

# The First Presbyterian Church

300 South Main Street  
Greensburg, Pennsylvania  
Trinity Sunday – May 31, 2026 – 10 a.m.  
Confirmation  
Simulcast Service

## THE GATHERING

### PRELUDE

Down to the River to Pray, with Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying  
*arr. Mary McDonald*  
Open Our Eyes with Be Thou My Vision  
*arr. Mark Hayes*  
Spirit  
*arr. Chris de Silva*  
Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty  
*arr. Lloyd Larson*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INTROIT

Praise the Lord Every Land and Nation *G.F. Handel, arr. Hal Hopson*

Praise the Lord, ev'ry land and nation; praise God's holy name forever. God has shown great might in all the earth. Let the hills sing for joy, for great is the Lord. With one voice, let all rejoice. Praise God's holy name forever.

### CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsive)*

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of God's glory.

### ✠HYMN 25

O Lord, Our God, How Excellent

WINCHESTER OLD

### ✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

**God of grace, love, and communion, we confess that we have failed to love you with all our heart, soul, and mind; and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We ignore your commandments, stray from your way, and follow other gods. Have mercy on us. Forgive our sin and raise us to new life that we may serve you faithfully and give honor to your holy name. Amen.**

### ✠ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### ✠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Glory Be to the Father – Hymn 581

**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.**

## THE WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**FIRST READING** Psalm 8

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*Children are invited to the chancel steps for the children's sermon.*

**ANTHEM** The Word Was God *Rosephanye Powell*

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him that have been made. Nothing was made he has not made.*

**SECOND READING** 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

**SERMON** Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum

**THE RESPONSE**

✠**HYMN 716** God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending **BEACH SPRING**

**RECEPTION OF MEMBERS OF THE 2026 CONFIRMATION CLASS:**

**Tia Marie Golliet, Ella Marie Hite, and Asher Joseph Hresko**

✠**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: CONFIRMATION CLASS CREED** (*unison*)

**We believe that God has created the world and given it life. God cherishes every creature and all creation. God shows himself to be forgiving and a protector of all life. We believe that Jesus is God's Son who spread God's word during his earthly life. He died on the cross for our sins yet was raised by God on the third day to demonstrate that death cannot defeat God's love. In Christ, we receive eternal life. We believe that the Holy Spirit is always with us, giving us the faith and courage to live the life we have received from God.**

**We believe that the church is the people of God and is a safe place as well, where we can receive guidance to live our lives. The Holy Scriptures also, in the hands of the church, provide each of us with guidance to follow Jesus and love. God has blessed us with a world in which to live and share with all creation. We believe that we are called as Christians to spread God's love and joy and help others.**

**We believe that resurrection occurs when God's fatherly love is shown to us and we inherit God's kingdom which is Heaven. This we believe, amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*unison*)

**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.**

**OUR JOYFUL RESPONSE - TITHES & OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY** He Is Exalted

*arr. Mark Hayes*

✠**RESPONSE** This Little Light of Mine

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine; This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**✠PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**✠HYMN 432**

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

REPTON

**✠BENEDICTION**

**✠POSTLUDE**

This Little Light of Mine

*arr. Mark Hayes*

*✠ Those who are able to stand comfortably may do so*

**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THIS MORNING:**

Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum, Pastor/Head of Staff; Ms. Sarah Esslinger, Interim Choir Director; Mrs. Hazel Braun, Interim Organist; Mrs. Karen Cole, Interim Wind Ensemble Director; Chancel Choir; Wind Ensemble; Ms. Deb Herman, Lector; Mrs. Chris Terrill, Video Technician.

