

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSTOWN, NJ

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 12, 2026

* Please stand if you are able; **bold text spoken** and *bold/italic sung* by all.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE: *"Moonlight Serenade" by Glenn Miller & Orchestra* (3:16)

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, &

AFFIRMATION OF OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

Deb Albrecht

**As disciples of Jesus Christ, led by the Holy Spirit, we
experience God's unconditional love, and we witness to
others by discovering and sharing our gifts.**

* PRAISE SONG: *Lord, Prepare Me (Sanctuary)* No. 701, GTG

***Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and
true. With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.***

* CALL TO WORSHIP:

The earth belongs to God, for the Lord made it.

Come, let us adore our Creator.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;

Come, let us give thanks to our Redeemer.

The steadfast love and mercy of the Lord is everlasting.

**With open hearts and minds, with joy and thanksgiving,
let us worship God.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 464 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *(In silence then unison)*

**Almighty and merciful God, you created us to be the church, the
Body of Christ, to continue the mission of Jesus in the world
today. Yet, we can be more apathetic than active, more isolated
than involved, more callous than compassionate, more obstinate
than obedient, more legalistic than loving.**

**Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sin, remove
the obstacles that prevent us from representing Jesus in the
world and to the world. May your Spirit awaken within us the joy
of living for Jesus and serving him today; in Jesus' name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS:

Hear the good news! There is now no condemnation for those who are in
Christ Jesus! Know you are forgiven and be at peace.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Let us forgive one another.

* CELEBRATING CHRIST'S FORGIVENESS: *No. 466* v. 1
O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

* EXCHANGE OF CHRIST'S PEACE: The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you. *Welcome one another with the peace of Christ.*

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS & OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY & PRAYER OF DEDICATION: *No. 428* v. 1
We Give Thee but Thine Own

DECLARING GOD'S WORD

EPISTLE LESSON: Genesis 2: 15–23
God creates and instills value on the first human beings.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 5: 1–16
Jesus instills value on those who suffer.

SOLO: "You Raise me Up" Maggie Morokutti,
by Rolf Lovland & Brendan Graham Piano/Vocals

SERMON SERIES: *Reviving the Golden Rule:* Pastor David Harvey
1. Reclaiming the Gold in the Rule

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *The Contemporary Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God who places joy in our souls, dancing in our toes and songs in our hearts. I believe God wanted gladness to flow like a river, so the Good Lord created a bountiful earth with plenty for all to share.

I believe in Jesus, who turned water into wine, partied with outcasts and sinners, and touched the broken so they could leap and dance. I believe Jesus opened the doors and set an extra place so we could feast.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who prompts us to smile, who sends us invitations to come and dine, who nudges us to openness and tenderness. I believe the Spirit is present every time we gather to break bread and stirs within us the desire to live joyfully, to walk hopefully, and to enact justice boldly.

Forever, I will live in the embrace of God and be a witness to Christ's resurrection joy. Amen.

* HYMN: *No. 425* *Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining* vv. 1, 3, 4

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, OF THE PEOPLE, & THE LORD'S PRAYER

DEPARTING IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN: *No. 439 In Christ There Is No East or West*

* CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE & BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION: *No. 596 May the Lord, Mighty God*

POSTLUDE: "Take Five" The Dave Brubeck Quartet (5:22)

Our Worship has ended — our Christian Witness begins!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

The Human Family: individuals who struggle with food insecurity and homelessness, the people in the Ukraine and the Middle East; families and communities impacted by gun violence; by severe weather; and those affected by airline disaster

Men & Women Serving in the Armed Forces & America's Veterans

Those in elected office: The President, the Congress, State Assembly, Municipality officials

Healing for Friends & Families:

Cancer: Angela Balogach, Judy Dales, Gordon Dugan, Samantha Elwell, Michelle Haiduc-Dale, Julie Harvey, Olivia Hollis, Adam Hubble, Tracy Lance, Trisha Lenarze-Garmoe, Ed Jones, Troy Lutz, Caitlyn McMorrow & her family, Henry Parsons, Andrew Shan, Robert Talmadge, Molly Young, Audrey, Eva, Liza, Joan

Illness & Injuries: George Burke, Derek Cameron, Elaine Canonico, Kyle Canonico, Lucy Cuipa, Christine Hengel, Jan Smith, Jim Walsh, Ben Weber, Betty Ann Weir, Ann, Annie, Carter, Dave, David, Evelyn, Mia, Tracy, Valerie

ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY

Greeters: Bill Olivier

Ushers: Chester & Elizabeth Topolski

Worship Leader: Deb Albrecht

Soloist: Maggie Morokutti

Pastor: Rev. David Harvey

Sound System: Theo Padavano

MIDI: Frank Wilson

DLP: Ryan Burke

Ministers: The Congregation

Coffee Hour: Carissa Plut

THIS WEEK IN OUR CHURCH

Sun., July 12

10:00 AM Family Worship

Mon., July 13 *Office Closed*

Tue., July 14

10:00 AM Bible Study/OC

Sat. July 18

9:30 AM Food Pantry/OC

Sun., July 19

10:00 AM Family Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Study: Join us Tuesdays at the Outreach Center beginning at 10 AM. Contact the church office to be added to our weekly bible study reminders or visit the church calendar at fpcb-nj.org

Gift Cards! Dunkin', ShopRite, ACME, Panera, Starbucks cards, and more are available. See Gail Weber to order or to learn more about Loaves & Fishes and RaiseRight!

