

# The First Presbyterian Church

300 South Main Street

Greensburg, Pennsylvania

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 19, 2021 – 10 a.m.

Simulcast Service

PRELUDE

Air: Lento, Assai Expressivo

*Herbert Howells*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

We will give thanks to you, O Lord, with our whole heart;

**We will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

HYMN 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**Merciful God, you made us in your image, with a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and will to serve you. But our knowledge is imperfect, our love inconsistent, our obedience incomplete. Day by day, we fail to grow into your likeness. In your tender love, forgive us through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Psalm 1

ANTHEM

The Servant Song

*David Schwoebel*

*If anyone would be first, they shall be the last of all, they shall be the last, they shall be the last; be the servant of all. We are trav'lers on a journey, fellow pilgrims on the road; we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear. Sister, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too. Brother, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too. I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh, I'll laugh with you; I will share your joy and sorrow, till we've seen this journey through. When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.*

SECOND READING

Mark 9:30-37

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum

HYMN 320

The Church of Christ in Every Age

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – 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.**

**OUR JOYFUL RESPONSE - TITHES & OFFERINGS**

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

**HYMN 188** Jesus Love Me!

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** Festal Flourish *Gordon Jacob*

**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THIS MORNING**

The Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum, Pastor / Head of Staff

Dr. John B. Salveson, Minister of Music / Organist

Mr. Harry Campbell, Guest Organist

Chancel Choir

Ms. Gloria Christofano, Guest Conductor

Miss Gillian Hresko, Lector

Mr. Rick 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.*

**FIRST NEWS: The News of FPC – September 19 - 26, 2021**

**THE SESSION OF FPC** recently discussed, via email, returning some of the COVID mitigation practices that we have recently dropped. Due to the rise of contagion figures in Westmoreland County, we feel the community will be best served by reversing some of the lessening of restrictions for the time being. So, we will be encouraging the wearing of masks for entering and leaving the sanctuary, the resumption of socially distant seating in the pews, the placement of bulletins in the pews and remaining seated for hymn singing and other activities. Hopefully our proactive precautions will help to lessen the spread.

**THE SESSION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** of Greensburg, Pa., of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), in accord with its Bylaws, hereby calls a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, September 26, 2021, following a service of worship held at 10:00 a.m., in the Sanctuary of the Church, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Church Officers Nominating Committee and electing a new slate of officers. The following are the current nominees

**Ruling-Elder Trustee**

**Class of 2025 (2): Rick Terrill & Todd Turin**

**Ruling Elder**

**Class of 2025 (5): Paula Purnell, Doug Stone, Jeffrey Hite, Michael Pascarella & Shelley Fazi**

**Deacons**

**Class of 2025 (11): Karol Elmore, Debbie Herman, Nancy Golden, Deane Markle, Jeff Mayo, Peggy Taylor, Linda Dickson, James Salathe & Dr. Jessica Leigey.**

**Class of 2024 (2): Wendy Matchett**

**Note: At the time of this printing three deacon vacancies remain: Class of 2025 (2) & Class of 2024 (1)**

**LAST TUESDAY BOOK CLUB** Restarts with Some New Ways .... Join the LTBC, a monthly literary discussion group that has met for twenty years at FPC, in September for something a bit new. The club will read three short stories a month, paired by Dr. Ankrum from the Oxford Book of American Short Stories. These stories are fairly easily obtained even without the book, but the procurement of the collection is a worthy investment. In September, we will be reading the following three stories for discussion in the Dining Room on Tuesday, September 28 at 7 p.m.: 'Where Is the Voice Coming From?' by Eudora Welty; 'The Lottery' by Shirley Jackson; 'A Late Encounter with the Enemy' by Flannery O'Connor

**THRU THE BIBLE CLASS** Picks Up Where We Left Off!....On the last Monday of every month, Dr. Ankrum holds a progressive Bible study working our way through the entire canon of scripture. We meet at 7 p.m. in the Dining Room and discuss usually a whole book of the Bible each month. In September we will be reading and discussing the Old Testament prophecy of Hosea. We resume on Monday, September 27 at 7 p.m.

