OAK TREE-ISELIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Mind, hearts, hands and voices in Christ

1295 Oak Tree Road, Iselin, NJ 08830
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Sunday, July 26, 2026 10:30 a.m.

Service led by: Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez

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.

PRELUDE **Alaine Bolton Director of Music**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS **Ron Stamboly**

CHORAL INTROIT # 276 Sing a New Song unto the Lord *(vs 1)*

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

Leader: Praise the Lord, call upon God's name; make known God's deeds among the peoples!

People: Sing to God, yes, sing praises; tell of all God's wonderful works!

Leader: Glory in God's holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

People: Seek the Lord and their strength; seek God's presence continually!

Leader: Remember God's marvelous works, their wonders, and the judgments they have spoken!

Unison: God remembers the covenant forever, the word ordained for a thousand generations.

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

God of the covenant, your people come to give you thanks with open hearts, ready to delight in your presence and to seek strength. We give you thanks, and through prayers, songs, sermons, and affirmations, we make your works known among the peoples. Glory be to your name forever and ever. Amen.

***HYMN # 41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION **Ron Stamboly**

In a world that emphasizes great accomplishments and extravagant displays, your Word calls us to find value in the simple and the ordinary. It reminds us that your kingdom often begins with what seems small and unnoticed. Trusting in your grace, let us confess our sins together:

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (In Unison) **Ron Stamboly**

God of the small and of those things the world considers without value, we confess that we do not want to reorient our lives to reflect the values of your kingdom: lives that pay attention to those who are overlooked, lives that give

themselves for the building of your kingdom, and lives in which small things bring transformation. Instead, we continue to turn away from you, risking the consequences of our choices and living as though we could ignore your will, fearing that in the end we may be separated from those who have followed your way. Forgive our lack of vision, our desire for power, and our unwillingness to sacrifice. Restore us to new life in you, to the life of your kingdom that you desire for your people. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. 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 **Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez**

Romans declares: "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?" Based on this truth I can declare to you that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. We can live in peace. **Amen!**

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

***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 Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION **Ron Stamboly**

God of the small and the great, God of the wide and the narrow, we come before you seeking to be centered in your Word, your teachings, your presence, and your love. Quiet our hearts and open our minds to receive all that you have prepared for us today. May your Holy Spirit guide and lead us, helping us to experience your presence even when we cannot yet see it or hear it. Give us eyes to recognize your work, ears to hear your voice, and hearts that are ready to follow you faithfully. In the name of Christ, we pray. **Amen**.

OLD TESTAMENT READING **1 Kings 3:5-12** **Ron Stamboly**

Pew Bible pg. 343

Large Print Bible: pg. 524

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

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

NEW TESTAMENT READING **Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52** **Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez**

Pew Bible pg. 995, 996

Large Print Bible: pg. 1518, 1519

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

THE MESSAGE **When Little Becomes Much** **Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez**

*** HYMN # 803 My Shepherd Will Supply My Need**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** **Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez**

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 # 609 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

***THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Gracious God, we thank you for these gifts that we bring before you today. Receive these offerings as signs of our gratitude and faithfulness. Bless them and use them to continue building your kingdom—a kingdom grounded in your love, grace, and hope. May they become instruments of your transforming work in the world and in the lives of all your people. In the name of Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

Empowered to Spread God's Love

***HYMN # 4 Holy God, We Praise Thy Name**

***BENEDICTION**

God is Good: **All the Time!** All the Time: **God is Good!**

We are blessed: May the blessing of God who fills us with patience to deal with life's difficulties; and may the blessing of God's son Jesus Christ who makes the kingdom of heaven be nearer; and may the blessing of the Holy Spirit who intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words be with all the people of God and with all the earth eternally and forever. ***Amen.***

***CHORAL BENEDICTION # 192 Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining** *(vs 1)*

THE POSTLUDE

About Our Pastor

Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez, originally from the Dominican Republic, has been involved in intercultural and cross-cultural ministries since the beginning of her career. At the national level, Pastor Jeniffer serves as a minister of diversity, equity, and inclusion with the Presbyterian Foundation. She is also a member of the special committee responsible for drafting a confession to be considered for inclusion in the Book of Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Rev. Jeniffer and her husband, Kyle Craig, are the parents of Emma Sophia and Eric Gabriel.

Friendly Reminders

Sunday 8/2/2026	Elder Ron Stamboly will lead worship	
Tuesday Tues 8/4	Margarita Vacation Day	
Sunday 8/9/2026	Communion	
Wed 8/12-Wed 8/19	Margarita Vacation	

Session

Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez, Moderator
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 (except July and August)

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

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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