OAK TREE-ISELIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Mind, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

Pentecost Sunday!

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

Sunday, May 24, 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

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" – Acts 2:21

PRELUDE **Alaine Bolton Director of Music**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS **Sue Ramirez**

CHORAL INTROIT # 404 What Is This Place *(all verses)*

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)** **Sue Ramirez**

Come, sing a new song of worship!
Come, sing a new song of praise.
Today is a day of a promise fulfilled.
With joy we celebrate Pentecost.
A day when power and comfort flowed.
A day of hope and inspiration.
A day when the Holy Spirit was revealed in flaming glory.
And the glory was given to the people.
The fire of the Holy Spirit lives on in us.
Sing praises! We sing praises, indeed! Amen

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (Responsive)** **Sue Ramirez**

Come Holy Spirit!
Open heaven and shine your light.
O father of the poor, giver of gifts, and light of our hearts, come.
Comforter, dwell with us and bring relief: to the weary, you are rest,
to the burning, you are refreshment, to the grieving, you are peace.

O blessed light, enlighten our deepest hearts:
Without you, we are empty, our works are worthless. Come pour your water, cleanse, refresh, and heal. Come breathe your breath and shape, enliven, and correct.

Come, Holy Spirit, and unite,
By your gifts gather us as one. Lead us, O Spirit, on the pilgrims' path, shining with your goodness as we climb to our heavenly home and your joy without end. Amen

***HYMN # # 20 All Things Bright and Beautiful**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION **Sue Ramirez**
God's Spirit is alive and at work among us, gathering us for worship, calling us to return to God through prayer, praise and confession. Let us offer contrite hearts as we pray together.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (In Unison) **Sue Ramirez**
Spirit of the Living God, we hesitate and doubt. You call us to act boldly, but fear keeps us quiet and circling. We confess our lack of courage, splintered by uncertainty and second-guessing. Forgive us for all the times we shrink from your call. Embolden us to dream beyond what we know and imagine the world as beloved community. Let your Spirit fill us, prodding us beyond inertia. Grant that we might be Christ's body, not in fits and starts but with steady conviction. Guided by your Holy Spirit, help us be active participants in ushering in your peaceable kingdom. Amen

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**
This is our God: generous, full of mercy and grace, and eager to forgive us when we repent. The Holy Spirit is among us. By His power and through the sacrifice of Christ, God has cleansed your sin. It is gone. You are clean. Brothers and Sisters, rejoice! We are forgiven and freed. **Amen.**

***THE RESPONSE # 581 Glory Be to the Father**

***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 AT HEART **Herb Williams**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION **Sue Ramirez**

Holy Spirit, rest upon us now, we pray. Open our eyes that we may see what you mean for us to see. Open our ears to hear your message for us today. Open our hearts and reside in us and set us on fire to understand your Word and let it shape our days, our lives, and our every thought.
In Jesus' mighty name we pray, Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Numbers 11:24-30 Sue Ramirez
Pew Bible pg. 149
Large Print Bible: pg. 225-226
(*Liturgist, to create a unified experience for congregants, please ensure that everyone is on the same page before you begin reading.)*

NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 2:1-21 Herb Williams
Pew Bible pg. 1109-1110
Large Print Bible: pg. 1692-1693
(Guest Speaker, to create a unified experience for congregants, please ensure that everyone is on the same page before you begin reading.)

THE MESSAGE Don't Wait for The Last Days Herb Williams

***HYMN # 288 Spirit of the Living God**

***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 (RESPONSIVE)

God of the gathering wind, as we celebrate Pentecost and feel summer's first warm breath, plant in us the quiet courage of seeds beneath soil — small but determined, destined to rise.

Align our seasons with your divine rhythms. Let us unfurl in righteousness like morning glories opening to dawn light, like wheat fields bending golden under your gaze.

Spirit of Peace, in these days when violence seems to engulf us – when weapons thunder across borders, when classrooms become places of terror, when families walk endless miles seeking shelter – deliver us from the darkness we have allowed to flourish.

Guide the long journey of human history toward your promised justice. Grant us the strength to stand against hatred's divisions, to speak your love that knows no boundaries, to transform systems that perpetuate suffering, to be steadfast in our pursuit of peace.

Wind of wisdom, Breath of understanding, You who once drew scattered people together at Pentecost — kindle in us a hospitality that mirrors Christ's open arms. Unseal our hearts to truly see the journeys others walk.

