

# *Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church*

124 Witherspoon Street  
Princeton, NJ 08542-3224

*Office (609) 924-1666 ♦ Fax (609) 924-0365*

*E-mail: witherspoon@verizon.net*

*Website: www.witherspoonchurch.org*

Lissette Gonzalez Sosa, Guest Preacher  
Angela Witcher, Lector  
Edin Orellana, Sexton

Fumi Nakamae Korodan, Director of Music  
Cynthia Parker, Office Manager

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July 9, 2023

10:00 a.m.

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## **6th Sunday after Pentecost**

PRELUDE

*Piano Instrumental*

CALL TO WORSHIP

In this place, we gather to turn our hearts and minds to God.

**We rejoice that the Triune God meets us here.**

As we worship, we remember,

**that we are the family of faith together!**

GATHERING HYMN

*He Touched Me (AAHH #273)*

**Verse 1**

**Shackled by a heavy burden  
'Neath a load of guilt and shame  
Then the hand of Jesus touched me  
And now I am no longer the same**

**Chorus**

**He touched me  
Oh He touched me  
And oh the joy that floods my soul  
Something happened and now I know  
He touched me and made me whole**

**Verse 2**

**Since I met this blessed Savior  
Since He cleansed and made me whole**

**I will never cease to praise Him  
I'll shout it while eternity rolls**

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we come to worship God, we must first remember who we are, and we are people who often sin and turn from the ways of God. Relying on God's abundant grace, let us offer our confession together, knowing that we will be offered forgiveness in Christ.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**When we come to worship God, we must first remember who we are,  
and we are people who often sin and turn from the ways of God.  
Relying on God's abundant grace, let us offer our confession together,  
knowing that we will be offered forgiveness in Christ.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the Good News! Through the grace and love of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

(PH #579)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

WELCOME OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Lord I Need You*  
*Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson, Jesse Reeves,*  
*Kristian Stanfill, Matt Maher*

Verse 1

**Lord I come I confess  
Bowing here I find my rest  
And without You I fall apart  
You're the one that guides my heart**

**Chorus 1**

**Lord I need You oh I need You  
Ev'ry hour I need You  
My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You**

**Verse 2**

**Where sin runs deep Your grace is more  
Where grace is found is where You are  
And where You are Lord I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me  
Where You are Lord I am free  
Holiness is Christ in me**

**Bridge**

**So teach my song to rise to You  
When temptation comes my way  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus You're my hope and stay  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You  
Jesus You're my hope and stay**

**Chorus 2**

**Lord I need You oh I need You  
Ev'ry hour I need You  
My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You  
My one defense my righteousness  
Oh God how I need You**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Gracious God, for generations, your Word has brought love and life to your people. Speak to us now; we pray that we may hear, and in hearing, we may be transformed. Amen.**

<sup>1</sup>Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. <sup>2</sup>Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup>She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease." <sup>4</sup>So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. <sup>5</sup>And the king of Aram said, "Go, then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel."

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. <sup>6</sup>He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his skin disease." <sup>7</sup>When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

<sup>8</sup>But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." <sup>9</sup>So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup>Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." <sup>11</sup>But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! <sup>12</sup>Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. <sup>13</sup>But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" <sup>14</sup>So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

SECOND READING

*John 9:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.”

SERMON

*Taking Advice*

Lissette Gonzalez Sosa

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from the PC(USA) Declaration of Faith)

**Jesus Christ stands at the center of the biblical record.  
The Bible is the account of God’s word and action in history, together  
with his people’s response in faith.  
It tells how the Lord has moved with Israel and the church towards the  
kingdom of God,  
his just and loving rule over all.  
It is the story of the one God,  
who is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
That story is still unfolding, and in faith, we make it our own.  
It forms our memory and our hope.  
It tells us who we are and what we are to do.  
To retell it is to declare what we believe.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

In response to God’s gracious action in our lives, we are called to give an offering to God. Our offering to God is our whole lives, including a part of

what we have. Let us give an offering to God for God's purposes in our community and the world.

OFFERTORY HYMN

*Piano Instrumental*

DOXOLOGY

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Giving God, we return to you the fruits of the earth and the fruits of our labor, that they may be used for the repair of the world. Bless these gifts, those who give them, and those who will receive them. May our whole lives be an offering before you. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / INVITATION TO FELLOWSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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.**

SENDING HYMN

*O Happy Day (By Edwin Hawkins and NC State Choir)  
(Crystal Lewis, Edward F Rimbault, Philip Doddridge)*

**Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
Oh, when He washed (When Jesus washed)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
He washed my sins away (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)**

**Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)**

**When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
Oh, when He washed (When Jesus washed)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
He washed my sins away (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, it's a happy day (Oh, happy day)**

**He taught me how (He taught me how)  
To watch and fight and pray  
Watch and pray**

**And live rejoicing every day  
Every day**

**Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
Oh, when He washed (When Jesus washed)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
He washed my sins away (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)**

**He taught me how (He taught me how)  
To watch and fight and pray  
Watch and pray**

**And live rejoicing every day (Good god)  
Every day**

**Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, it's a happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, it's a happy day (Oh, happy day)**

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

AMEN

*Traditional*

POSTLUDE

*Piano Instrumental*



Today's liturgy was created by Tara W. Bulger (*The Presbyterian Outlook*).

