

# OAK TREE-ISELIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Mind, hearts, hands and voices in Christ*

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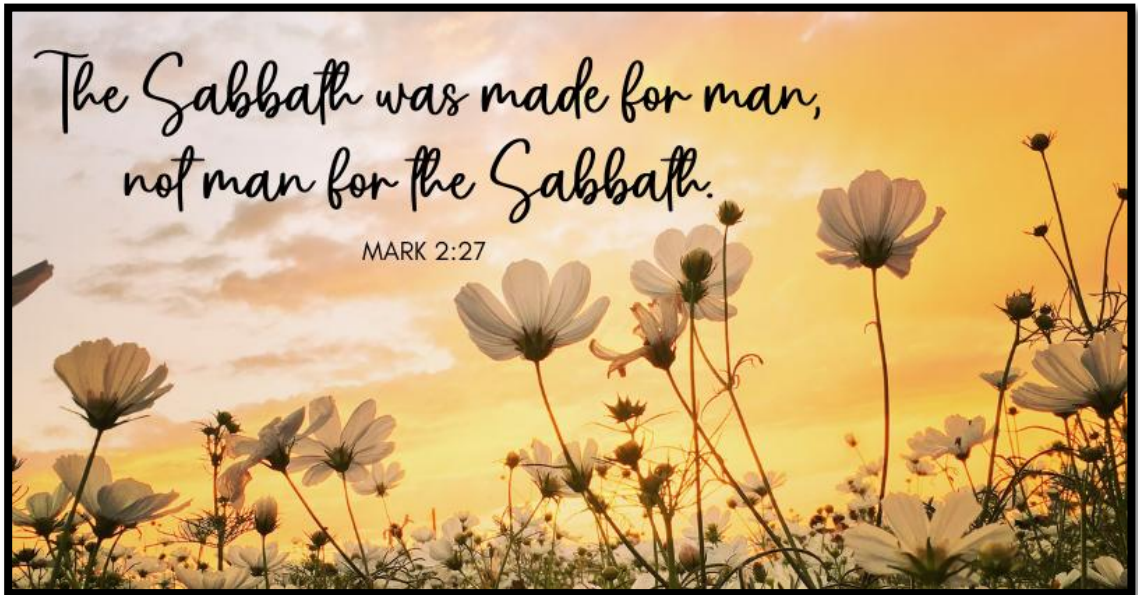
Sunday, February 15, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Service led by: Elder Len Mesonas

Liturgist: Deacon Sara Schweitzer

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

Holy Spirit, I come into your presence now, releasing the need to perform or produce.

You have said in Psalm 46:10, Be still and know that I am God, and I choose stillness over striving. I surrender my racing thoughts, my endless plans, my anxious concerns.

I place them all into your capable hands.

**PRELUDE**

**Alaine Bolton Director of Music**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sara Schweitzer**

**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 a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 4/4 time and the key of D major. The treble staff contains a series of chords: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, A6, B6, C7, D7, E7, F#7, G7, A7, B7, C8, D8, E8, F#8, G8, A8, B8, C9, D9, E9, F#9, G9, A9, B9, C10, D10, E10, F#10, G10, A10, B10, C11, D11, E11, F#11, G11, A11, B11, C12, D12, E12, F#12, G12, A12, B12, C13, D13, E13, F#13, G13, A13, B13, C14, D14, E14, F#14, G14, A14, B14, C15, D15, E15, F#15, G15, A15, B15, C16, D16, E16, F#16, G16, A16, B16, C17, D17, E17, F#17, G17, A17, B17, C18, D18, E18, F#18, G18, A18, B18, C19, D19, E19, F#19, G19, A19, B19, C20, D20, E20, F#20, G20, A20, B20, C21, D21, E21, F#21, G21, A21, B21, C22, D22, E22, F#22, G22, A22, B22, C23, D23, E23, F#23, G23, A23, B23, C24, D24, E24, F#24, G24, A24, B24, C25, D25, E25, F#25, G25, A25, B25, C26, D26, E26, F#26, G26, A26, B26, C27, D27, E27, F#27, G27, A27, B27, C28, D28, E28, F#28, G28, A28, B28, C29, D29, E29, F#29, G29, A29, B29, C30, D30, E30, F#30, G30, A30, B30, C31, D31, E31, F#31, G31, 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The voice of God is calling us to come with all that we are and all that we carry to worship.

**Come let us worship!**

God calls us to gather, to receive grace in our gathering, to reorient us again to the ways of God.

**Come let us worship!**

So, come, members of the family of God! Bring all that you are to be molded by grace, refocused toward love, and woven together as a community in Christ.

**Come! Let us worship! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Responsive)**

**Sara Schweitzer**

Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from old.

**Do not remember the sins of our youth or our transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember us, for goodness' sake, O LORD!**

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore, he instructs the sinners in the way.

**For your name's sake O LORD, pardon our guilt for it is great. Turn to us and be gracious to us, for we are lonely and afflicted.**

Relieve the troubles of our hearts, and bring us out of our distress,

**Consider our affliction and our trouble and forgive all our sins. Amen.**

**\*HYMN # 156 Sing of God Made Manifest**

**INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

**Sara Schweitzer**

Our God is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unflinching love. He is close to all who call on Him in truth, listening to their cries for help, and offering them salvation. So let us bring our confession to God, knowing that he will hear our prayers and forgive.

**PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (Responsive)**

**Sara Schweitzer**

Merciful Savior, you have called us to be ambassadors of reconciliation. Help us to live up to this call by extending grace and forgiveness to those around us.

Grant us the courage to confess our faults and the humility to seek forgiveness. May your Holy Spirit inspire us to pursue reconciliation with unwavering faith and hope. Amen.

**PERSONAL CONFESSION**

**Sara Schweitzer**

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**

**Len Mesonas**

Jesus knows our every weakness and loves us still. Awaken to the promise of Christ's amazing love.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

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

# Glory to God

# 583

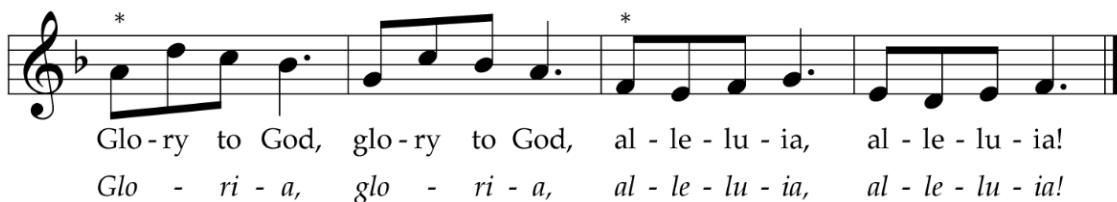
*Gloria, gloria*

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**

**Sara Schweitzer**

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 AT HEART**

**Len Mesonas**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Sara Schweitzer**

Guide us O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Psalm 1**

**Sara Schweitzer**

<sup>1</sup>Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, <sup>2</sup>but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law, day and night. <sup>3</sup>That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers. <sup>4</sup>Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away. <sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. <sup>6</sup>For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

**NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 12:1-9****Len Mesonas**

**12** At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick some heads of grain and eat them. <sup>2</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, “Look! Your disciples are doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath.” <sup>3</sup>He answered, “Haven’t you read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? <sup>4</sup>He entered the house of God, and he and his companions ate the consecrated bread—which was not lawful for them to do, but only for the priests. <sup>5</sup>Or haven’t you read in the Law that the priests on Sabbath duty in the temple desecrate the Sabbath and yet are innocent? <sup>6</sup>I tell you that something greater than the temple is here. <sup>7</sup>If you had known what these words mean, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the innocent. <sup>8</sup>For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.” <sup>9</sup>Going on from that place, he went into their synagogue.

**THE MESSAGE****A Day with Jesus****Len Mesonas****\*HYMN # 274 You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd****\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH****Len Mesonas**

**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 608 All Blessings Flow

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, with chords G, C, Am7, Dsus, D, and G written above it. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with chords D, Am7, Dsus, D, Am7, D, G, and Am7 written above it. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow;      praise Christ, all  
peo - ple here be - low;      praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -

(Hymn continues next page)



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 # 12    Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

**BENEDICTION**    *(Guest Speaker will share benediction)*

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION # 539**    *(verse 1, refrain, verse 1)*


**We Will Go Out with Joy                    539**



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.

*(Hymn continues next page)*

C *All* F/C C C/G G7 C *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 G#sus 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 Len Mesonas, to our pulpit.** Len Mesonas is a former teacher with the Edison Township Public schools where he taught Technology Education and Mathematics. He also spent time as an adjunct professor at Kean University in Union. At Kean he taught Technology, Computer Science and Transition to Kean.

## *Friendly Reminders*

<b>Monday</b> 02/16/2026	Presidents' Day	Office Closed
<b>Tuesday</b> 02/17/2026	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	6 pm
<b>Wednesday,</b> 02/18/2026	Ash Wednesday: Joint worship service at Community Presbyterian Church	7 pm

**2026 Per Capita - \$42.00**

## *Scheduled Liturgists!*

*In the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) context, a liturgist sets the tone for worship. They welcome everyone, lead and guide both the congregation and guests through the various parts of worship and assists the pastor throughout the worship service to create an atmosphere of peace, cohesiveness and unity. (). Please email Margarita at [info@oaktree-iselinprs.org](mailto:info@oaktree-iselinprs.org) if you'd like an opportunity to serve as a liturgist.*

<b>February 2026</b>	
<b>Today</b>	Sara Schweitzer
02/22/26	Ron Stamboly

<b>March 2026</b>	
03/01/26	
03/08/26	Christ Madsen
03/15/26	Betsy Christensen
03/22/26	
03/29/26	Ron Stamboly

To all who answered the call to serve as liturgists, Thank you!  
Please email Margarita Estrada at [info@oaktree-iselinprs.org](mailto:info@oaktree-iselinprs.org) or call her at (732) 283-1188, if you'd like further opportunities to serve as liturgists.

# Session

Laura Reeves, Clerk of Session

	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 1<sup>st</sup> 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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Cover Photo: [thefaithfulwoman.com](http://thefaithfulwoman.com)