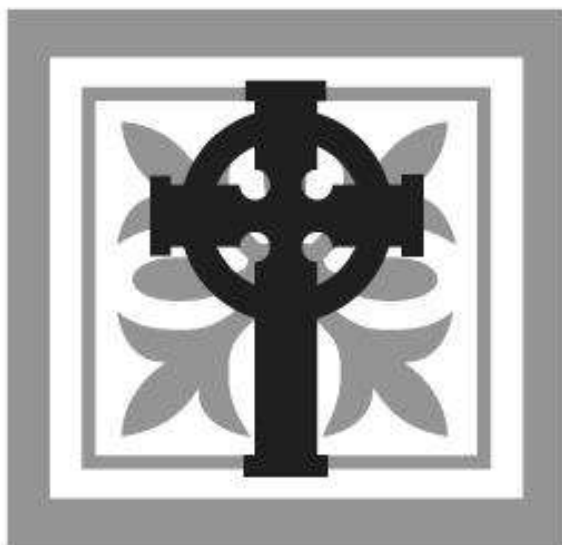




KIRKPATRICK
MEMORIAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

**Sunday, September 20, 2026
9:30am**

Rev. Dr. Barbara Booth-Jarmon

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gathering of the People

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Come, people of God, and live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.

People: **We come to worship the One who has called us by grace.**

Liturgist: Whether we have journeyed long in faith or have only recently begun,

People: **God welcomes us into the vineyard of grace.**

Liturgist: For Christ is our life, and in Christ we find our hope.

People: **We stand firm in one Spirit, striving side by side for the faith of the gospel.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

***GATHERING SONGS**

"Made to Worship"

Chris Tomlin, Stephan Conley Sharp & Ed Cash

"Blessed Be Your Name"

Matt Redman & Beth Redman

CALL TO CONFESSION

The gospel calls us to live lives worthy of Christ. Yet how often do we compare ourselves with others, resent the blessings they receive, and assume that God's grace must be earned. Trusting in the mercy of our generous God, let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you are generous beyond our understanding, yet we often keep score. We compare our gifts with the gifts of others. We measure our work against the work of our neighbors. We become jealous when others receive blessings that we believe they do not deserve. We often work for recognition rather than being faithful to you. We live for ourselves rather than living in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Silent Confession

Forgive us when we forget that everything we have is a gift from you. Forgive us when we seek recognition rather than faithfulness. Teach us to rejoice in your generosity. Help us to serve you not because of what we might receive, but because we have already received the abundance of your grace. Strengthen us to stand firm in one Spirit and to work side by side in faith, hope, and love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA PATRI**

Hymn #813

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, as your Word is read and proclaimed, open our ears to hear your voice. When your ways challenge our assumptions, give us humility. When your grace surprises us, give us gratitude. When your call requires courage, give us strength. By your Holy Spirit, help us to live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

p. 1162
p. 976

SERMON **"Grace is not a Spectator Sport"**

Pastor Barbara

Responding to the Word

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" #581

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

adapted from A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one true God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God, preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted.

In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. 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.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Jesus reminds us that God's economy is not based on scarcity, comparison, or keeping score. Our God is generous, giving grace beyond what we could ever earn or deserve. In gratitude for all that God has given us, let us offer our lives, our gifts, and our resources for the work of God's kingdom.

***DOXOLOGY**

#815

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, everything we have comes from your hand. Receive these gifts and use them for your purposes. May they bring hope where there is despair, comfort where there is suffering, and opportunity where there is need. Use us and all that we offer in the work of your vineyard, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

"Here I Am, Lord" #589

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*Please stand if you are able **Bold – Congregants speak.**

Announcements

Prayer Concerns - If you are worshipping with us online, please use the chat feature to type your prayers and we will include your concerns.

Staff Vacation: Pastor Barbara is on vacation 9/21 – 10/7.

Flemington Food Pantry Empty Bowl Fundraiser: The annual drive up lunch fundraiser will be on Friday 10/23 at the Pantry from 11am – 2:30pm. Tickets will be available soon at flemingtonfoodpantry.org/empty-bowl. Contact the food pantry at 908-788-5568 for more information.

Rally Day: Rally Day is after the worship service on Sept. 20 at the Fulper's house, 1041 Old York Road, Ringoes. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Jazz Vespers: A monthly offering of poetry, music, and quiet centering in the Princeton University Chapel offered by the Office of Religious Life of Princeton University. 2026 fall dates are: 9/23, 8-9pm (Wednesday); 10/28, 8-9pm (Wednesday); 11/11, 8-9pm (Wednesday).

🔔The Bells of Kirkpatrick Please contact Sharyn at (908) 399-3468 or sharydan@gmail.com if you'd like to join them next time they play.

Food Ministry: Thank you to everyone who donated razors and shampoo. We are now in need of pancake syrup for our Grocery Giveaway on September 26th.

Flowers: If you would like to beautify our worship space by contribution flowers, Gilded Lily will provide them for \$20 each; choose if you'd like 1 or 2 arrangements. Please contact Sharyn to make arrangements.

Subscribe to receive our newsletter and announcements: <http://eepurl.com/buadKn>

If you wish to donate virtually, you may use the QR code at the bottom of the bulletin. It will take you to PayPal. Thank you.

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Jhawth8206a@gmail.com

Regan Pickard, Administrative Associate
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To view our calendar or to donate online, scan the QR Code.



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