

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 2, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Service led by: Rev. Ken Macari, D.Min.

Liturgist: Elder Jim Durgana

Alaine Bolton, Director of Music

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Gathering for Worship



PRELUDE

Alaine Bolton Director of Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jim Durgana

CHORAL INTROIT I Was Glad (2x)

I was glad when they said unto me,
“Let us go into the house of the Lord.”
I was glad when they said unto me,
“Let us go into the house of the Lord.—
And we’ll praise the creator of heaven and earth
Who came among us in humble birth.”
I was glad when they said unto me,
“Let us go into the house of the Lord.”
I was glad when they said unto me,
“Let us go into the house of the Lord.”

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) Psalm 96 (New Living Translation)**

Jim Durgana

Leader: Sing a new song to the LORD!
Let the whole earth sing to the LORD!
People: Sing to the LORD; praise his name.
Each day proclaim the good news that he saves.
Leader: Publish his glorious deeds among the nations.
Tell everyone about the amazing things he does.
People: Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise!
He is to be feared above all gods.
Leader: The gods of other nations are mere idols,
but the LORD made the heavens!
People: Honor and majesty surround him;
strength and beauty fill his sanctuary.

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

Jim Durgana

Almighty God, you have called us to serve you; yet without your grace we are unable to please you. Remind us daily that the Lord Jesus is the Vine and we are the branches. Grant that your Holy Spirit rules in our hearts daily. Through our Lord Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

***HYMN # 518 Your Only Son**

(hymn on next page)

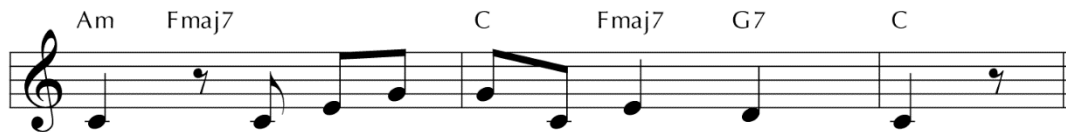
518

Your Only Son
Lamb of God

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
 2 Your gift of love, we cru - ci - fied; we laughed and
 3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
 scorned him as he died; the hum - ble King we named a
 brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod, and to be - come the Lamb of God.
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
 rod, and to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the



ho - ly Lamb of God! O wash me in his pre - cious



blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION**Jim Durgana**

If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (In Unison)

Jim Durgana

We confess our sins of actions and attitudes to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God of life, your kindly pardon grant; for our careless and evil thoughts, words, and deeds; for all that we have left undone, for all we have done amiss. May we leave our sins nailed to your cross knowing they will remain there.

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

PERSONAL CONFESSION

Jim Durgana

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Ken Macari, D.Min.

As we receive your word of forgiveness, shield us and encircle us every day and night. Uphold us, strong Son of God.

***THE RESPONSE # 581**

Glory Be to the Father

581

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.' The score ends with a double bar line and a fermata over the final notes.

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Jim Durgana

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

CHILDREN'S TIME

Elder Heather Meyers

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jim Durgana

Give ears to hear, minds to understand and hearts to obey your Word and will. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE READINGS (Old Testament)

Jim Durgana

Psalm 1

¹ Blessed is the one
 who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
 or sit in the company of mockers,
² but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,
 and who meditates on his law day and night.
³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
 which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
 whatever they do prospers.
⁴ Not so the wicked!
 They are like chaff
 that the wind blows away.
⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
 nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
⁶ For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
 but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

ANTHEM **Surely the Presence of the Lord** (*arr. Schrader*)

SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel of John 15: 1-8

Rev. Ken Macari, D.Min.

15 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. **2** He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes^a so that it will be even more fruitful. **3** You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. **4** Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. **6** If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. **7** If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8** This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

THE MESSAGE

He is the Vine, We are the Branches

Rev. Ken Macari, D.Min.

(Pastor Macari will be referring to the June 2024 Summary of Religious Affections during his message)

June 2024 Summary of Religious Affections



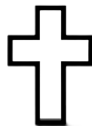
Loving God for Himself NOT
What He does or will do for us.



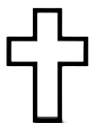
A change in your nature from
self-centered to other-centered.



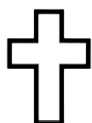
Generous and humble spirit.



Fear of God=not wanting sinful
actions attitudes and ambitions



Desiring that folks know the
love and joy of the Trinity.



Prayer as energy of our lives.

