Large Print

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PITMAN, NEW JERSEY

"God's Open House"

10 Wildwood Avenue Pitman, NJ 08071
(856) 589-1050 ❖ pitmanpres.org
office@pitmanpres.org

10am Worship Service ❖ October 4th, 2026
World Communion Sunday
Rev. Drew Harrison

For Prayer & Contemplation

"One is a brother to another only through Jesus Christ. I am a brother to another person through what Jesus Christ did for me and to me; the other person has become a brother to me through what Jesus Christ did for him. The fact that we are brethren only through Jesus Christ is of immeasurable significance." - *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

Welcome & Sharing Information

Prelude "Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen: I" - *arr. Cherwien*

Call to Worship *(by Gord Waldie)*

One: Around the world people gather to break bread and pour wine.
All: We gather with them in heart and mind.
One: Around the world the broken body is made whole.
All: As part of that body we join in its unity.
One: Around the world the Banquet of God is prepared for the table.
All: We, who share in the banquet, come eagerly to be fed.
One: Let us worship together, let us share God's bounty.

***Hymn No. #536** "Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen"

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we are not perfect, but you are. In your perfect love, forgive our mistakes and show us how to heal the hurt we've caused. Help us to live as people of grace, becoming more like Jesus every day.

Moment of Silence

Words of Assurance

One: God did not send the Son to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.
All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

***Hymn No. 582** "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

"Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. World without end, without end, Amen. World without end, without end, Amen. World without end, without end, Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen."

***Passing of Peace**

One: May the Peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also, with you.

Special Music: "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" - *Scholtes Sunshine Singers and Chimers*

Reading: Philippians 2:12-13 **NT** pg. 197 **LP** pg. 241

Sermon "Absence and Presence" - *Rev. Drew Harrison*

***Affirmation of Faith** *(The Apostles' Creed)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried; he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right
hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will
come 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.

Offertory "Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen: II" - *arr. Cherwien*

***Doxology No. 606** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen."

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Generous God, we are so blessed by all that you have given us. Please bless the gifts of our hands that we offer you here. Let our gifts and our whole lives give glory to you. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Doug Hoffman, Erin Fitzpatrick, Bev Currier, John Wallace III, David, Mike, Bryan, The Stewart Family, The Family of Don Poorman, Dominick Profico, Westin Zendel, Pat & Doug Richardson and Family, Joy Fisher

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.

Words of Institution

Distribution of Communion

Blessing and Sending

One: Holy God, thank you for feeding us with bread and juice to remind us of your power and love.

All: Send us out to share the Good News with the whole world.

One: Send this bread and cup to share the feast of the risen Lord with those who cannot be here.

All: One bread, one body, one Lord. Amen.

***Hymn No. #307** "God of Grace and God of Glory"

***Benediction**

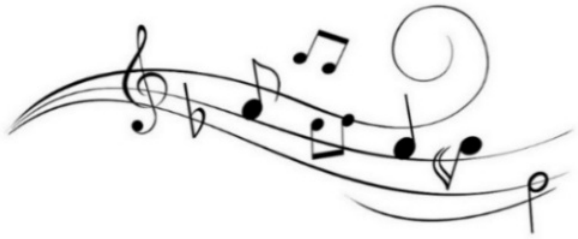
***Benediction Choral Response** "The Lone, Wild Bird"

"The lone, wild bird in lofty flight is still with you, nor leaves your sight. And I am yours! I rest in you, Great Spirit, come, rest in me, too."

Postlude "God of Grace and God of Glory" - *arr. Wall*

**Please stand if you are able.*

Please Note: The service is livestreamed, and attendees may be recorded.



Music Notes

Today's prelude and offertory are based on the hymn tune "Surge Ecclesia," originally composed by Timothy J. Strand in 1997. The prelude is movement 1 in David Cherwien's 2024 partita or suite based on this tune. The offertory is movement 2. The anthem is a song for youth choir written by South Side Chicago parish priest Peter Scholtes in 1966. The postlude is Eric Wall's 2022 setting of the hymn tune "Cym Rhondda," originally written in 1907 by John Hughes. He arranged it in its present form for the inauguration of an organ in a parish in the Rhondda valley of Wales. We thank the Sunshine Singers and Chimers for sharing special music with us this morning.

Worship Servers

Thank you to our Worship Servers	
Ushers	Susan Eiseman-Hays & Margaret Ginter
Liturgist	Barbara Walters
Acolyte	Emory Wichart

October 4 Fred Wagner

October 5 Dave Owens

October 6 Becky Roesler

October 8 Michell Conley & Oliver Gaffney

October 9 Bobbi Wilkins & Paul Grenier

Scan this QR Code to learn more about our ministries & events here at First Presbyterian Church!

Oct. Week of October 4th, 2026

4	Deacons Meeting 11am, Adult Buddy Party 11am Sunshine Singers 11:15am, Earth Care 11:30am
7	PW Fall Gathering 6pm
8	Bell Choir 7pm, Sanctuary Choir 8pm
9	Theology On Tap 7pm

Upcoming Events

15	YG Pumpkin Painting 11:15am
17	Family Game Night Bingo 5-7pm
18	Young Adult Brunch 11:30 Lucia's Pitman
20	Third Meal 5:30pm
23	Buddy & YG Halloween Party 5-8pm
24	Books & Breakfast 6am
25	CROP Walk 12-3pm East New St. Park

Monthly Announcements

Books & Breakfast

Volunteers cook and serve meals to the homeless community in Trenton. We leave at 6am and return at 10:30am, every 4th Saturday. To get on the list, contact pastordrew@pitmanpres,org.

Community Third Meal

Our Third Meal Community Dinner is on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm in the social hall. We are also looking for volunteers to set-up, greet, serve and clean up. Please contact Darlene at dbjacobson.author@gmail.com

536 Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The second line of the first stanza shows that this hymn is meant for use in the context of the Lord's Supper, but the last stanza further clarifies its special purpose as a sending hymn celebrating the values guiding the work of the church in the world: service, courage, mercy.

TEXT: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1997
MUSIC: Timothy J. Strand, 1997
Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien (admin. Augsburg Fortress)
Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress

SURGE ECCLESIA
8.7.8.7.8.7

307 God of Grace and God of Glory

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

TEXT: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
8.7.8.7.8.7.7