

**Sunday, May 17, 2026
Seventh Sunday of Easter**



**First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Pastor Jon Berquist**

"Who Would Dare?"

Jacob Todd, Organist and Choirmaster
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Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

WOW Metting:

WOW will have its final meeting (until September) on Tues. 5/19 at 11am. We will conclude this year's Bible study with "When You Are Walking With Jesus: The Road to Emmaus." Our meeting will be followed by a pot-luck luncheon. We hope you will join us. If you would like to bring something for everyone to share, there is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church.

Pentecost Sunday is Sunday, May 24. Please wear red to celebrate the arrival of the Holy Spirit and the founding of the church! This is a tradition at First Presbyterian Church and many other congregations too.

Pastor Jon's Info:

**Email: pastorjonberquist@gmail.com
Cell phone: 443-856-0162**

Rummage Sale

Church rummage sale on Saturday, May 30, from 7 AM until 1 PM with set-up at 6 AM. The shed is opened for donations until 5/24. Please save winter things until later in the summer. Help is always appreciated.

Thank you, Jan Owens

Order of Worship: Sunday, May 17, 2026

Seventh Sunday of Easter

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds:

Beloved, we are already God's children, but no one has yet seen our full appearance. We do know that Christ's appearance will be ours, too, as soon as we recognize Christ. Christ is purifying all who have hope. Everyone who hopes is becoming holy, because Christ is holy. (1 John 3:2-3.)

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship: (adapted from Joel 2)

Elder Mabel Rogers

One: We wait for a sign,

ALL: To make it clear that God is near us.

One: We wait for a sign,

ALL: To direct us back to God.

One: We wait for a sign,

ALL: To know what God will do next.

One: But we have already seen and heard the sign.

ALL: It's in the voices of children.

One: It's in the wisdom of age.

ALL: It's visible in the richest and the poorest.

One: In every place we see, every voice we hear,

ALL: God has poured out the Spirit.

Choral Introit "Praise Him, Praise Him"

*** Hymn: "The Church's One Foundation"
277 (Red Hymnal)**

*** Passing the Peace - *Please turn to your neighbor and pass the peace of Christ***

Current Prayer Concerns:

Virginia Miller

Lydia Frasca

William Steger

Christine Ruskin- *friend of Marty*

Joe Nasatka- *friend of Marty*

Amy Etheridge- *Friend of Beth Fisher*

Mark Payne- *Friend of Beth Fisher*

Larry Steele — *Family of Dee Lebo*

Pat and Ben Steele — *Family of Dee Lebo*

Beth Miller — *Friend of the Hales*

Chuck Shorley — *Friend of the Hales*

Chris Hazard — *Brother of Ann Hales*

Sarah & Cliff Dypsky

Maria Kontoyianni — *Friend of Carol Scott*

Gene Peavley - *friend of the Hales*

Brooke Cannell - *relative of the Hales.*

Janet Bischler - *sister-in-law of Rich and Nancy Wright*

Jonelle Jones

Nancy & Rich Wright

Patti Seaman — *sister of Jonelle Jones*

Capt. C.J. Edwards, *husband of Marty Cropper's niece*

Lisa & Buzzy Bayles

John Marshalek and Peg Spencer *Friends of Marty*

Cropper

Roger Baker

Fellowship Hosts:

May 17 Jonelle Jones

May 24 Nancy Wright & Cathy Smith

May 31 Lisa Bayles

June 7 Jan Owens

June 14 AIR SHOW — NO FELLOWSHIP

June 21 Marci Russell

June 28 Mabel Rogers

Calendar, Birthdays, and More ...

Sun	May	17	Bible Study on Genesis	9:00 AM
Tues	May	18	WOW Meeting	11:00 AM
Tues	May	18	Session Meeting	1:00 PM
Wed	May	20	Small Group Bells (choir room)	4:00 PM
Wed	May	20	Bells (back of sanctuary)	5:00 PM
Wed	May	20	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Fri	May	22	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

Birthdays: *Paul Ketterman (5/21)*

NO FLOWERS

chancel vases open for dedications:

May 24...1 vase

May 31 ...2 vases

June 7...1 vase

June 14th....1 vase

June 21st.... 2 vases

Prayers for joy:

Prayers for joy for Bob Lebo, who received word that he is cancer-free. Praise God!

Prayers for joy for Steve Hales, who was also pronounced cancer-free last week. Praise God!

Prayer for the family of Paul Simacek, long-time member. He passed away on December 14, 2025, peacefully in hospice.

Call to Confession:

We sing that Jesus is the only sure foundation for our lives, yet still we seek to add other things. We modify and we make exceptions. We seek a foundation that we create and that we control. We trust in the powers we see, and forget that God's true power is greater than our own vision. We rely on ourselves, instead of trusting the communion of the saints and the true goodness of all God's creation. For these and all our failings, we confess our sin before God.

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

O God, we confess that we do not always understand you. We fail to trust you. We can't always see you. We wander when you ask us to follow. Without your vision, we run into walls, we bump into each other, we step on toes, when we should be walking in the surety of our grace. For all this and more, we ask for your forgiveness.

A time for silent meditation

Assurance of Pardon: (based on Ephesians 3:20-21)

God is able to do so much more than we imagine. In the midst of our doubts, God stays sure. In the midst of our frustrations, God comforts. In the midst of our own repeated mistakes, God keeps lifting us up. God surrounds us with healing, forgiving, transforming glory in the church and in Jesus Christ, over and over again throughout the ages. Friends, sanctified by God alone, hear the good news of the gospel: In Christ, we are forgiven. **Hallelujah! Amen.**

* Gloria Patri (unison) #622

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

* Doxology (unison) #625

Prayer of Dedication

Choral Anthem: "Praise the Lord"

Prayer for Illumination: (unison)

O God, in your light, we see light. In your goodness, we recognize the goodness all around. In your peace, we listen patiently for your Word to come alive in all of us. Amen.

1st Scripture reading: Matthew 11:28-30

(Page 966 in pew Bible)

Jackie Bates

2nd Reading: Acts 5:12-16

(Pages 1082 in pew Bible)

Pastor Jon Berquist

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Time with Children & Youth

Pastor Jon Berquist

Sermon "Who Would Dare?"

Pastor Jon Berquist

* Hymn: "There Is a Balm in Gilead" # 423
(Red Hymnal)

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles Creed (unison)
I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer

* Hymn: "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling" #326 (Red Hymnal)

Charge

Benediction

Response "Go Now in Peace"

Postlude

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

Music license: CCLI-#1650329.