*Music for this morning's service has been made possible, in part, by Edgar and Joanne Highberger and by gifts to the Dr. Edgar S. Highberger Music Fund. Music reprinted, podcast, and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-713544. All rights reserved.*

*The Pew Bibles have been placed in loving memory of Crystal Stone*

## **FIRST NEWS: The News of FPC**

**PRAYER LIST:** Dr. Bill Abraham, Dr. Lorraine Allen, Bill & Chris Berkebile, Trudy Brunot, Lisa Bulger, Peg Carpenter, Sandy Cole, Dan & Ginger Collier, William Courtney, Dick Crowe, Mark Cuneo, Michael Felice, Linda Gallick, Duffy Greba, Helen, Ed and Joanne Highberger, Gretchen Highberger, Linda Hughes, Jacobsky Family, Lucas James, Brett Johnson, Weston Johnson, Shannan Kellam, Arlene Kendra, Levi Keys, Emily King, Debbie Loyal, Joanne McIlhattan, Bob Noel, John & Bonny Noel, Nancy Pallitta, Gerry Pricer, Marnie Abraham Russell, Nico Salvio, Julia Schaming, Jason Schuchman, Jenny Schuchman, Pam Slater, Nancy Stahl, Carolyn Taylor, Alice Ann Templeton, Sonny & Jo Thomas, Lynda Turin, Linda & Tom Turin, Amy Weir, Doug & Lisa Wessling, Sue Woodward, Caroline Woodward & family, Guy Y.

**VISITING IN WORSHIP TODAY?** If you are visiting in worship today or have been for a while, please sign the Visitor Card found in the pew racks and place in the offering plate or hand to an usher. We would love to be able to contact you and answer any questions you may have about FPC. Please take a moment to greet Dr. Ankrum at the end of the service; he would love to get to know you and welcome you to our faith community.

**CHILDREN'S RESOURCE TOTES** - First Presbyterian Church also provides a comfort room and age-appropriate worship resource totes for families with young children to use during the service. They are in the narthex, or by asking an usher for assistance. *Children's bulletins are available at the Third Street entrance.*

**NURSERY HOURS 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. Summer Hours!** – Drop off care is available in the FPC nursery each Sunday morning for children Birth through Pre/K. We are excited to welcome FPC's youngest members and friends for a time of play, music, fun, or a nap! For safety reasons, caregivers are asked to provide their own drinks and snacks for their child.

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED SPONSORING A FELLOWSHIP HOUR?** Provide 4 dozen baked goods **or** a minimum of \$40 donation to cover the cost. Use the sign-up sheet on the Dining Room bulletin board. Hours are held on the first and third Sundays of every month in the Dining Room. Coffee is provided by the Millers of 19 Coffee.

**FIRST FRIDAYS: NEWS & UPDATES:** If you haven't been receiving our First Fridays: News & Updates, please call Kim at the church office (724-832-0150) to verify and/or update your correct email address.

**FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS: A DAILY DEVOTIONAL** – By ten o'clock in the morning each day, Monday through Friday, Martin posts a new devotion for the day. Please join in the practice of daily devotion for such a time as this. You can also subscribe to this daily devotional so that it will be sent to your email box by calling the church office or designating such at the church website.

**FINANCIAL REPORT: (as of May 28, 2026)**

<b>Year to Date Receipts:</b>	<b>\$333,975.94</b>
<b>Year to Date Expenses:</b>	<b>\$294,855.87</b>
<b>Year to Date <i>Surplus</i>:</b>	<b>\$ 39,120.07</b>

**DO YOU WISH TO GIVE ONLINE?**



To set up your own recurring donations, either visit the church website or scan the QR code with your smart phone, or contact the church office for help. *The church accrues a monthly fee for those who give by credit or debit card. The church currently also incurs a 2.84% fee plus 45 cents on every credit or debit card donation. These fees are not incurred for the church for donations routed through Vanco from a checking account.* Your support of Christ's church in this place is greatly appreciated!

**WELCOME SAM GRAY  
MINISTER OF MUSIC / ORGANIST  
SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026**



**SAM GRAY WILL BE JOINING OUR CHURCH STAFF BEGINNING MONDAY, JUNE 1** and will make his first appearance in worship on Sunday, June 7. Please join us for a special Fellowship Hour after worship on that Sunday welcoming our new Minister of Music / Organist and his fiancée, Amy Birdseye. Mr. Gray has recently held the position of Minister of Music at Potomac Presbyterian Church in Potomac, Maryland and is currently completing his work on a Ph.D. in Music Education at the University of Maryland. We are most excited to welcome Sam and Amy to our congregation.

