



# First Presbyterian Church

600 Rahway Avenue

Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095

Established 1675

*("The Historic Old White Church")*

[www.FPCWoodbridgeNJ.org](http://www.FPCWoodbridgeNJ.org)

JUNE 7, 2026

SECOND SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

10:20 AM

**Please give the gift of silence to one another as we prepare for worship. When the service has begun, let conversation be confined to the Foyer. In the Sanctuary, let us follow the Biblical instruction "*Be still, and know that I am God.*"**

*Centering Prayer: For this day so full of beauty and wonder. For this life so filled with curiosity and love. For this people with whom we live and worship. For this church so filled with Your Spirit. For those of sin, joy, and those in sorrow. For those strong in faith and those searching for it. For those at the end of life and those in need of meaning of life. For Your precious gift - our children. We thank you, our God, and give you all the glory. Amen.*

A note about the Lord's Supper:

We will be partaking in the sacrament of Holy Communion today. There are two options for taking the communion elements. You may choose the loose bread and a cup of grape juice or you can choose the combined juice and bread unit.

The bread and combined units will be served first. The cups of juice will be served second. Please hold the bread until we are all served so we may partake together. As the juice is served you may partake as you are ready.

PRELUDE

The Trumpets Sound

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING MUSIC

This is My Father'

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The Lord desires mercy, not sacrifice.

*Matt 9:13*

**P: He calls not the righteous, but sinners.**

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

*2 Thess. 3:18*

**P: And also with you.**

\*OPENING HYMN #526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

## 526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a  
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he  
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a



shout of joy: bread is bro - ken; the wine is poured;  
 sets the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,  
 world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:




Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
 love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain;  
 God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!



earth can breathe a - gain; pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

*Maracas and other rhythm instruments may be used.* 

This "communion calypso" (as the author called it) affirms the continuing presence of Christ both in the sacramental meal and in the lives of Christians. Because this text was written to fit a pre-existing tune, it has a rather telegraphic style that encourages pondering.

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

*1 John 1:8, 9*

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of everlasting love, we confess that we have been unfaithful in our relationship with you and with one another. We have worshiped other gods: money, power, greed, and convenience. We have served our own self-interest instead of serving you and your people. We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded, nor have we rightly loved ourselves. Forgive us, gracious God, and bring us back into the fullness of our relationship with you and one another. Though Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

\*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Ezek. 36:25–28*

\*GLORIA PATRI #581

Glory Be to the Father

\*THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**P: And also with you.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 12:1–9

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

L: The word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

*Psalm 22:1–12*

L: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

**P: O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
and by night but find no rest.**

L: Yet you are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

**P: In you our ancestors trusted;  
they trusted, and you delivered them.**

L: To you they cried and were saved;  
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

**P: But I am a worm and not human,  
scorned by others and despised by the people.**

L: All who see me mock me;  
they sneer at me; they shake their heads;

**P: "Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver—  
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"**

L: Yet it was you who took me from the womb;  
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

**P: On you I was cast from my birth,  
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.**

L: Do not be far from me,  
for trouble is near,  
and there is no one to help.

**P: Many bulls encircle me;  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 4:13–25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning

the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore "it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

L: The word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\*SEQUENCE HYMN #353

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

## My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 353

1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and  
 2 When dark-ness seems to hide his face, I rest on his un-  
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the  
 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in

righ - teous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but  
 chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my  
 whelm-ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he  
 him be found, dressed in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

*Refrain*

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all  
 then is all my hope and stay. less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth-er ground is sink-ing sand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

This hymn develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24–27/ Luke 6:47–49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor.

L: The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew,

**P: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners." While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread through all of that district.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**P: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Rev. Charles Gillett

## Confirmation

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the**

**holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

WELCOME

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY #606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

# Communion Service

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

\*SURSUM CORDA

L: The Lord be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**P: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

\*SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

L: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**P: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION

**L:** The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life.

**P: Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*CLOSING HYMN #65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

## Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me  
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,  
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.  
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.  
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

Blessed Assurance



*Our flowers this morning are given to the Honor and Glory of God and in celebration of Confirmation Sunday!*

Our worship assistant today was elder, Lyn Fales.

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Hymn Sings... Coming soon!

We will be having several Hymn Sings this summer. This is your opportunity to choose a hymn for us to sing together!

Please list the title and number of your favorite hymn, and place this in the offering plate or in mailbox number 4 for Karl.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

(optional)

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## 2026 Confirmation Class Statement

We believe

God is eternal, invisible, infinite, tuff, and our father. He created everything. His love is everlasting.

Jesus is God's son. He came to earth to tell us about God and he died for our sins. He is our savior.

The Holy Spirit is divine and God's presence with us.

The Bible is the written word of God. It was inspired by God. It is the Gospel and His auto-biography.

Sin is the thing people do that God doesn't approve of. It is disobeying God. It is when you lie, do evil or go against God and don't follow his instructions.

Repentance is turning from sin, realizing you are wrong and asking for forgiveness.

Salvation is being saved by faith and accepting Jesus as your Lord and savior.

Heaven is a place with God, the Father, Jesus, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. You get there with faith.

There are two sacraments, baptism and communion. We celebrate them because Jesus told us to do them.

The church is where we worship the Lord. It is a sacred place. It is God's house. The church is also the community of believers.

Religion is cultural, a community's common set of beliefs and principles. Faith is what I believe.