**GAMES WITH RICK - Sunday, September 19, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., FPC Youth Room**

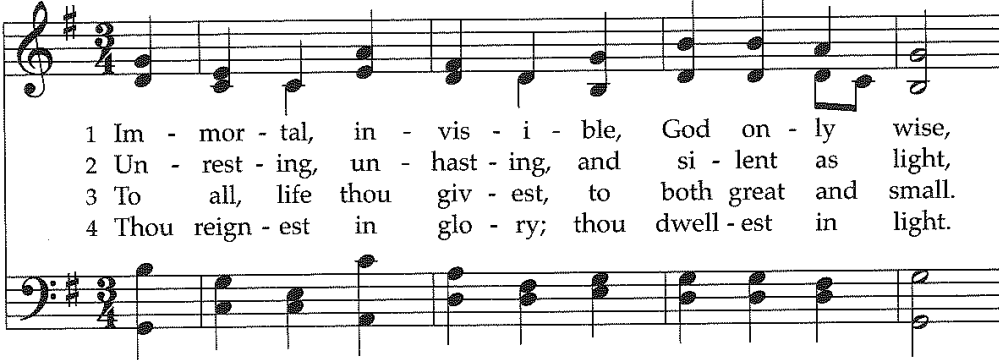
We've been running a D&D 5e campaign. The kids play characters and interact with the Eberron game world guided by me. The kids work together to solve problems and overcome obstacles in a fantasy world setting that blends magic and machine. They've defeated pirates, saved a town by rescuing a dragon, and become movie stars. If cooperative storytelling sounds like fun to you, then this may be your scene.

**YOUTH GROUP** will meet on Sunday, September 26, from 11:00 – 1:00 in the youth room. Lunch will be provided.

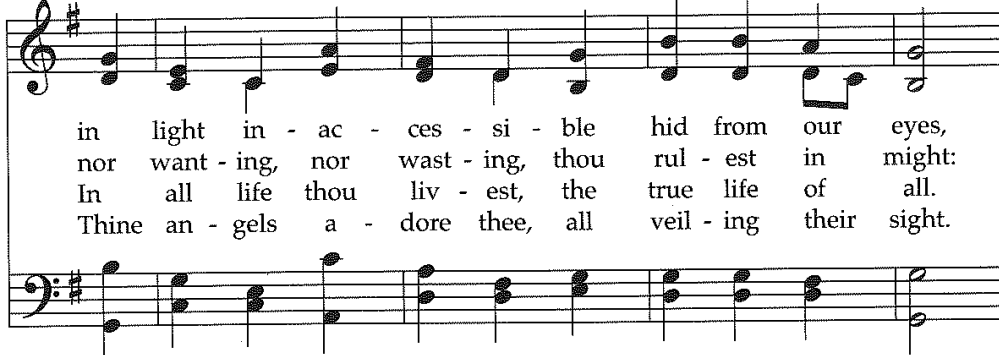
**FAMILY GAME NIGHT** - All family and friends are welcome to join the Christian Education Committee on **September 26, 2021** for Family Game Night from 5-7 p.m. in the church dining room. We will have a Potluck dinner first. The committee will provide hot dogs and lemonade. Please bring a favorite dish to share. And then it's game on! The committee will also provide some games, but if you like, please bring your favorite to share. Please call the church to let us know how many will be coming in your party by Thursday, September 23. Hope to see many of you there! We had great fun and fellowship last year!!!

