

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City

“The Mystery of The Messiah”



August 30, 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 "All Creatures, Worship God Most High" (arr. Peterson)

Responsive Call to Worship - Psalm 65:1-4

Leader: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion,

People: and to you shall vows be performed.

Leader: O you who hear prayer,

People: to you shall all flesh come.

Leader: When iniquities prevail against me,

People: you atone for our transgressions.

Leader: Blessed is the one you choose and bring near,

People: to dwell in your courts!

Leader: We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,

People: the holiness of your temple!

*Hymn "Praise Waits for You in Zion" (NYLAND)

*Hymn No. 17 "Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him" (AUSTRIAN HYMN)

*Prayer of Invocation & The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading - Haggai 2:10-23 Kate Gillet

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you have told us that we need to be cleansed. Our sin pollutes our hearts. We try to clean ourselves by our own righteousness, but we use dirty rags. Forgive us for our self-justification. We confess that only you can cleanse us and make us right before you. We come to you empty-handed, trusting only in the righteousness of Jesus. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

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

Assurance of God's Pardon - Romans 7:24-25

Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

People: Thanks be to God.

Confession of Faith - Heidelberg W. 35 Q 96-98

Tithes and Offerings

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

(Mann/Broughton)

*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

“By Faith”

(Getty/Townend)

“We Believe”

(Epperson/Hooper/Fike)

“He Touched Me Medley”

(Gaither)

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

Sermon

Pastor Luke Bert

Mark 5:21-43 | The Mystery of Interrupted Faith

*Hymn

“New Creation in Christ Jesus”

(Peter S.R.)

We Leave to Serve in God's World

*Benediction

Postlude

“Christ the Redeemer”

(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

CONFESSION OF FAITH | HEIDELBERG W. 35 Q 96-98

Q & A 96

Q. What is God's will for us in the second commandment?

A. That we in no way make any image of God nor worship him in any other way than has been commanded in God's Word.

(Deut. 4:15-19; Isa. 40:18-25; Acts 17:29; Rom. 1:22-23; Lev. 10:1-7; 1 Sam. 15:22-23; John 4:23-24)

Q & A 97

Q. May we then not make any image at all?

A. God can not and may not be visibly portrayed in any way. Although creatures may be portrayed, yet God forbids making or having such images if one's intention is to worship them or to serve God through them.

(Ex. 34:13-14, 17; 2 Kings 18:4-5)

Q & A 98

Q. But may not images be permitted in churches in place of books for the unlearned?

A. No, we should not try to be wiser than God. God wants the Christian community instructed by the living preaching of his Word—not by idols that cannot even talk.

(Rom. 10:14-15, 17; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:19; Jer. 10:8; Hab. 2:18-20)

TITHES & OFFERINGS | "O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED"

O Jesus, I have promised To serve thee to the end;
Be thou forever near me, My Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle If thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway If thou wilt be my guide.
O let me feel thee near me, The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me, Around me and within;
But Jesus, draw thou near, And shield my soul from sin.
O Jesus, thou hast promised To all who follow thee,
That where thou art in glory, There shall they servant be;
And Jesus, I have promised To serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, My Master and my Friend.

SERMON | MARK 5:21-43

21 And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. 22 Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet 23 and implored him earnestly, saying, “My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live.” 24 And he went with him.

And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. 25 And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, 26 and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. 27 She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. 28 For she said, “If I touch even his garments, I will be made well.” 29 And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. 30 And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, “Who touched my garments?” 31 And his disciples said to him, “You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, ‘Who touched me?’” 32 And he looked around to see who had done it. 33 But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. 34 And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”

35 While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?” 36 But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.” 37 And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. 38 They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. 39 And when he had entered, he said to them, “Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping.” 40 And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. 41 Taking her by the hand he said to her, “Talitha cumi,” which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.” 42 And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. 43 And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

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

Wednesday Night Dinners - Fall Cooks Needed

Please contact Cherie Arias if you are interested in signing up to cook this fall.

Wednesday night dinners begin October 7th!

After Worship Refreshments are back!

Join us September 27th 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 Begin September 27th at 9:00am

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

TODAY 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 6:1-32 | The Mystery of Unbelief

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: Cherie Arias / Camilla

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

- Esther
 - 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: Joanna Orgovan & Renee Laielli

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.