Worship Helpers Needed: You are invited to sign up online through Sign-Up Genius — pick a date that works for you! Visit fpcb-nj.org for the sign-up link on the home page or sign up in Fellowship Hall or speak with Deb Albrecht.

Request for Tropical Trek VBS Supplies: Our VBS Team is reaching out to request donations of supplies. We are very grateful for any items that our members and friends can provide. We ask that you bring items to church or the Outreach Center by July 14. The sign-up sheet is in Fellowship Hall. Monetary donations are also welcome. *Thank You!*

July 19 Tropical Trek VBS Set-Up: Everyone is invited to help decorate and set up for VBS in Fellowship Hall following worship. Help us transform Fellowship Hall into a tropical island! We have the decorations — we just need many hands to put them up. A light lunch will be provided. Questions? Contact Deb Albrecht at (908) 447-2112.

Lumos Concert on Sep. 25: *A Fleetwood Mac Candlelight Experience* — a String Trio performance — in our Sanctuary. 1st Seating: 6:30-7:30 PM | 2nd Seating: 8:30-9:30 PM. Entry: 1st Sitting Doors open at 5:45 PM | 2nd Seating: Doors open at 8 PM — visit our website to order tickets.

Altar Flowers: Do you have a special occasion you would like to commemorate with altar flowers? Flowers can be cut or potted; from your garden, a store, or even delivered from a local florist! The PW flower coordinator of the month of July is **Lillian Smith**. You may sign up in Fellowship Hall or even sign up electronically through SignUpGenius which can be accessed through our website at <https://fpcb-nj.org/altar-flowers/>

Community News:

Hontz Family Band Concert: Free outdoor concert (with free Windy Brow ice cream) at Yellow Frame Presbyterian on Sat., July 18 at 7 PM.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1 Main St., P.O. Box 385, Blairstown, NJ 07825

Church Office: 35 Main St., P.O. Box 385, Blairstown, NJ 07825

Office/Pantry Phone: (908) 362-5254 Fax: (908) 362-8060

e-Mail: fpcb@ptd.net Website: fpcb-nj.org

<https://linktr.ee/fpcbblairstown>

Office Hours: Tuesday — Friday, 9:30 AM — 1:00 PM

CCLI Copyright License #: 2309277, Streaming License #: 20761595

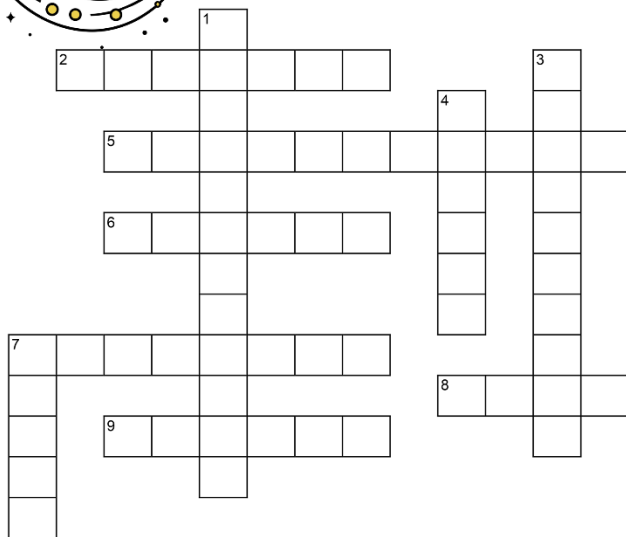


Puzzle!



BEATITUDES

Fill in the blanks below to complete the crossword. Answers are based on Matthew 5:1-13, NIV.



ACROSS

2. _____ and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.
5. Blessed are the _____, for they will see God.
6. Blessed are those who _____ and thirst after righteousness.
7. Blessed are the _____, for they will receive mercy.
8. Blessed are the _____, for they will inherit the earth.
9. Blessed are those who hunger and _____, for they will be filled.

DOWN

1. Blessed are the _____, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
3. Blessed are those who are _____ for righteousness' sake.
4. Great is your _____ in heaven.
7. Blessed are those who _____, for they will be comforted.

Answer key: 2 Across: Rejoice, 5 Across: pure in heart, 6 Across: hunger
7 Across: merciful, 8 Across: meek, 9 Across: thirst, 1 Down: poor in spirit
3 Down: persecuted, 4 Down: reward, 7 Down: mourn



First Presbyterian
Church of Blirstown

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

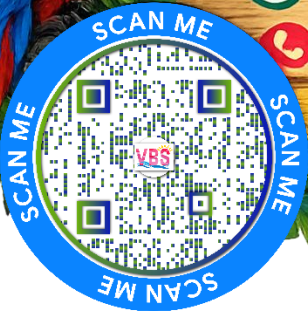
JULY
20-24



fpcb-nj.org/vbs



(908) 362-5254



Register now!