**THE 112 WITHERSPOON STREET OFFICE  
WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, JULY 10 - THURSDAY, JULY 13**

The CDC's most recent COVID Community Levels for Mercer County remain Low. Witherspoon's COVID protocols for in-church worship service going forward are that **masks are optional for in church worship for low risk parishioners and are highly recommended for people at high risk for severe illness in consultation with their health care providers.** Hand sanitizing before entering the sanctuary and social distancing within each pew such as sitting on the ends or in the middle of a pew are in effect. Self health screening at home is encouraged prior to worship. If you are not well, please stay at home and contact your healthcare provider. Witherspoon will continue to monitor our COVID Community Levels weekly and update our protocols when the levels change.



**WELCOME** – The Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon warmly welcome all worshipers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office if you are interested in church membership or if you want to be added to the church e-mail distribution list. ([wITHERSPOON@verizon.net](mailto:wITHERSPOON@verizon.net) or 609-924-1666)



**WE HAVE A FACEBOOK PAGE!** “Like” our Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/WitherspoonStreetChurch>)

to get the latest updates on your wall. Share your WSPC comments, photos and videos. If you want pictures added or notices posted please send an email to the church office ([wITHERSPOON@verizon.net](mailto:wITHERSPOON@verizon.net)).

**IN APPRECIATION FOR THEIR SERVICE**

Our Ushers and our Tech Media Team

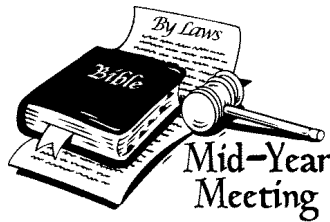




## WSPC CHURCH PICNIC

West Windsor Community Park on Brent Midland Blvd.

**NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 16th AT 10 A.M.**

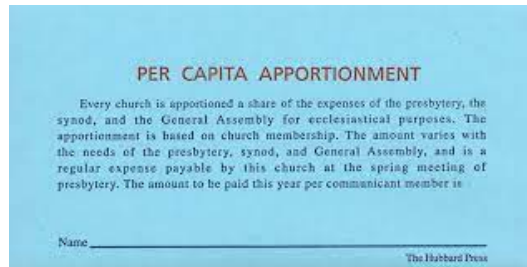


**MID-YEAR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will immediately follow the service on **Sunday, July 23**. Everyone is urged to attend. **\*Please note\*** that committee chairs and group leaders should have their reports to the church office **Sunday, July 9** to allow adequate time to prepare mid-year reports for distribution. Your assistance is appreciated.

### **GIVING TO WITHERSPOON STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Support our mission using your credit or debit card. On our church website, click on the *Give Now* button. **WWW.WITHERSPOONCHURCH.ORG** <http://bit.ly/WSPCGive>

For those who prefer to give through the mail, please send your donations to: 112 Witherspoon St., Princeton NJ 08542



## 2023 PER CAPITA \$40

Mail to 112 Witherspoon St., Princeton NJ 08542

or pay on-line <http://bit.ly/WSPCGive>

The Session asks Witherspoon Leadership and Congregation members to participate in the **2023 Per Capita Campaign**.

Witherspoon's expected 2023 contribution is **\$4,720**, Or \$40 x 118 members.

Per Capita contribution supports the work of three parts of our Presbyterian Church:

- 1. The PC(USA)** - 2022 RGJ-08 - Apology to African Americans for White Supremacy - Supports Reparations -- **Strategic Initiative that will benefit Witherspoon**
- 2. The Synod of the Northeast** - 2015 settled Robeson House Mortgage with a \$170,000 Gift; 2023 and 2024 Innovation Grants of \$15k, \$7500 supporting Joint WSPC - NPC Bending the Moral Arc Courageous Conversations.
- 3. The Presbytery of the Coastlands** - Provided the 2023 Administrative Commission, 2022 Investigative Commission, and Permanent Judicial Commission. This year, our three Commissioners are participating as trustees, on committees, and in meetings to secure Witherspoon's **Voice and Vote**.

As of **June or midyear**, of Witherspoon's **\$4,720**, members and friends have provided **\$1,600**, leaving **\$3,120**.

We ask each member to give **\$40 per family member**. Those who can provide another **\$40** or more for those who cannot, please do so.

Your generosity will be appreciated. The Presbytery tracks and reports Per Capita Collections quarterly starting **at the beginning of the fiscal year**, so making your contribution **Today** would be appreciated.

