



June 21, 2026
Joint Service
First Presbyterian Church in Dayton

Gathering Around the Word

**Indicates that you may rise in body or in spirit*

Prelude

“Gavotte” from *Sonata in C Major*

G. F. Handel

Joyce Kay, *piano* & Sandra Olsen, *flute*

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Wendi Werner

First Presbyterian Church at Dayton

***Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 133:1 and 122:1)

How good and pleasant it is when kindred people live together in harmony!

That we may be one!

We were glad when they said, " Let us go to the house of the Lord."

That we may worship God!

So, let us worship,

Let us worship in spirit and in truth.

***Gathering Hymn #301**

Let Us Build a House

TWO OAKS

Opening Prayer

Rev. Dr. Kent Carter

First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury

We pray, O gracious Trinity: Creator, Redeemer, and Counselor, that we all may be one as you are one. In your community of complete unity, we have our beginning and our end. To you we pray, asking for the gift of visible unity among all who trust in Christ.

May we be reminded by your Word that we are neighbors and that we are to love each other as we love ourselves and in the same way you love us.

Grant to us, O God, a spirit of love and solidarity, that we may proclaim your good news to all of creation.

Amen.

Choral Introit

Gather Us In

Jay Althouse

Call to Confession

Rev. Debbie Paton

Grace Presbyterian Church, Kendall Park

Beloved community, we gather as people who long for justice, mercy, and wholeness—yet we know how easily we fall short. We confess not because we are worthless, but because we are loved and called into deeper truth.

God's Spirit invites us to honesty: about the ways we have been divided, the ways we have harmed, and the ways we have turned away from one another.

Let us come together—not in fear, but in hope—to confess our sin and seek the healing that leads to unity.

Prayer of Reconciliation

God of expansive love,

You create us in beautiful diversity, yet we cling to division.

You call us to be one body, yet we fracture along lines of fear, power, and misunderstanding.

We confess that we have failed to listen—

to voices that challenge us, to stories that unsettle us, to siblings whose experiences differ from our own.

We confess that we have chosen comfort over courage,

silence over solidarity, certainty over compassion.

Forgive us

for the times we have excluded others in your name, for the harm we have caused through prejudice or indifference, and for the ways we have resisted your transforming love.

Renew in us a spirit of humility and curiosity.

Teach us to honor one another as sacred reflections of your image.

Draw us back into the right relationship—with you, with each other, and with all creation.

May we become a people who embody your justice and your peace.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news:

God's grace is wider than every boundary we create.

God's mercy meets us in our brokenness and calls us forward in love.

**In Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and invited into new life—
a life marked not by division, but by reconciliation.**

So receive this truth:

You are forgiven. You are beloved. You are called to be agents of unity in a fractured world.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Gloria Patri #582

Glory To God

GLORIA PATRI (Vasile)

**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 the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you!

And also with you!

We invite you to share a sign of peace with someone you don't know.

The Time for the Young at Heart

Rev. Lisa Day
First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown

Prayer for Illumination

Rev. Jan Willem van der Werff
First Presbyterian Church of Dutch Neck

Gracious God, illuminate these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

The Epistle Reading

Ephesians 4:1-6

Elder Judi Skalak
First Presbyterian Church of Dutch Neck

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem

God Chose Us

Gilbert M. Martin

The Gospel Reading

John 17:20-23

Elder Anne Gordon
First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury

For the Word of God in Scripture

For the Word of God among us

For the Word of God within us

Thanks be to God.

Reflection on Scripture

"Together"

Rev. Wendi Werner
First Presbyterian Church at Dayton

Musical Interlude

Reflection on Scripture "One Plus One Equals One".

Rev. Dr. Roberto Fois
Trinity Presbyterian Church, East Brunswick

***Affirmation of Faith** (based on *A Brief Statement of Faith*) Elder Lucy Rubino
First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown

With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls all believers to participate in the ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

*Hymn of Faith #733 *We All Are One in Mission* ES FLOG EIN KLEINS
WALDVÖGELEIN

Intercessions – The Prayers of the People Rev. Sharyl M Dixon
Kingston Presbyterian Church

*(Raise your hand and the mic will come to you. At the end of your prayer, please say: **This is my prayer.** The congregation will respond: **This is our prayer.**)*

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.**

Call to Offering

Elder Nancy Varga
Grace Presbyterian Church, Kendall Park

Generous God, You have blessed us with gifts of abundance and joy.

Open our hearts so that we may share your goodness with all who hunger for bread, for safety, and for belonging. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

Offertory

*Doxology #609

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

Elder Ann Chicchi

Trinity Presbyterian Church, East Brunswick

O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the head of the church and the Lord of our lives. **Amen.**

*Hymn of Response #300

We Are One in the Spirit

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Werner: Go now into the world as people of hope—grounded in love, open in spirit, and courageous in compassion.

**All: May the God who creates each of us in sacred diversity
draw you together in deeper unity.**

Rev. Werner: May Christ, who breaks down every dividing wall,
guide your steps in the work of reconciliation.

**All: And may the Spirit, ever moving and renewing,
give us the wisdom to listen, the humility to learn,
and the courage to stand with one another in justice and peace.**

Rev. Fois: Go in grace—to build bridges where there has been separation,

**All: to seek understanding where there has been fear,
and to embody the beloved community in all we do.**

Rev. Fois: And may the blessing of Love—Creator, Christ, and Spirit—
be with you and among you, now and always.

Amen.

The worship has ended.
The service has just begun.

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Sigrid Karg-Elert, arr.

Our gratitude to everyone who made this service possible, especially the music ministers and "The 7 Chancel Choir":

Dayton: Joyce Kay

Trinity: Joseph Hill

Dutch Neck: Bradley King

Many thanks to Dayton Church for hosting this special event and to those who dedicated time and effort to feed us.





First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury



First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown



The First Presbyterian Church of Dutch Neck

154 S Mill Rd, Princeton Junction, NJ



"That they may all be one". John 17:21a

First Presbyterian Church at Dayton, NJ



GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Kingston Presbyterian Church

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Whoever you are,
wherever you find yourself
in your life's journey,
YOU are welcome Here.