Fill us with that love which defies boundaries, which heals what seems beyond repair. Let us become your unified voice rising from many throats,

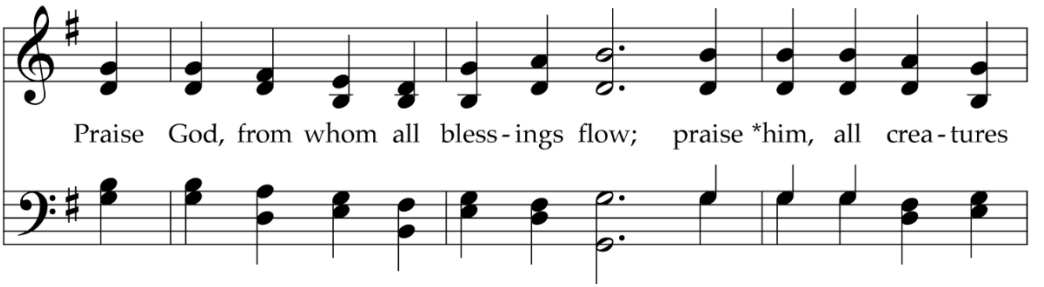
your single body formed of countless limbs, offering gratitude for the redemption you have promised and continue to unfold among us.
Merciful One, attend to these whispered hopes we offer. Together now, as Christ's living presence, we turn to the ancient words that Jesus gave us praying… **"Our Father…"**

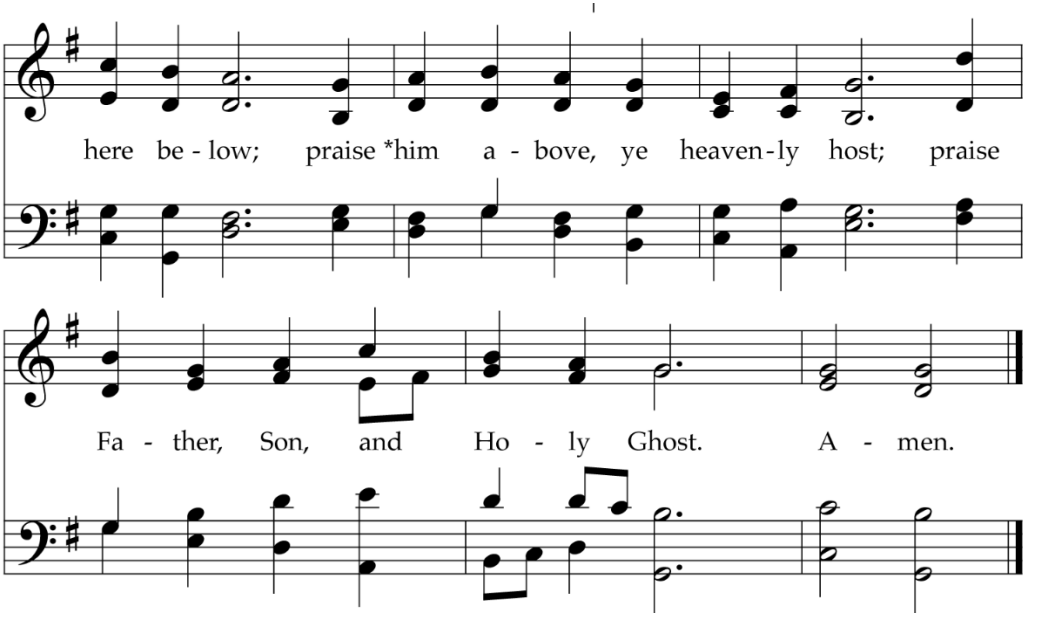
THE LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, For thine is the kingdom, 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 # 606**

606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Doxology

(Hymn begins next page)



***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 # 291 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness**

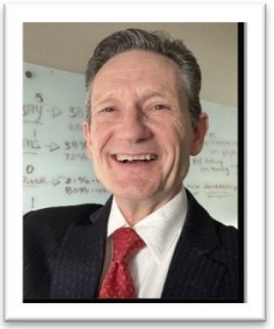
***BENEDICTION**
(Guest speaker will share benediction)

***CHORAL BENEDICTION # 745 Now Go in Joy**

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.

Friendly Reminders

Today	Elder Herb Williams will lead worship through the end of May 2026.	
Saturday 06/06/2026	Men's Breakfast and CLEF Ladies' Breakfast	9 am at Meline Doodnauth's house 17 Vallata Place Edison, NJ 08820

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.

May 2026	
Today (Pentecost Sunday)	Sue Ramirez
05/31/26	Ron Stamboly

June 2026	
06/07/26	
06/14/26	Len Mesonas
06/21/26	Jim Durgana
06/28/26	Ron Stamboly

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.

Look forward to welcoming our new pastor!

Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez will begin her journey with the Oak Tree-Iselin Presbyterian Church starting Wednesday, July 1, 2026, and will deliver her first sermon on as pastor of this church Sunday, July 5, 2026.

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,

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