

# OAK TREE-ISELIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Mind, hearts, hands and voices in Christ*

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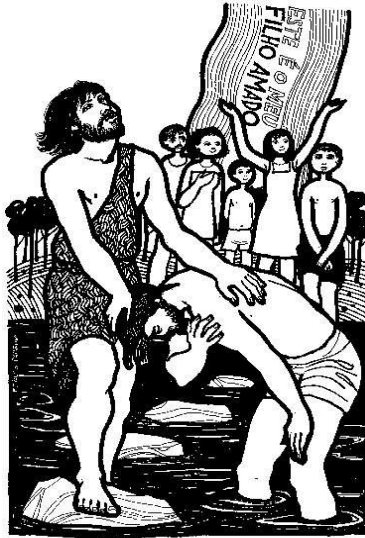
Sunday, January 11, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Service led by: Elder Sue Ramirez

Liturgist: Elder Laura Reeves

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

Laura Reeves

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 for 'God Welcomes All' consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics written below the notes.

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. It features two staves in the same key signature and time signature as the first system. The melody concludes with a final chord. The lyrics are written below the notes.

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)**

Laura Reeves

The voice of the Lord is over the waters,

**The God of glory thunders**

The voice of the Lord is powerful and full of majesty

**The Lord gives strength to the people.**

The voice from the heaven said, "You are my Beloved"

**We gather to worship the God who names us and claims us.**

**\*LITANY FOR BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

Sue Ramirez

In the beginning, darkness covered the deep, and God said: Let there be light.

**The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

Through the words of the prophet, the Lord said: When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

**The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

Do not fear, says the Lord; I am with you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

**The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

When Jesus was baptized by John, suddenly the heavens were opened.

**The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

And as Jesus was coming out of the water, the Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.

**The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

And a voice said: You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.

**The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit, and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep us, your children born of water and the Spirit, faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*HYMN # 336 We Gather Together**

**INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

**Laura Reeves**

God's voice calls us to honesty, humility, and renewal. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)**

**Laura Reeves**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have forgotten who we are. You called us beloved, but we listen to other voices. You send us to share your love,**

but we hold back in fear. You break down barriers, but we build them up again. Forgive us. Wash us in your grace. Renew your Spirit within us so that we may live as your people, claimed, loved, and sent.

**PERSONAL CONFESSION**

**Laura Reeves**

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**

**Sue Ramirez**

Hear the good news: The same God who spoke over the waters speaks to us now- "You are my Beloved: in you I am well pleased". In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

**\*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!



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**Laura Reeves**

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 IN HEART**

**Sue Ramirez**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Laura Reeves**

Spirit of the Living God, descend upon us like a dove. Open our hearts to hear your voice and our lives to follow your call. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING:**

**Laura Reeves**

**PSALM 29 (Responsive)**

**1** Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.**

**3** The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.

**4 The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

**5** The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

**7** The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

**8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

**9** The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

**10 The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.**

**11 May the Lord give strength to his people!  
May the Lord bless his people with peace!**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING: Acts 10 34-43 Laura Reeves**

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism <sup>35</sup> but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. <sup>36</sup> You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. <sup>39</sup> "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. <sup>41</sup> He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

**GOSPEL READING: Matthew 3:13-17 Sue Ramirez**

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

\*HYMN # 482 Baptized in Water

### The Thanksgiving

#### 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

G C Am7 Dsus D G  
Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise Christ, all

D Am7 Dsus D Am7 D G Am7  
peo - ple here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er -

G C Am7 G Am7 D G  
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.**

Gracious God, receive these gifts and use them to proclaim your love to all people. In Jesus' name **Amen.**

*Empowered to Spread God's Love*

**\*HYMN # 10 Sing Glory to the Name of God**

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

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION # 539**

**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.



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.

*(Hymn continues next page)*

*Refrain*

Fsus2 C F G C

Al - le - lu - ia! We will go out with joy.

Fsus2 C E<sup>b</sup>sus2 Dm7 Gsus G

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*to Stanzas*

## 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!*

Today we welcome Elder Sue Ramirez to our pulpit. Sue currently serves as chair of the Worship and Music Committee.

## *Friendly Reminders*

<b>Saturday,</b> 1/10/2026	Men's Breakfast and CLEF Ladies' Breakfast	9 am
<b>Thursday,</b> 1/15/2026	Prayer Shawl Choir Room	7 pm
<b>Monday,</b> 01/19/2026	Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday	Office Closed
<b>Sunday,</b> 1/25/2026	Congregational Meeting	After worship

## *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>January 2026</b>	
<b>Today</b>	Laura Reeves
01/18/26	Betsy Christensen
01/25/26	Len Mesonas

<b>February 2026</b>	
02/01/26	Sue Ramirez
02/08/26	Nancy Abel
02/15/26	Betsy Christensen
02/22/26	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

Betsy Christensen	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 fulfill 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: Cerezo Barredo.