OAK TREE-ISELIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

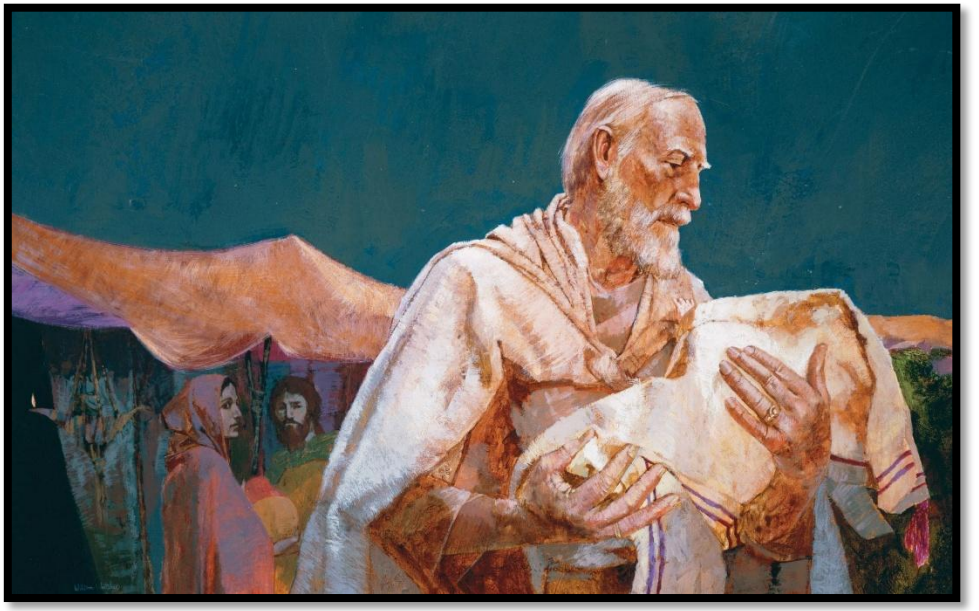
Mind, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

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

Sunday, June 28, 2026 10:30 a.m.

Service led by: Elder Herb Williams

Liturgist: Elder Ron Stamboly 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

To follow means bearing a cross.

PRELUDE **Alaine Bolton Director of Music**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS **Ron Stamboly**

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

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)** **Ron Stamboly**

Let us sing of God's steadfast love forever;
With my mouth I will proclaim God's faithfulness to all generations.
Who is like the LORD God Almighty?
Our LORD is mighty, and His faithfulness surrounds us.
Let us declare that God's steadfast love is established forever;
God's faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Amen

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (Responsive)** **Ron Stamboly**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe, who forms light and creates darkness, who makes peace and creates all things. Our hearts leap with joy at the sight of your goodness; you are the bountiful source of compassion and care. You deal bountifully with us in our goings and comings; you are attuned to our needs before we utter a word. Your wisdom is vast; we cannot comprehend it, yet you send Christ who makes your will known. As we sit now at the feet of your glory, open our ears to hear of your faithfulness and our mouths to sing you our praises. Amen

***HYMN # 630 Fairest Lord Jesus**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION **Ron Stamboly**

We have been called to love our God with all our heart, mind, strength and soul and to love our neighbor as ourselves, but our lives are constricted and

self-consumed. We have failed to love God, our neighbor and ourselves as we should. Let us make a good confession before God and others.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (In Unison) **Ron Stamboly**
God of the risen Christ, you broke the power of sin and evil. And yet we still live in the tombs of forgetfulness, anxiety and fear. We have failed to love you as we should. We have neglected to love our neighbor. Indeed, we have even failed to love ourselves. Release us from the tombs that terrify us, so that we can see your image in one another and in your good creation. Indeed, free us from the graves of self-hatred, so that we can see ourselves as your children. Amen.

