

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, November 3, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Service led by: Pastor Madelynne Lindsey, CRE

Liturgist: Deacon Lilliam Colon-Gilzean

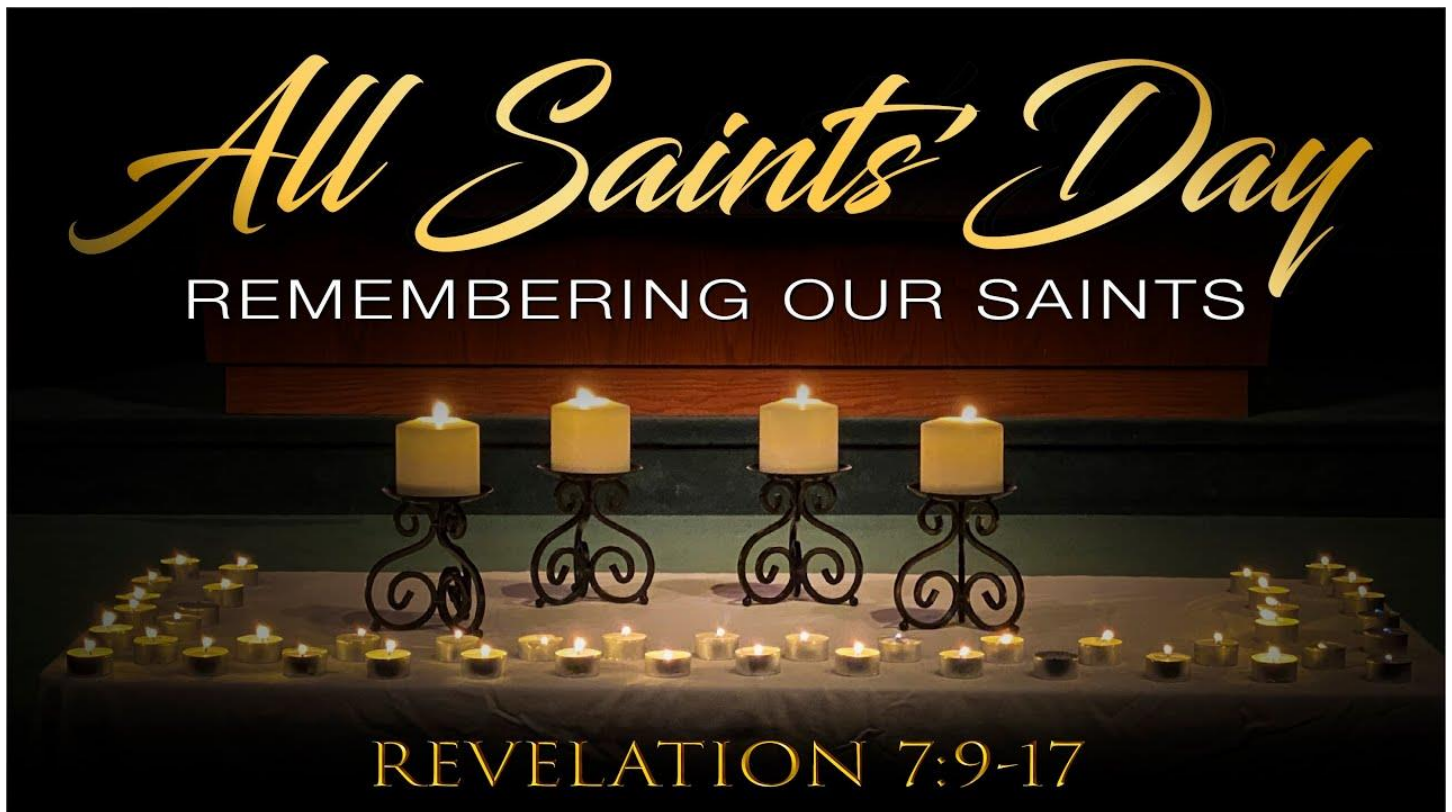
Alaine Bolton, Director of Music

*Please rise in body or spirit.

CENTERING THOUGHT

For all the Saints, we remember their faithfulness, we remember how they have witnessed to us and with us, how they shared their love, and we are encouraged to live our lives in faithfulness through our beloved Saints.

Gathering for Worship



PRELUDE

Alaine Bolton, Director of Music

WELCOME

Pastor Madelynne Lindsey

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lilliam Colon-Gilzean

***CHORAL INTROIT As We Gather in This Place (2x)**

**As we gather in this place
We have come to seek your face.
May our lives reflect your grace
As we gather in this place.**

***LITANY FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY**

Pastor Madelynne Lindsey

Be gracious to us; deliver your people.