**PRAYER LIST:** Amy, Andrew, Autumn, Jane B., Ann & Jack Bagley, Alicia & Felipe Booher, Angelo Bianco, Becky, Jean Blice, David Bolton, Ernie Brown, Lisa Bulger, Sandy Cole, Edna Mary Cox, Kaitlyn Daniels, John Depretto, Lou DeRose, Chris Dieck, Kelly Schweikert Doman, Donna, Joanne & Dennis Doyle, Eric, Irene Evans, David Fath, Michael Felice, Fran Folino, Cheri (Turin) Gail, George, Gloria, Richard Gracik, Ellen Grubb, Betty Hammer, Ted Hammer, Sidney Hawk, Joseph Hawk, Edgar and Joanne Highberger, Gretchen Highberger, Frank Hodges, Charles Hunter, Lee Jamison, Janet, Sofoor Javid, Jean, Nancy Jobe, Nik K., Kelly, Anna Kostrick, Kathy McIlhattan Kostrick, Ray Kuyat, Phyllis Levino, Ed Ligus, Jill Linsz, Paige Lucas, Maralynn, Marlene, Mary, George Maser, Carol Mateer, the McMillin family, Chuck McNerny, Misty, Dorothy Moore, Jim Nash, Peg & Doug Newman, Nick, Nicole, Barb Nivus, Bill Ofcansky, Denise Ohr, Mark Orris, Rose Osterberg, Joe and Nancy Pallitta, Pat Panza, Patti, the Peterson family, Chuck Phillips, Kathleen Piekut, John Pollins IV, Lynne Rain, Colton Reid, Deana & Judy Rugh, Ron Russell, John Salveson, Nico & Stacey Salvio, Joan Scales, Richard Schall, Vivian Schwing, Oliver Schultz, Gene & Liz Sember, Barbara Sill and family, Nancy Skrot, the Ken Smith family, the Snyier family, Sharon Stoner, Janet Sutherland, Isabelle Taylor, Janet Tinkey & family, Colleen Triffanoff, Lynda Turin, Tyler, Elsie Vanetta, Ron Vorel, Sally Warrnius, Bill Washburn, Tristan Watson, Nancy Jane Whipkey, Jay and Sue Woodward, and Marsha & Mike Zoruba.

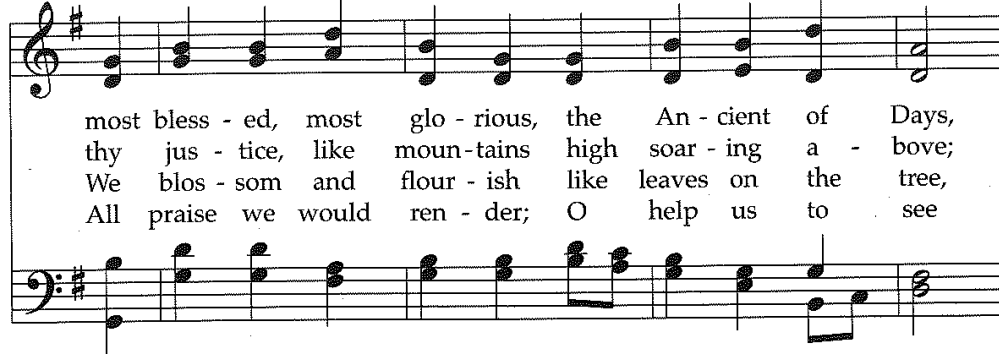
## Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12



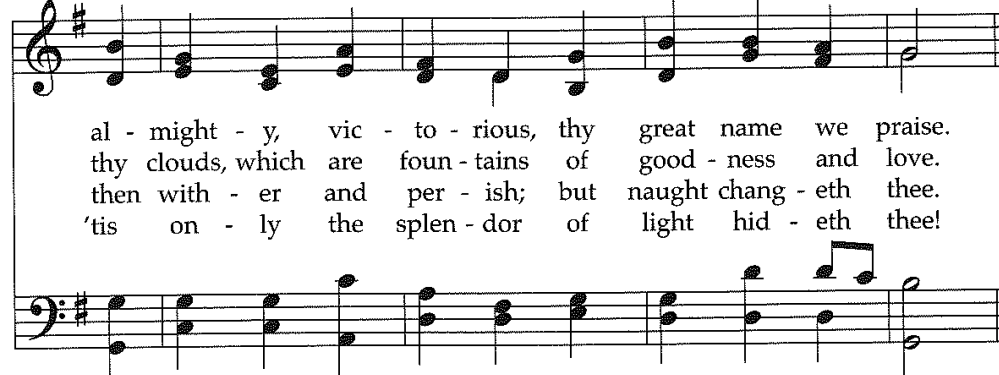
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:  
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.  
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.