I Come with Joy

515

Capo 3: (D) (G) (A) (D) (Bm)
 F B \flat C F Dm

1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
 2 I come with Chris-tians far and near to find, as all are
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
 4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has

(Asus) (Am) (G) (F \sharp m) (D)
 Csus Cm B \flat Am F

free, the life of Je - sus to re - call, in
 fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
 near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
 done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the

(Em) (D/F \sharp) (G) (A) (Am7) (D)
 Gm F/A B \flat C Cm7 F

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
 Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
 strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
 live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
 love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—Nicene Creed

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 #14 (vs. 1)

For the Beauty of the Earth 14

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the glo-ry of the skies,
2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,
4 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
5 For thy-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly given;

for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
for the mys-tic har-mo-ny link-ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild:
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

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

We give thee but thine own What e'er the gift may be.
 All that we own is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee. Amen.

***HYMN # 522 I Am the Bread of Life**

LORD'S SUPPER

522 I Am the Bread of Life

Leader or All A F#m A C#m

1 "I am the bread of life. You who
 2 "The bread that I will give is my
 3 "Un - less you eat of the
 4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion;
 5 Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that

D Esus E

come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man and
 I am the life. If you be -
 you are the Christ, the

A C#m D E/D A C#m

lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat of this bread, you shall live for -
 drink of his blood, and drink of his
 lieve in me, e - ven though you
 Son of God, who has

me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er; you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to the world.

Refrain *All*
 "And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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 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

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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER SUPPER

Sending Us into the World

*HYMN # 69 I the Lord of Sea and Sky

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL

69 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky Here I Am, Lord

G Am D G C G D
Leader or All

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em C Am7 D G

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

Am D G C G D

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

G Em C Am7 C/G D D7

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain
All G C G D G C G D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION # 745 (2x) (hymn on next page)

745 Now Go in Joy

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes. Asterisks (*) indicate specific rhythmic patterns. The lyrics are: "Now go in joy to spread the Word till all peo - ple have heard: God em - brac - es all! Fol - low, then, the dis - ci - ples' call: tend your neigh - bors with lov - ing care in dai - ly work and prayer. God's own grace em - pow - er your spir - it. A - men!"

Now go in joy to spread the Word till all peo - ple have
heard: God em - brac - es all! Fol - low, then, the dis -
ci - ples' call: tend your neigh - bors with lov - ing care
in dai - ly work and prayer. God's own
grace em - pow - er your spir - it. A - men!

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!

Today we welcome Rev. Ken Macari, Ph.D. to our pulpit.

Pastor Kenneth Macari is an Honorably Retired Teaching Elder of the Presbytery of Northeast New Jersey. He earned both a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry from Gordon-Conwell Seminary in MA. He has served churches in his native Philadelphia, PA, Buffalo, NY, and most recently, at the Community Presbyterian of Edison, NJ. Currently, Ken volunteers at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church where his wife, Linda, serves on session. He regularly serves as a pulpit supply throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania as does his wife, Linda.

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.**

Rev. Ken Macari, Ph.D.	Today		10:30 am
Elder Linwood Bagby, CRE Guest Speaker	Sunday	06/09/24	10:30 am
Sunday School Pot Luck	Sunday After worship	06/09/24	Bring a favorite dish to share with your church family. A sign-up sheet is available in Fellowship Hall.
Margarita Estrada Vacation Day	Tuesday	06/25/24	

Scheduled Liturgists!

To all who answered the call to serve as liturgists, Thank you! We are looking for spots to be covered for May and June 2024. We are now looking to fill spots for July 2024. Please email Margarita Estrada at margarit01@comcast.net, or call her at (732) 283-1188, and let her know if you'd like to cover a spot.

June	
Today	Jim Durgana
06/09/24	Sue Ramirez
06/16/24	Chris Madsen
06/23/24	Betsy Christensen
06/30/24	Ron Stamboly

July	
07/07/24 Communion	
07/14/24	
07/21/24	Nikkie Hayase
07/28/24	Ron Stamboly

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.

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 Ministry of Compassion is requesting food donations for our monthly food baskets. 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. For more information, see Nancy Abel or Sara Schweitzer. Below are the food items needed:

Canned	Dry Goods
Vegetables	Pasta
Beans	Rice
Fruit	Instant Potatoes
Tuna fish	Mac and Cheese
Pasta sauce	Cereal
Soup	Peanut Butter & Jelly

Regular Activities

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

Men’s Breakfast & CLEF Ladies Breakfast,
1st Saturday of the month at 9 am

Sunday Bible Study - 9:00 am

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
Len Mesonas	Human Resources, Officer Nominating Committee
Len Mesonas	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,



Visit our website www.oaktree-iselinpres.org, using your mobile device, scan QR Code. To participate with us on social media, 'Like' our Facebook page, 'Follow' us on Instagram, or 'Like' and 'Subscribe' our YouTube channel! All the platforms use @oaktreeiselinpresnj as the identifier. Email us at: info@oaktree-iselinpres.org

Cover photo: Cerezo Barredo