PERSONAL CONFESSION **Ron Stamboly**
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**
As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God's loving devotion for those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. Hear the good news of the Risen Christ: We are forgiven, we are forgiven, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

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

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE** **Ron Stamboly**
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 AND THE YOUNG AT HEART **Herb Williams**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION **Ron Stamboly**

Savior God, your Word is a lamp to our feet on this discipleship road. Walk with us. Guide us with your wisdom and grace. Open us to hearing your voice, discerning your will, and living your way. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING **Genesis 22:1-14** **Ron Stamboly**

Pew Bible pg. 20-21

Large Print Bible: pg. 31-32

(*Liturgist, to create a unified experience for congregants, please ensure that everyone is on the same page before you begin reading.)*

NEW TESTAMENT READING **Romans 6:12-23** **Herb Williams**

Pew Bible pg. 1150

Large Print Bible: pg. 1754-1755

(Guest Speaker, to create a unified experience for congregants, please ensure that everyone is on the same page before you begin reading.)

THE MESSAGE **Three Long Days in the Valley of the Shadow** **Herb Williams**

***HYMN #182 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** **Herb Williams**

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Responsive)

O God, you have commanded us to reach across deep divides and challenged us to love our enemies.

You have also called us to pursue justice, stand with the marginalized, and call out evil, especially when we have been complicit in it. You have called us not only to refrain from violence but also to refrain from hurtful and unkind words. Indeed, you have called us to ponder deep flourishing for all your children and for our planet. Empower us to live by your way in the world. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy one, help us embody the peace we pass to one another, so that we might be your peace in the world.

We know too well our divisions based on gender, race, sexuality and class, but help us bear witness to a different reality. Help us begin the process of healing and deliverance. Help us form new ways of being in mutuality, love and justice with and through one another. Empower us to live out of your love in all that we do, healing divisions, addressing enmity and reaching out to those we perceive as enemies. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of all nations, we pray for all countries around the globe — for those entrusted with leadership on behalf of the common good.

Help them discern how to use resources wisely to address the needs of citizens suffering from social, economic and political oppression. Move us all to attend to the cries of the marginalized in our midst. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. We pray all these things in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying, "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 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

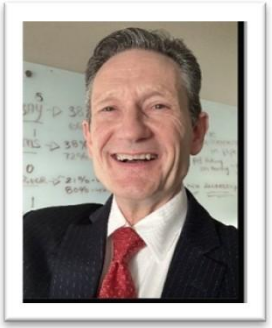
***HYMN # 418 Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling**

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

***CHORAL BENEDICTION # 745 Now Go in Joy** *(2x)*

THE POSTLUDE
(Affirmation of Faith is from PC (USA) Brief Statement of Faith – Book of Confessions)

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	
07/01/2026	We welcome Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez as pastor.	
07/06/2026	Office Closed	Observance of Independence Day
07/12/2026	Session	

Please make a note of the following address change in your copy of the Church Directory:

Jeffrey and Laura Reeves, 14 Telfer Drive, Glenwood, NJ 07418

Thank You!

As all of you know, our new pastor,
Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez, begins her ministry
with us on Wednesday, July 1st !

It was a long 2.5 years.

We would like to thank Elder Sue Ramirez,
Chair of Worship and Music, who ensured that
the pulpit was covered every week.

In addition, we thank our faithful elders,
Len Mesonas, Ron Stamboly, and Herb Williams,
for answering the call to share their gift of
preaching.

Looking forward to...

Our Nation's 250th Birthday!

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. – Declaration of Independence July 4, 1776

Our nation's 250th birthday will be celebrated on July 4, 2026. As this day comes closer, let's reflect on the beauty of the above statement with gratefulness and love, and continue to work hard to live up to its promise.

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.

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.

July 2026	
07/05/26	Betsy Christensen
07/12/26	Lilliam Colon-Gilzean
07/19/26	Herb Williams
07/26/26	Ron Stamboly

August 2026	
08/02/26	Heather Meyers
08/09/26	Len Mesonas
08/16/26	Joanne Mesonas
08/23/26	Herb Williams
08/30/26	Ron Stamboly

September 2026	
09/06/26	
09/13/26	
09/20j/26	
09/27/26	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,

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