10:00-11:30 am until November 10th in Fellowship Hall.

The evening class of True Woman 201 starts on Wednesday September 9th at 4:30-6:00 pm ending right before the Wednesday night supper, ending 11/11/2026.

Workbooks for True Woman 201 are in so contact Breanna Young or Kate Gillet

Needed: Babysitter (s) for morning True Woman 201 class that meets starting Tuesday, September 8th- November 10th. If you can help please contact church secretary Bre - Hello@firstpresocnj.net

After Worship Refreshments are back! Join us **TODAY** August 23rd 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.

Membership Classes

Would you like to learn more about FPC's beliefs, practices, and stories? Whether you are new to First Pres, a regular attender, or already a member, you are welcome. Please see Pastor Luke for details about the class time.

Small Group Brainstorm Lunch

Next Sunday (August 30th), there will be a lunch at the manse for anyone who is interested in hosting a small group. This is a brainstorming session, so feel free to come even if you don't see yourself as a leader. Please tell Pastor Luke or Rebekah if you would like to come.

Next Week's Sermon: Mark 5:21-43 | The Mystery of Interrupted Faith

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!

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

New for Youth!

We now have fidget toys available downstairs by the kids 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: Carol Ann Olandt

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
 - By Kevin Olandt

Pre K - 12th Grade

- Summer Session
 - One Story

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

Church App!

Have you downloaded our church app yet?

Scan the QR code off the poster board in the Narthex to download.

- 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!

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: Lisa & David Newsome

Ushers: Frank Gillet, Shane Gillet, Gregg Matis, Jack Shea, 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, and 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.