

OAK TREE-ISELIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Mind, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

1295 Oak Tree Road, Iselin, NJ 08830

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Sunday, February 1, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Service led by: Elder Herb Williams

Liturgist: Elder Sue Ramirez

Alaine Bolton, Director of Music



Gathering for Worship

We request that you silence all electronic devices before service begins.

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Centering Thought

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.
- (Psalm 136:1)

PRELUDE

Alaine Bolton Director of Music

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sue Ramirez

CHORAL INTROIT # 399 God Welcomes All (2x)

God Welcomes All 399

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

The first system of musical notation is for the first line of the hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;".

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

The second system of musical notation is for the second line of the hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.".

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sue Ramirez

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.
Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.
Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his steadfast love endures forever. Amen

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)**

Sue Ramirez

Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations! Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship you, for your righteous acts have been revealed. Amen.

***HYMN #372 O for a World**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Sue Ramirez

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weaknesses, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (Responsive)

Sue Ramirez

Holy Creator, we confess and acknowledge that you created us in your own image and likeness, so that in our whole nature no imperfection could be found.

From this dignity and perfection man and woman have fallen, both conspiring against your sovereign majesty.

We have shown ourselves hostile to you, and have made ourselves servants to sin.

And thus everlasting death has power and dominion over us all, unless we are reborn from above.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, work this rebirth in us, creating in our hearts the confidence of chosen ones, with assured faith in your promise revealed to us in your Word;

by this faith we grasp Christ Jesus with the graces and blessings promised in Him.

PERSONAL CONFESSION

Sue Ramirez

Merciful God, hear now our own personal confessions that we lift up to you in silence.

(Silence is kept)

In the strong name of Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Herb Williams

Brothers and Sisters, hear the good news:

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.

We are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Praise Christ! By His sacrifice we are forgiven, we are forgiven, we are forgiven. **Amen.**

***THE RESPONSE # 583** Glory to God (2x)


Glory to God

583

Gloria, gloria

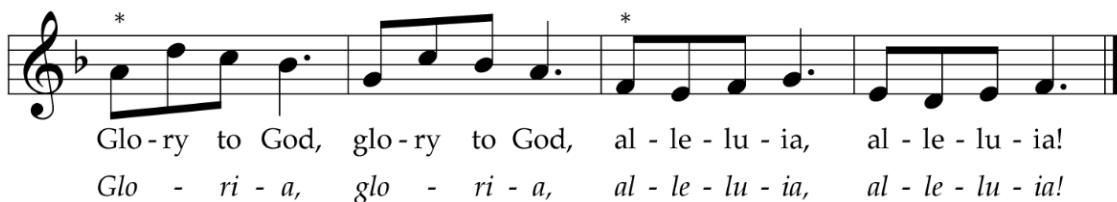
Capo 3: (Bm) (Em) (A) (D)

Dm Gm C F *(chords continue)*



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

(Hymn continues next page)



***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Sue Ramirez

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Please pass the peace with friends and loved-ones)

Hearing and Responding to the Word Proclaimed

TIME FOR CHILDREN OR THE YOUNG IN HEART

Herb Williams

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sue Ramirez

Calm us now, O Lord, into a quietness that heals and listens. Open wounded hearts to the balm of your Word. Speak to us in clear tones so that we might feel our spirits leap for joy and skip with hope as your resurrection witnesses. Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Holy Spirit rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living in Jesus' holy name we pray, **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 15

Sue Ramirez

¹ LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain? ²The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart;
³ whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others; ⁴ who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the LORD; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind; ⁵ who lends money to the poor without interest; who

does not accept a bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 5:1-12

Herb Williams

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

He said:

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

THE MESSAGE

Who Keeps an Oath, Even When it Hurts

Herb Williams

***HYMN # 418 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Herb Williams

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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.

We Give, in Appreciation for God's Gifts



THE OFFERING

With grateful hearts, let us bring our tithes and offerings to the God from whom they came.

***THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

Praise God, from Whom
All Blessings Flow

608

The musical score is written on a treble clef staff in the key of G major (one sharp). It consists of three lines of music. The first line has six measures with notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Chords above are G, C, Am7, Dsus, D, G. The second line has six measures with notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Chords above are D, Am7, Dsus, D, Am7, D, G, Am7. The third line has six measures with notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Chords above are G, C, Am7, G, Am7, D, G. The lyrics are: 'Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit ever - more; praise Tri - une God, whom we adore.'