The Minister of Music Search Committee is offering two opportunities to get acquainted with Sam Gray as he begins his ministry with us. The committee will sponsor Fellowship Hour on **Sunday, June 7** as we welcome Sam Gray to our congregation. Join us for refreshments and conversation in the Dining Room. The Worship Committee is sponsoring the flowers in the sanctuary and Dining Room as a housewarming gift to Sam and his fiancé Amy Birdseye who have recently purchased a new home in Greensburg.

Children and youth, who are participating in VBS, and their parents, are invited to remain for a light lunch and a Meet and Greet with Sam following the Worship Service on **Sunday, June 14** in the Fletcher Room. Signup sheets will be available at VBS so we prepare appropriately. All children, youth and teens and their families are welcome to learn more about Sam as we plan future musical activities appropriate for all ages.

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR THE BEAUTIFUL GERANIUMS:** Our thanks to Ed & Joanne Highberger for the generous donation of the geraniums that grace our Main Street yard landscaping. Also, thank you to those wonderful folks who came to plant all the beautiful flowers. Job well done!

**NEW BIBLES IN THE PEWS ....** Today, we dedicate the new Pew Bibles which have been installed in the sanctuary this past week. These bibles have been placed in loving memory of Crystal Stone. The bibles were purchased through memorial funds donated by family and friends and by Crystal's husband, Doug Stone. We are thankful to have Crystal memorialized in this meaningful way.

**HONKY TONK ANGELS** is a "feel good, funny, musical" play about 3 distinctly different young ladies as they follow their dream of stardom to Nashville. Looking for a fun afternoon, join church members on Sunday, July 12 for the 2 p.m. showing of the delightful play at St. Vincent Theatre. Limited tickets are \$23 per person and on sale now through the M & E committee at Fellowship Hour until they are gone.

**RING PITTSBURGH CONCERT - TODAY at 2:00 p.m.** in our sanctuary. This auditioned community handbell ensemble was established in the summer of 2016, by founding director Jim Rossetti, with the goal of bringing a wider world of handbell music to western Pennsylvania. In addition to what is traditionally heard mainly in church settings, a community handbell ensemble can offer a variety of popular music, including rock, pop, patriotic, movie themes, hymn adaptations, and music written exclusively for handbells. A freewill offering will be received to help continue this outreach. The Kirk Ringers participated in a fall workshop conducted by Jim and his wife, Mary Rita, and are looking forward to sharing this event with our congregation and community.

**VBS 2026:** Join the "Road Trip – On the Go with God" adventure; June 8 – 12; 8:30 AM – Noon. We're looking for volunteers to help welcome kids, lead games and crafts, serve snacks, and bring the energy that makes VBS unforgettable. Youth and adult helpers are welcome! Come be part of the team that helps kids discover that God is with them wherever they go. Please contact the church office at 724-832-0150 or Jennifer Slater at [jslater.fpc@gmail.com](mailto:jslater.fpc@gmail.com) to sign up and help make this an amazing week!

**YOUTH GROUP MEETING - JUNE 7** - We will meet in the youth room at 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. for our meeting. Lunch will be provided.

**CORNERSTONE** – Save the Date, June 12 at 5:00 p.m. Yes, this is a Friday! We have decided to have Cornerstone meet on Friday through the Spring/Summer months to avoid the conflicts with the Symphony and RCBB. Also, we would like to invite people who can't meet on Saturdays to join our group. This month we will be dining at **Abruzzi Italian Cucina, 9745 Route 30, Irwin**. Seating will be limited so be sure to reserve your spot early! As always, you can find sign-up sheets during Fellowship Hour or you can call Sandy Beauregard (724-331-3457).