Hear us, O God.

You loved us before the world was made. You rescued the people of your promise. You spoke through your prophets. You gave your only Son for the life of the world.

Hear us, O God.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven and was born of the Virgin Mary; who by his cross and suffering redeemed the world and washed us of our sins; who on the third day rose from the dead and has given us the victory; who ascended on high and intercedes for us at the right hand of God.

Great is your love.

For the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the one holy catholic and apostolic church. For the great cloud of witnesses into which we are baptized.

Thanks be to God.

For all holy men and women, our mothers and fathers in faith. For the noble band of the prophets. For the glorious company of the apostles. For the white-robed army of martyrs. For the cherubim and seraphim, Michael and the holy angels.

Thanks be to God.

Be gracious to us; deliver your people.

Hear us, O God.

Give new life to your servants by the grace of baptism. Strengthen all who bear the sign of the cross. Clothe us in compassion and love. Bring us with all your saints to the river of life.

Hear us, O God.

God of all the faithful, we rejoice that nothing in all creation can separate us from your love. Work out your good purposes in us and help us in our weakness as we await, with eager longing, the redemption of all things; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

LORD HAVE MERCY # 551

Lord, Have Mercy 551

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D)
 F C F B^b C F

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have
 mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy;
 Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

(A) (D/F#) (F#m) (G) (A) (Bm)
 C F/A Am B^b C Dm

(G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
 B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

God of all the faithful, we rejoice that nothing in all creation can separate us from your love. Work out your good purposes in us and help us in our weakness as we await, with eager longing, the redemption of all things; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

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

Lilliam Colon-Gilzean

We give you thanks, O God, for all who have fought the good fight, finished their race, and kept the faith, and for those dear to us who are at rest with you. Grant us grace to follow them as they followed Christ. Bring us, with them, to those things which no eye has seen, nor ear heard, which you have prepared for those who love you. To your name, with the church on earth and church in heaven, we ascribe all honor and glory, forever and ever. Amen.

***HYMN # 326 For All the Saints**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Lilliam Colon-Gilzean

Here in this community of those who seek God, we know we are not saints. We are wrapped in those strips of words, of thoughts, of actions which bind us to sin, not to God. But our God has promised us new hope, new life, fresh mercy, if we will but confess. I invite you to join me, as we pray together, saying,

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (In Unison)

Lilliam Colon-Gilzean

All wise and all loving God, we confess we have not been whole hearted and single minded in our devotion to you. Through the saving grace of Christ Jesus, overrule our folly and forgive our wanderings and rebellion. Restore us to that spiritual sanity for which we were created. With all our being may we love and honor you, and know that peace and joy which nothing else can ever equal.

PERSONAL CONFESSION

Lilliam Colon-Gilzean

Merciful God, hear now our own personal confessions that we lift up to you in silence.

In the strong name of Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Madelynne Lindsey

For your name's sake. Hear the good news: By grace you are saved, through faith, and faith is not the result of your own effort but is a gift from God. Christ Jesus says: "Son, daughter, your sins are forgiven you, go in peace."

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

582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B^b F B^b F B^b F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B^b E^b B^b Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Hymn continues next page)

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be. A - men.

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Lilliam Colon-Gilzean

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lilliam Colon-Gilzean

God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth and taught your will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS (Old Testament)

Lilliam Colon-Gilzean

Hebrews 9:11-15

¹¹But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), ¹²he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, ¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God! ¹⁵For this reason he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, because a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions under the first covenant.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

We Give You Thanks (- Haas)

The Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING (New Testament)

Pastor Madelynne Lindsey

Mark 12:28-34

²⁸One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” ²⁹Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ ³¹The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” ³²Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; ³³and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’ —this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” ³⁴When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE MESSAGE

Honoring the Saints

Pastor Madelynne Lindsey

Naming of the Honored Dead

Victoria A. Durgana LaTortue, 05/11/2024

Virginia Ferrante, 07/28/2024

Amy Jones, 10/22/2024

***HYMN # 327 The Church’s One Foundation**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Nicene Creed**

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Eucharist

THE OFFERING

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

*THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE # 647 Give Thanks

647

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart; give thanks to the Ho-ly One;

give thanks be-cause we're giv-en Je-sus Christ, the Son. Give

Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The first system begins with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket. The second system continues the melody and includes a first ending bracket. The third system begins with a second ending bracket and concludes with a repeat sign. The lyrics are placed below the vocal line.

poor say, "We are rich be-cause of what the Lord has done for us!" And us!" Give thanks. Give thanks.

***THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)**

May our gifts be used to answer the needs of those who seek you, O God, delivering them from their fears, listening to their cries for help, offering refuge to those who are searching for hope. This we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

***HYMN # 32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In fulfillment of Christ's promise, you poured out the Holy Spirit upon the chosen disciples and filled the church with power. We thank you for sending your Spirit to us today to kindle faith and lead us into all truth, working in the church to make us faithful disciples, and empowering us to proclaim the living Christ to every nation.

This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE INVITATION

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

COMMUNION HYMN # 525 Let Us Break Bread Together

Let Us Break Bread Together 525

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer - cy on me. (on me)

PRAYER AFTER SUPPER

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes in glory.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Because there is one loaf, we, many as we are, are one body; for it is one loaf of which we partake. When we break the bread, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?

When we give thanks over the cup, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ?

Friends, these are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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

Sending Us into the World

***HYMN # 804 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!**

***BENEDICTION**

Lord Jesus Christ, you have called us to run with patience, to be faithful through the years, to bring hope to a broken world. Help us each day to be your people and to live lives of uncommon faith and love. You are the Lord forevermore. Amen

***CHORAL BENEDICTION # 541 God Be with You Till We Meet Again (vs. 1 & 2)**

God Be with You Till We Meet Again 541

Unison *Harmony*

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing coun - sels
2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen wings pro -
3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils
4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's ban - ner

guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en - fold you:
tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you:
thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a - round you:
float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be - fore you:

Unison

God be with you till we meet a - gain.

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. We appreciate every generous gift and want to make sure we have a proper record of it to say, Thank you!

Welcome!



Pastor Madelynne Lindsey, Commissioned Ruling Elder/Commissioned

Madelynne Lindsey, CRE/CP, became a member of Oak Tree Presbyterian Church, Edison, in 2007, where she was a Ruling Elder and Chairperson for the Fellowship Outreach Ministry; was a counselor for Jeremiah Journey and Vision Panel, conducted Bible studies for Jeremiah's Journey and the series called Bad Girls and Bad Boys of the Bible. She was a member of the choir, the Multi-cultural Initiative Committee, Worship Committee, and the Gathering group.

The year 2016 was filled with a multitude of accomplishments. Madelynne successfully attended and completed theological studies at the New Brunswick Theological Seminary and received a Certificate for Reformed Worship and Sacrament and Presbyterian Polity courses online at The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary in Iowa. In addition, she was selected to be a commissioner to the 222nd General Assembly in Portland, Oregon and was selected to sit and participate on the Environmental Protection (Fossil Fuel) and Immigration Committee. And served as a Commissioned Ruling Elder serving as Pastor for the Siloam Hope Presbyterian Church, Elizabeth from Feb. 1, 2016, through Aug. 1, 2017, when it closed due to building safety issues.

She was Vice Moderator (Yr 2018) for the Elizabeth Presbytery and became the Moderator in September of 2018-2019. Madelynne served on the Committee of Ministry (COM) for the Elizabeth Presbytery for three years and was the Chair for COM. She served on the Presbytery of Northeast New Jersey COM as Convener of the Transition Team, and served as the Commissioned Pastor for the Watchung Avenue Presbyterian Church since October 1, 2018, until January 31, 2021, and was instrumental in aiding the transition of WAPC with the Iglesia Presbiteriana Nuevas Fronteras Church who was presently residing at United Presbyterian Church in Plainfield. The transition was completed.

In March of 2021, she became part-time Interim Commissioned Pastor and Head of Staff for the First Presbyterian Church of Springfield and completed her two-year term in 2023.

In addition, she assisted the temporary Minister at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, Scotch Plains, New Jersey for communion every first Sunday of the month along with moderating their session meeting after worship service on the first Sunday of the month.

Madelynne is happily retired from the Office of the Public Defenders as an Administrative Assistant after 34 years of employment and later worked part-time for a Chiropractor and a Bankruptcy Lawyer.

Friendly Reminders

Please note that checks made out to **First Presbyterian Church of Iselin** or **Oak Tree Presbyterian Church** are no longer accepted by the bank. Going forward, checks are to be made to:
Oak Tree-Iselin Presbyterian Church.