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all
peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -
more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

***THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Guest speaker will share a prayer)

Empowered to Spread God's Love

*HYMN # 213 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

BENEDICTION (Guest Speaker will share benediction)

*CHORAL BENEDICTION # 539

We Will Go Out with Joy 539

C F/C C G7 C

Leader



1 We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.
2 Now an - y - one who's born of the Spir-it, sing a new song of joy.
3 We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.

C F/C C C/G G7 C

All *Fine*



We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.
Now an - y - one who's born of the Spir-it, sing a new song of joy.
We will go out with joy in the Spir-it; we will go out with God.

Refrain F#sus2 C F G C



Al - le - lu - ia! We will go out with joy.

F#sus2 C E#sus2 Dm7 Gsus G

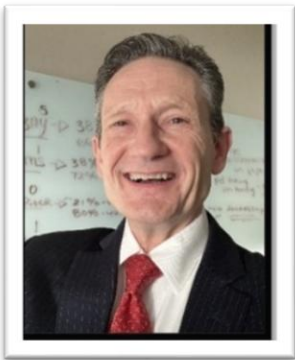
to Stanzas



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

THE POSTLUDE

OFFERING: Whether you are just passing through town and wanted to stop in for church, this is your first visit of many future ones, or you are with us every week, we certainly appreciate your desire to give anonymously, but if you would like to receive a record of giving for tax purposes, please fill out a pew envelope, check ‘I am visiting’, and add your name and address. Please make checks payable to: Oak Tree-Iselin Presbyterian Church. We appreciate every generous gift and want to make sure we have a proper record of it to say, Thank you!



This morning, we welcome Oak Tree-Iselin Presbyterian Church Elder Herb Williams, to our pulpit. Herb grew up in Iselin and retired after a career in the Woodbridge Police Department. He attended Sunday school at the lower level of this church (formerly The First Presbyterian Church of Iselin). His mother, Ann Marie, served as an elder in the former Oak Tree Presbyterian Church, Edison, NJ, where she was a beloved member. Herb has two sons, one daughter, and three grandchildren.

Friendly Reminders

Today	Congregational Meeting	After worship
Saturday 02/07/2026	Men’s and CLEF Ladies’ Breakfast	9 am in Fellowship Hal
Sunday 02/08/2026	Souper Bowl Sunday	During Fellowship Hour
Monday 2/9/2026	Session	7 pm
Monday 02/16/2026	Presidents’ Day	Office Closed
Tuesday 02/17/2026	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	6 pm
Wednesday, 02/18/2026	Ash Wednesday: Joint worship service at Community Presbyterian Church	7 pm

Session

Laura Reeves, Clerk of Session

Betsy Christensen	Mission
Jim Durgana	Treasurer
Leonard Mesonas	Human Resources, Officer Nominating Committee
Leonard Mesonas	Finance Chair, President of Corporation
Heather Meyers	Christian Education
Sue Ramirez	Worship and Music
Jeff Reeves	Buildings and Grounds
Ron Stamboly	Financial Secretary
Herb Williams	Mission

The Board of Deacons

Rose Anne Anthony, Moderator

Nikkie Hayase, Board Secretary

Kate Scott, Session Liaison

Cards	Marion Feliks, Chair
Deacon's Assistance Fund	Joan Moscomagas, Chair
Deacon's Nominating Comm.	Joan Moscomagas, Chair
Flowers	Joanne Mesonas & Karen Wallner Co-Chairs
Hospitality	Rose Anne Anthony, Chair
Literature	Nikkie Hayase & Nandai Sookho, Co-Chairs
Ministry of Compassion	Nancy Abel / Sara Schweitzer (non-deacons)
Welfare	Joan Moscomagas, Chair

Regular Activities

Church Office is open Monday - Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

Men's Breakfast & CLEF Ladies Breakfast meet 1st Saturday in Fellowship Hall.

Session meetings are held monthly (dates will be posted in the Friendly Reminders section).

Prayer Shawl Ministry, every other Thursday at 7 pm, Choir Room

Choir practice: Every Sunday at 9:30 am

Divine Worship: In the sanctuary
Sundays at 10:30 am

Our Mission Statement



We are a warm and welcoming community of faith, living the teachings of Jesus Christ and open to God's presence through the power of the Holy Spirit. We seek new pathways of ministry and service to fulfil God's purpose for our diverse community. - approved by the merger committee on Wednesday, July 20, 2022 and ratified by congregational vote, June 11, 2023.

Dear Members and Guests, if you'd like to know more information about the latest news,



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