**FOOD BANK HELP** – The deacons are looking for help for the mornings of Saturday, June 6, 7:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., July 11, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. and August 1, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m., to staff our yearly commitment to the Westmoreland County Foodbank's distribution this summer. Anyone interested in helping with packing, loading or directing traffic at Our Lady of Grace Church, please contact Joe Napsha at 724-454-3517. Sharing your time to aid those in need in our community is rewarding to all.

**TRI-CITY MEALS ON WHEELS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** -- Volunteering is a great way to give back and connect with your community. Tri-City Meals on Wheels, located at 716 Foster Street in Greensburg, is looking for volunteers. Tri-City Meals on Wheels, which receives no government assistance, provides low cost (\$3.50/day) nutritious meals to close to 200 people daily, who need the help. Meals are provided 5 days per week, Mon-Fri, excluding holidays and snow days. Volunteers, who prepare food, start at 7:30 AM and are finished around 11AM. Drivers and runners deliver the meals between 10:30 AM to noon. You may have a permanent job/shift per week or act as a temporary volunteer, covering a shift when someone needs a day off. Interested? Call Tri-City Meals on Wheels at 724 -837-6117.

**OUR ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL** is approaching fast. M & E is holding the annual Strawberry festival on June 21 during Fellowship Hour following church services. Bring the family and enjoy delicious strawberries and cake while starting your Father's Day with church friends.

**THE M&E COMMITTEE** has been busy planning future events to meet new members and celebrate church comradery. Look for sign-up sheets during Fellowship Hour and mark your calendar for these future events: August 11 – The Lincoln Highway Experience; August 30 – Church Picnic; September 12 – Cornerstone at Jon Bennet Tavern; October 3 – Sugar Creek play “Elijah” and November 29 – Fall Munch-a-long.

#### **CHURCH CALENDAR**

##### **SUNDAY, MAY 31 – CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School

##### **10:00 a.m. Worship**

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour – Dining Room

11:30 a.m. Youth Group Meeting – Youth Room

2:00 p.m. Ring Pittsburgh Concert - Sanctuary

##### **MONDAY, JUNE 1**

6:00 p.m. Church Officer Nominating Committee – PW Lounge

##### **TUESDAY, JUNE 2**

6:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee - Refectory

7:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous – Fletcher Room

##### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3**

7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study – Eat 'n Park, Greensburg

12:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous – Fletcher Room

2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting – Assembly Room

6:30 p.m. Christian Education Committee – Assembly Room

##### **SATURDAY, JUNE 6**

7:45 a.m. Food Bank – Our Lady of Grace Church

9:00 a.m. Worship Committee – Assembly Room

##### **SUNDAY, JUNE 7 – COMMUNION SUNDAY**

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School

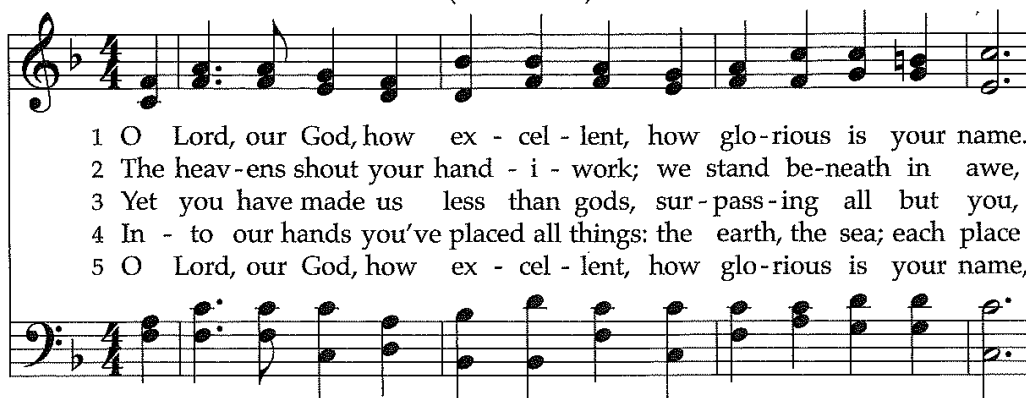
##### **10:00 a.m. Worship**

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour – Dining Room

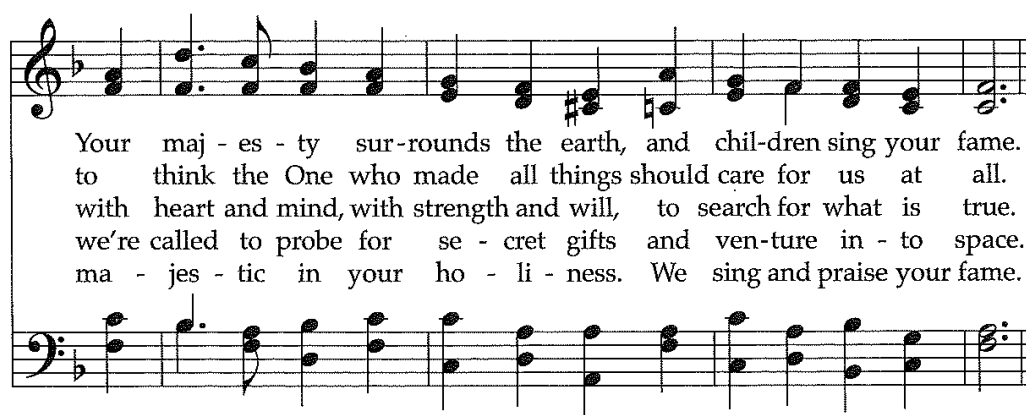
11:30 a.m. Youth Group Meeting – Youth Room

# O Lord, Our God, How Excellent 25

(Psalm 8)



1 O Lord, our God, how ex - cel - lent, how glo - rious is your name.  
2 The heav - ens shout your hand - i - work; we stand be - neath in awe,  
3 Yet you have made us less than gods, sur - pass - ing all but you,  
4 In - to our hands you've placed all things; the earth, the sea; each place  
5 O Lord, our God, how ex - cel - lent, how glo - rious is your name,



Your maj - es - ty sur - rounds the earth, and chil - dren sing your fame.  
to think the One who made all things should care for us at all.  
with heart and mind, with strength and will, to search for what is true.  
we're called to probe for se - cret gifts and ven - ture in - to space.  
ma - jes - tic in your ho - li - ness. We sing and praise your fame.

The middle stanzas of this paraphrase of Psalm 8 probe the ancient but enduring paradox of declaring the grandeur of God's creation while realizing how small mortals are in the midst of it all. These words are set to one of the most durable 18th-century English psalm tunes.

TEXT: Fred R. Anderson, 1986  
MUSIC: Este's *Psalmes*, 1592; harm. George Kirbye, 1592  
Text © 1986 Fred R. Anderson

WINCHESTER OLD  
CM

# God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (G)  
 F Dm B<sup>b</sup>

1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and  
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of  
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D) (Bm)  
 F Dm

end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly  
 Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es  
 grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G) (D) (A)  
 B<sup>b</sup> F C

cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn  
 joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly  
 spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm) (F#m) (Bm) (G) (A) (D)  
 Dm Am Dm B<sup>b</sup> C F

to you, of - fering up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall  
 la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,  
 shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm) (G) (D)  
 Dm B<sup>b</sup> F

rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
 and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

# How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432

Capo 1: (D) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A)(D)  
 E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> Cm A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>

1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call  
 2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;  
 3 We mar - vel how your saints be - came in hin - dranc - es more sure:  
 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,

(G) (Em) (A) (F<sup>#</sup>m) (Bm) (G) (Em)  
 A<sup>b</sup> Fm B<sup>b</sup> Gm Cm A<sup>b</sup> Fm

to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re -  
 if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un -  
 whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your  
 in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to

(A7) (D) (A7)(B) (Em) (G)(A7) (D)  
 B<sup>b</sup>7 E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>7 C Fm A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>7 E<sup>b</sup>

stored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.  
 wind its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.  
 name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure.  
 you: the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored, done.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This reflection on Christian vocation was written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune, and the poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.