We Remember the Saints	Today	
Brown Bag Lunch	Today	(Picture)
Pastor Madelynne Lindsey, CRE	Through 12/31/2024	Guest Speaker
Presidential Election	Tuesday 11/05/24	
Margarita Estrada – Vacation Day	Friday 11/08/24	
Men’s Breakfast & CLEF Ladies’ Breakfast	Saturday 11/9/24	9 am

Message from Margarita

The migration of congregant emails from my original email, margarito1@comcast.net to Gmail (from Office Manager) is complete. This means that as of Monday, August 12, 2024, all the emails from this office to you will come from:

info@oaktree-Iselinpres.org.

To protect against potential scammers, the **subject line**, as usual, will begin with **OakTreeIselinPresNJ**

Ongoing Initiatives

SHOP-RITE GIFT CARDS: Gift cards will be available every Sunday after worship. Simply bring your check or cash and purchase your cards.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES: We are collecting aluminum can tabs to donate to the Ronald McDonald House in New Brunswick throughout the year. Please place your donation of aluminum can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in New Brunswick in the container in Fellowship Hall or give them to Heather Meyers. Tabs can come from a variety of cans (soda or other beverages, pet food, soup, etc.), but must be aluminum. How can you tell? Aluminum won’t stick to a magnet.

Scheduled Liturgists!

To all who answered the call to serve as liturgists, Thank you! We are covered through the end of November! If you’d like to be considered for future liturgist opportunities for December 2024 and January 2025, please email Margarita Estrada at info@oaktree-Iselinpres.org or call her at (732) 283-1188.

November	
Today	Lilliam Colon-Gilzean
11/10/24	Linda Sahayaraj

11/17/24	Betsy Christensen
11/24/24	Ron Stamboly

December	
12/01/24	
12/08/24	
12/15/24 (Lessons and Carols)	Betsy Christensen
12/22/24	Len Mesonas
12/24/24 (Christmas Eve)	
12/29/24	Ron Stamboly

January 2025	
01/05/25	
01/12/25	
01/19/25	Betsy Christensen
01/26/25	Ron Stamboly

*Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets
 Message from The Board of Deacons
 Ministry of Compassion*

*“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
 “I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked
 after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” – Matthew 25:35-36*

The holiday season is almost here, and for many families including those who we serve from our pantry, it is a difficult time. Providing a Thanksgiving and Christmas meal with all the trimmings would help alleviate the hopelessness they sometimes feel.

A bin has been set up in the hallway of the church, by the literature bookcase so that you can have the opportunity to help.

Items needed are:

Canned	Dry Goods
Vegetables	Pasta
Beans	Rice
Fruit	Instant Potatoes
Tuna fish	Mac and Cheese
Pasta sauce	Stuffing
Soup	Peanut Butter & Jelly
Cranberry Sauce and Gravy	
Canned Sweet Potatoes	

We will gratefully accept donations of frozen turkeys, chickens or hams for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Distribution dates for the holidays are:

Monday, November 18th and Monday, December 16th. For more information, see Nancy Abel.

Regular Activities

Church Office is open Monday - Friday, 9 am to 1 pm

Men's Breakfast & CLEF Ladies Breakfast, 1st Saturday at 9 am

Sunday Bible Study - 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall

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

Choir practice: 1st and last Sunday of the Month at 9:30 am

Divine Worship: In the sanctuary and on Facebook Livestream,
Sundays at 10:30 am

Session

Laura Reeves, Clerk of Session

Betsy Christensen

Mission

Jim Durgana

Treasurer

Betsy Christensen

Human Resources, Officer Nominating
Committee

Betsy Christensen

Finance Chair, President of Corporation

Heather Meyers

Christian Education

Sue Ramirez

Worship and Music

Jeff Reeves

Buildings and Grounds

Ron Stamboly

Financial Secretary

The Board of Deacons

Nancy Abel

Moderator/ Prayer Concern List/Board
Secretary/Ministry of Compassion Chair

Roseanne (Cookie) Anthony

Hospitality Chair

Kate Scott

Session Board Liaison

Nikkie Hayase

Literature Chair

Joanne Mesonas

Flowers Co-Chairs

Susan O'Rourke-Sendelsky

Deacon Assistance Fund / Welfare Chair /
Deacon Nominating Committee

Joan Moscomagas

Ministry of Compassion

Sara Schweitzer

Cards Chair / Hospitality Co-Chair

Pat Lillie

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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@oaktreeiselinpreschurchnj and YouTube @oaktreeiselinpresnj.
Email us at: info@oaktree-iselinpres.org

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