OAK TREE-ISELIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Mind, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

1295 Oak Tree Road, Iselin, NJ 08830
www.oaktree-iselinpres.org
(732) 283-1188
Email: info@oaktree-iselinpres.org

Sunday, April 19, 2026 10:30 a.m.

Service led by: Elder Herb Williams

Liturgist: Deacon Nancy Abel 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

You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence. - Acts 2:28

PRELUDE **Alaine Bolton Director of Music**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS **Nancy Abel**

CHORAL INTROIT He Is Lord (2x)
He is Lord, He is Lord.
He is risen from the dead and He is Lord.
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)** **Nancy Abel**
I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.
I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.
The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.
The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.
Let us worship, praise and glorify the Lord together. Amen

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)** **Nancy Abel**
We enter your courts with praise, O God; we come into your house with thanksgiving. Christ is the door by which we enter your new order; he is the source of our comfort and the anchor of our faith. Through him you have shown us the way unto the land of your promise, where peace is eternal and grace has no bounds. In Christ you give us the cup of salvation;

in him we receive the bread of life. To you indeed our vows are to be made; you shall hear our confession of faith. So be with us now as we gather, and be pleased with the homage we bring.
Amen

***HYMN # 404 What Is This Place ?**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION **Nancy Abel**
We are called to righteousness but our sin was carried by Jesus to death on a cross. Let us come before the Lord with contrite hearts and confess our sins to Him and to one another.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (In Unison) **Nancy Abel**
O Lord, you are our shepherd, and yet we want.
We lie down when we could act.
We stir the pot when we could offer peace.
We wander tempting paths instead of following you.
We see courage and comfort in earthly things rather than in you.
We hate our enemies and refuse to break bread with them,
We see scarcity even when you offer us abundance.
We pray for forgiveness, for your goodness and mercy,
So that we might dwell in You, in your grace, forever.
Amen.

PERSONAL CONFESSION **Nancy Abel**
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**
The Lord is our shepherd; we strayed but have now returned to the guardian of our souls. My friends, hear the good news: We are healed by the

wounds of the risen Christ. We are forgiven, we are forgiven, we are forgiven.
Praise be to Jesus our Lord and Savior.

***THE RESPONSE # 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me**

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE** **Nancy Abel**
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 **Herb Williams**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION **Nancy Abel**
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. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING **Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19** **Nancy Abel**
Pew Bible pg. 630
Large Print Bible: pg. 955
(L*iturgist, to create a unified experience for congregants, please ensure that everyone is on the same page before you begin reading.)*

NEW TESTAMENT READING **Acts 2:14, 36-41** **Herb Williams**
Pew Bible pg. 1109; 1110
Large Print Bible: pg. 1692; 1694
(Guest Speaker, *to create a unified experience for congregants, please ensure that everyone is on the same page before you begin reading.)*

THE MESSAGE This Jesus Whom You Have Crucified Herb Williams

***HYMN # 729 Lord, I Want to Be a Christian**

***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

Merciful God, you are the source of all life. All goodness and beauty flow from the depths of your being. You have caused the mountains to form and rise up; their valleys you clothe with blossoms, like a fine carpet woven with design. You give the birds freedom of flight; the fish search the depths of your oceans. The fields are fertile with the seeds of the harvest. Cities teem with your people of many races and languages. You are the Great Designer who delights in creating.

Father, we give you thanks that you have placed us at the pinnacle of your plan. We are humbled by the honor you give and awed by your affirmation of us. May our service to others confirm our confession that you are God of our lives.

We pray for all who suffer this day from pains that are caused by others and those that are self-inflicted. Hear us, O God, as we intercede for sisters, brothers, and strangers who are wounded and long to be made whole. May those facing death, poverty, hunger, war, and injustice retain dignity and be

graced with the assurance that Christ lives in their midst. For those plagued by fears, light up their dark places with your guidance. Fill the afflicted with the same Spirit that in Christ drove out demons.

Holy Spirit, we pray you guide those who make decisions of war and of peace, justice and fairness, liberty and economy and bless them with wisdom and Christ-like love and restore the peace and order the Lord ordained for our mortal world.

Since Jesus bore in his body on the tree all that grieves us, let us die to sin and live as those who are healed and forgiven. **Amen.**