Those who want more information can consult the [Presbytery of the Coastlands 2023 Report on Per Capita](#), which presents contributions collected to date by the congregation. [Find more descriptive information at this LINK](#)



### **GUEST PREACHER LISSETTE GONZALEZ SOSA**

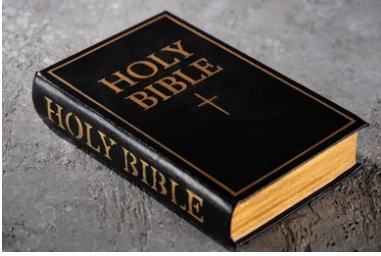
Lissette González Sosa graduated in May from Princeton Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity and an MA in Christian Education & Formation. She is a Master of Theology and Ecology Candidate with Latinx Theology, Social Justice, Immigration as her areas of concentration.

She has worked in social services for twenty years, mainly with youth, farmworkers, and immigrant populations. Lissette is a candidate for ministry with the PC(USA) and a member of La Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana Bet-el in Vineland, NJ. Lissette is the Northeast representative for several task forces at the General Assembly PC(USA).

Lissette has three beautiful daughters, Lisby, Leyla, and Cecily, with her husband Mario, who is now with the Lord. Pray with Lissette and her family as the Lord directs the next steps in their journey.



**Fellowship Hour Birthday and Anniversary Celebrations** will be held **Sunday, July 30** immediately following Worship Service. If you are celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary in June, the Deacons invite you, your family, and friends to join us in celebrating you and your important event on this the last Sunday of your special event month.



## **SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

We invite you to connect with us each Saturday morning at 10 a.m. to study and discuss scripture. All are welcome to be with us as we learn together.

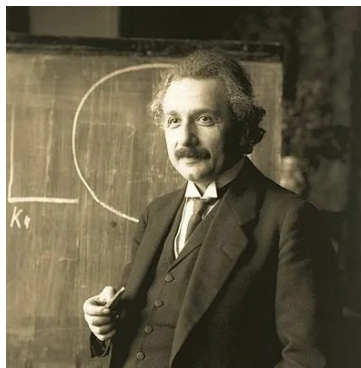
**July 15 Isaiah 49 & 50**



## **VOLUNTEER MUSICIANS**

Do you have a gift that God gave you? Do you feel led to share it with us at Church? Volunteer Musicians for all instruments are needed to add to our Music Ministry for Sunday and Special Worship Services. Volunteer guitar player(s) (amplified, non-amplified or electric) are also needed for select Sunday Worship Music. We encourage you to come, rehearse and play with us!

Please contact 609-924-1666 to share your gifts with Witherspoon!



Join the **Witherspoon Jackson Historical and Cultural Society (WJHCS)** and the nascent **Princeton Einstein Museum of Science (PEMS)** in viewing the "Albert Einstein: Champion of Racial Justice and Equality" exhibit. It is the first of three annual mini exhibits to be presented by PEMS as it prepares to open in 2026. The show is on view on the **second floor of the Princeton Public Library until August 1.**

For more information: <https://princetoneinsteinmuseum.org/exhibit-concepts/exhibits/>

## **This Week at Witherspoon**

Today	Worship - Guest Preacher Lissette Gonzalez Sosa	10:00 AM
	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	11:30 AM
	Men's Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	12:30 PM
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	Sunday Worship Planning Group (via Zoom)	5:45 PM
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday	Saturday Morning Bible Study (via Zoom)	10:00 AM
Next Sunday	<b>Annual Church Picnic</b>	10:00 AM
	West Windsor Community Park on Brent Midland Blvd.	
	Worship - Guest Preacher Lissette Gonzalez Sosa	

NASSAU PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# ***Chancel Drama Week***

**rising grades 3-12**

**volunteer positions for older youth and adults**

**MON-FRI, AUG 7-11 12:30-4:30 PM  
SUNDAY, AUG 13, 10 AM WORSHIP**

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In one week, we will stage this exciting Old Testament story/musical. Join us, as we discover a powerful message – the smallest person acting bravely can make an enormous difference, for God has placed us where we are for a reason.

Learn more and register:  
[www.nassauchurch.org/cdw](http://www.nassauchurch.org/cdw)

**MALICE  
IN THE  
PALACE**

**CHANCEL DRAMA  
August 7-11 & 13 / Nassau Presbyterian Church**

**PRINCETON SEMINARY'S  
1ST BLACK PRESIDENT**



*Please Save the Date for the*

# **Inauguration**

*of Princeton Theological Seminary's Eighth President*

**Rev. Dr. Jonathan Lee Walton**

**Friday, October 13, 2023**

**3 PM**

***Princeton University Chapel***

# SAVE THE DATE

PAUL ROBESON

125TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

Sunday, October 15, 2023  
3PM

NASSAU PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

61 NASSAU ST, PRINCETON, NJ

FEATURING

KEVIN MAYNOR

BARITONE SOLOIST



For more information visit  
[thepaulrobesonhouseofprinceton.org](http://thepaulrobesonhouseofprinceton.org)