# Sunday School and Graduate Recognition Sunday



June 14, 2026

We will be Recognizing our Graduates  
and  
Celebrating our Sunday School  
During worship on Sunday, June 14

Come out and join us  
at the 10:20 AM Worship Service  
and the reception in Fellowship Hall

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ I will make

Sandwiches \_\_\_\_\_ Type \_\_\_\_\_

Dessert \_\_\_\_\_







## ***2026 Graduate Recognition***

*Help us to recognize those individuals in our congregation who have graduated high school, college, graduate school, specialized schools, etc. on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.*

*Please complete the following form and turn in to the church office, no later than Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.*

*Graduate's Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Name of School:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Degree:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Future plans?* \_\_\_\_\_

*Name/Phone of Person Submitting Name (in case of questions):*

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*Questions, please contact Linda at 732-713-4155*

Reverend Earl H. Devanny Student Loan Fund  
and  
The First Presbyterian Church Scholarship Fund

The Rev. Earl H. Devanny Student Loan Fund was started in 1960 as a memorial to Pastor Devanny who was the pastor of our church from 1933 to 1958. Income for the fund is derived from the contributions of the congregation in the special white envelopes every communion Sunday which are shared with the Committee for Christian Concern, from special donations and from students repaying their loans.

When the fund was first established over 50 years ago it only had a small amount of money to lend out for text books. Since then it has grown and currently provides low cost loans to active Church members who are continuing their post-high school education by attending college or other graduate school. Loans of up to \$1,000 are available each year up to a maximum of \$4,000 for full time students. Loans for part time students are pro-rated. Loan repayment begins four years after the loan is made or once the student's studies are complete, whichever comes first.

Thanks to donations from Church members the Student Loan Committee has been able to establish the First Presbyterian Church Scholarship Fund for active Church members who are students in an accredited secondary program.

If you would be interested in a loan or scholarship, you can contact Bob Stephan, or you can fill out the slip below and leave it in the Student Loan mail box number 48 outside the church office, or you can send us an email at [office@FPCWoodbridgeNJ.org](mailto:office@FPCWoodbridgeNJ.org) indicating you would like to speak to someone about a loan or scholarship. Someone will contact you and go over the application with you. The deadline for applying is June 1.

I am interested in obtaining a Student Loan or Scholarship

Name:

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Address:

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Phone:

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The PW is sponsoring the ***Blanket + Tool Offering*** that will run from Mother's Day through Father's Day. There are envelopes in the pews for your donation. Please complete the form below if you wish to donate in memory of, in honor of, or in appreciation of a loved one. Checks should be made payable to Presbyterian Women. Donations can be placed in the offering plate. An acknowledgement of all donations will be in the bulletin after Labor Day



***Blanket + Tool Offering***

Given by \_\_\_\_\_ Env. # \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Appreciation of \_\_\_\_\_

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**SIGN UP FOR TEXT UPDATES!**

*If you would like to receive periodic updates on news and events here at First Presbyterian Church via text, we invite sign up with your smart phone.*

*Just text **firstwoodbridge** to (762) 441-7331*

*or scan this QR Code:*



*All text communication is coordinated through Clearstream, LLC. Clearstream does not sell, rent or lease its customer lists to third parties. More information available at [clearstream.io/privacy-policy](http://clearstream.io/privacy-policy) or by calling (917) 818-4557.*

**THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH**  
June 7, 2026 – June 14, 2026

Today:	9:15 AM-10:00 AM	Sunday School
	10:20 AM-11:30 AM	Worship and Communion/ Confirmation Sunday
Monday:	9:00 AM– 11:00 AM	Food Pantry
	7:00 PM	Worship Committee- Zoom
Tuesday	6:30 PM	Cub Scout Pack 148
	7:30-9:00 PM	Scouts BSA Troops 143
Wednesday:	7:00 PM	Bible Study- Lounge
	7:30 PM	AA - FH
Thursday:	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal- RR
	7:00 -8:30 PM	NA-FH
Saturday:	11:00 AM- 1:00 PM	Small Group- FH
Next Sunday:		Flag Day
	9:15 AM- 10:00 AM	Sunday School
	10:20 AM- 11:30 AM	Worship/ Sunday School and Graduate Recognition Sunday
	11:30 AM	Luncheon to Celebrate our Graduates and our Sunday School

**Thoughts and Prayers**

Jim Dewitz, Aileen Clayton, Betsy McEwen, Diane Mohr, Sharon and Lisa Rosato, Greg and Ashlie Hanley, Michael Gilligan, Cheryl Vroom, Tom and Cheryl Abbatiello, The McCormack Family, Theresa Loder, Leela, Zeena, Andrew Fedor, Nancy Teal, Diane Malone, Bob Glinecki, The Bradford and Edinger families, Audrey Superior, Richelle, Tom Walsh, John Freeman, Walter Loder, and the Halloran and Velasco families

**OUR CHURCH STAFF**

Charles Gillett – Pastor 480-686-4500  
Karl Hedrick – Director of Music 732-634-1024 (Office)  
Tammy DaRocha – Church Secretary 732-634-1024 (Office)  
Linda Thorstenson – Church School Supt. 732-713-4155 (Cell)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The flower calendar for 2026 is hanging outside the church office.**

The sanctuary flowers will be provided by Floral Expression. For those dedicating flowers, please indicate the reason for the dedication, the person being honored/remembered and whether you will be bringing the flowers or having the office order them for you. Please remit \$40 directly to the church prior to dedication date as the church is billed directly. Checks should be made payable to FPC Woodbridge. You may place payment in the offering plate, mail it to the church, or put it in mailbox 1. Please write "flowers" on the memo line. Thank you.