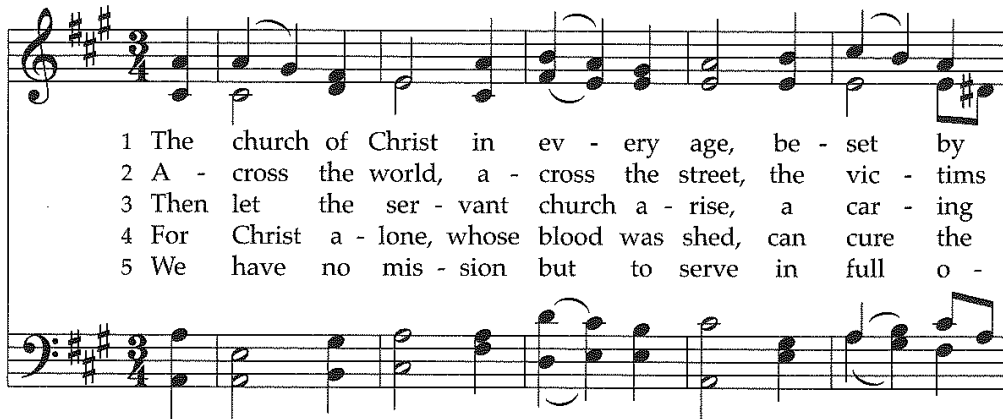
most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;  
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

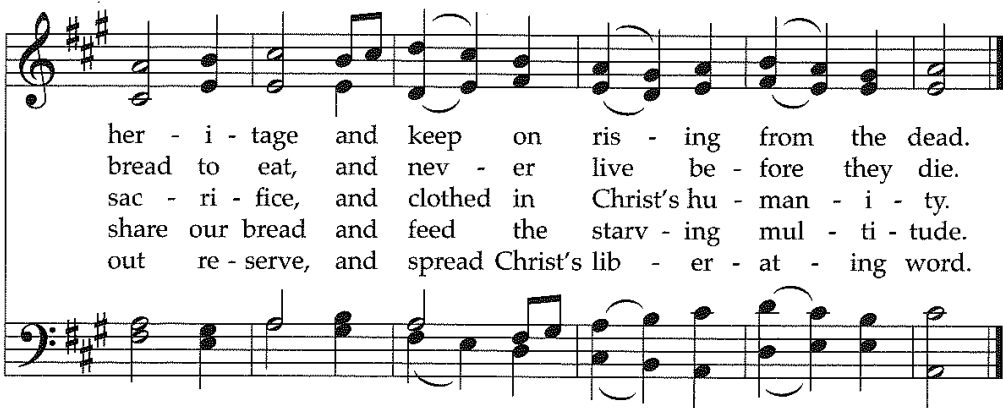
## 320 The Church of Christ in Every Age



1 The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by  
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
 4 For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to  
 be - dience to our Lord: to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
 out re - serve, and spread Christ's lib - er - at - ing word.

In this challenging text by a British Methodist minister, the odd-numbered stanzas develop the image of "the servant church," while the second surveys the many needs and the fourth describes the true source of strength for the task.

188

Jesus Loves Me!

1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.  
 2 Je - sus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long a - go,

Lit - tle ones to him be - long. They are weak, but he is strong.  
 tak - ing chil - dren on his knee, say - ing, "Let them come to me."

Refrain

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

Few songs of faith have supported people from cradle to grave like this one. The great theologian Karl Barth said that its opening two lines were a summary of all that he had learned. The composer formed the refrain from those lines when creating this universally used tune.