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

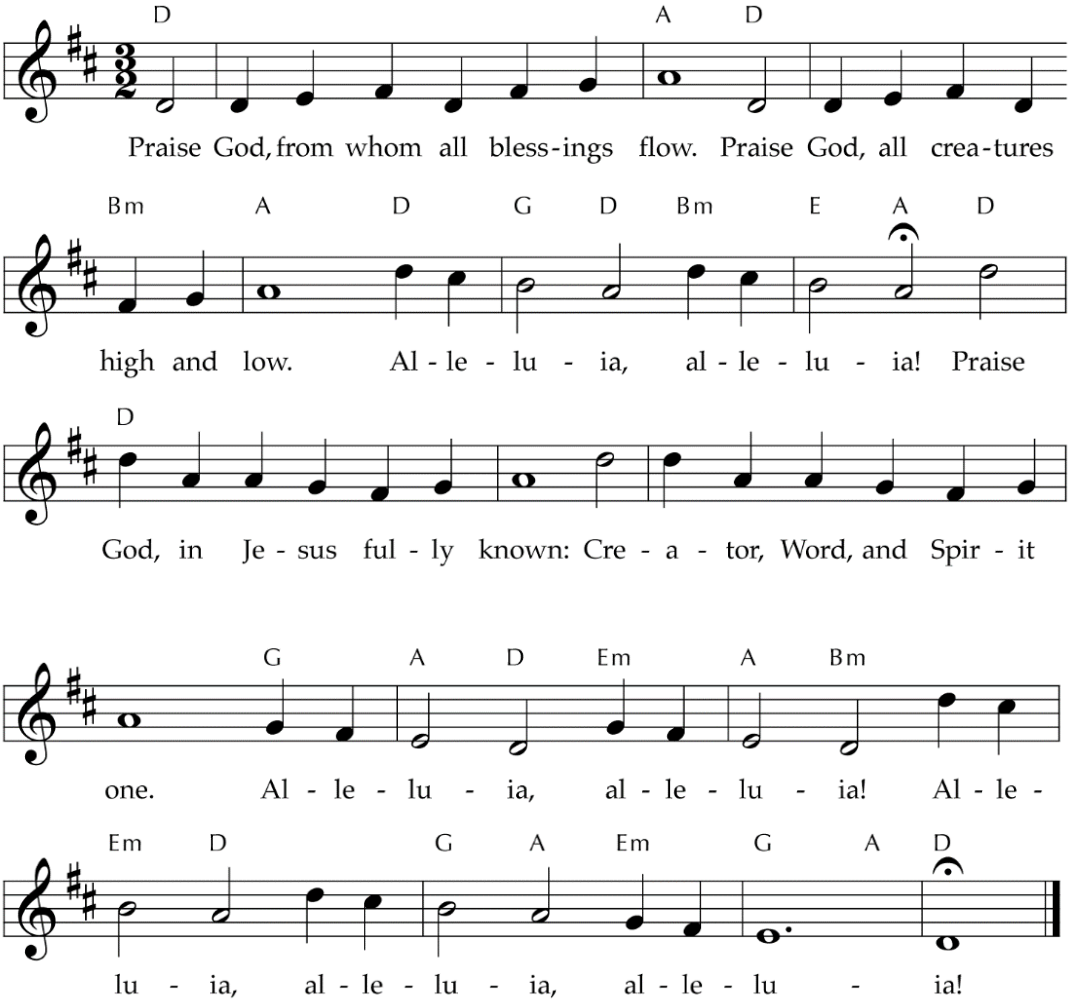
With grateful hearts, let us bring our tithes and offerings to the God from whom they came.

***THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE # 609**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

SERVICE MUSIC

609 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



***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 # 526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**

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

***CHORAL BENEDICTION Lord, I Lift Your Name on High** *(2X)*

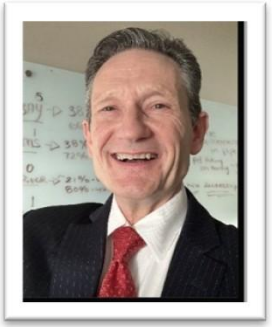
Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us

You came from heaven to earth to show the way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high

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!

Welcome!



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.

2026 Per Capita - $42.00

Per Capita is the annual $42 per-member contribution that connects and supports the shared ministry of the Presbytery of the Coastlands, the Synod of the Northeast, and the national PCUSA church. $26.49 supports the operations, mission, and ministry of Coastlands. We remit $4.25 per church member to the Synod and $11.26 to the General Assembly.

Friendly Reminders

Today 04/12/2026 and throughout April	Elder Herb Williams will lead worship	

A Message from your Mission Committee

What does the Lord require of you? "… to do justice, and to walk humbly with your God (Micah 6:8)

"This year's One Great Hour of Sharing theme is 'Give with a Purpose.' By participating, we provide hope to those facing disaster, hunger, and displacement—empowering families to rebuild their lives and secure a better future. You have a chance to make a real impact! Please join this effort by giving today or next Sunday. Kindly write 'One Great Hour of Sharing' on your envelope."

Thank you,
Elder Herb Williams, Chair
The Oak Tree-Iselin Presbyterian Church Mission Committee

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 if you'd like an opportunity to serve as a liturgist.

April 2026	
Today	Nancy Abel
04/26/26	Ron Stamboly

May 2026	
05/03/26	Nancy Abel
05/10/26	Leonard Mesonas
05/17/26	Chris Madsen
05/24/26	
05/31/26	Ron Stamboly

Session

Laura Reeves, Clerk of Session

Jim Durgana	Treasurer
Grace Rozger	Human Resources
Leonard Mesonas	Finance Chair, President of Corporation; Officer Nomination Committee
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 & Nancy Abel, Co-Chairs
Literature	Nikkie Hayase & Nandai Sookho, Co-Chairs
Ministry of Compassion	Nancy Abel, Chair / Sara Schweitzer, Co-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
(see Sue Ramirez for confirmation)

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,

Visit Scan QR code to website! Visit us on Facebook and Instagram, @oaktreeiselinpreschurchnj and YouTube @oaktreeiselinpresnj.
Email us at: info@oaktree-iselinpres.org

Cover Photo: Italian Renaissance master Raphael around 1515.