

The First Presbyterian Church

300 South Main Street

Greensburg, Pennsylvania

The Tenth Sunday After Pentecost – July 28, 2024 – 10 a.m.

Simulcast Service

THE GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

More Precious Than Silver

Lynn DeShazo

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Down to the River to Pray, with Lord, Listen to Your Children

Mary McDonald

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

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

✠HYMN 42

Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure

WINCHESTER NEW

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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.

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM Caroline Elizabeth, daughter of Michael and Barbara States

✠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.

RESPONSE—"Baptized in Water" (hymnal p. 482 1st stanza)

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King; Heirs of salvation, trusting the promise, faithfully now God's praises we sing.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Psalm 14

DUET How Great Thou Art *Stuart Hine /Lloyd Larson*

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed, then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee: How great Thou art! And when I think that God, His Son not sparing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in; that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

SECOND READING 1 Timothy 6:11-19

SERMON The Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum

THE RESPONSE

✠HYMN 630 Fairest Lord Jesus `CRUSADERS' HYMN

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 Light Dawns on a Weary World *Nancy M. Raabe*

✠RESPONSE Doxology (*hymnal p. 607*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

✠PRAYER OF DEDICATION

✠HYMN 269 Lead On, O King Eternal! LANCASHIRE

✠BENEDICTION

✠POSTLUDE Epiphany *John Leavitt*
✠ *Those who are able to stand comfortably may do so*

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THIS MORNING:

The Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum, Pastor / Head of Staff; Mrs. Hazel Braun, Guest Organist; Mr. Michael Pascarella, Lector; Mrs. Kelsey Kotun, Mrs. Heather Nabuda, Soloists; Mrs. Chris Terrill, Video Technician

The chancel flowers are placed in memory of Colleen Sheehan Wright (Pulpit) daughter of Ellen Sheehan, whose celebration of life was held on Friday, July 26 AND in honor of Caroline Elizabeth States' baptism (Lectern) by her family.

In memoriam: Dr. George Chambers, July 24, 2024

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.

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FIRST NEWS: The News of FPC

PRAYER LIST: Nick Behun, Lisa Bulger, Art Caramella, George Chambers, Wayne Clemens, Sandy Cole, Dan & Ginger Collier, Beverly & William Courtney, Edna Mary Cox, Bob Dittman, Karen Dubosky, Michael Felice, Duffy Greba, Edgar and Joanne Highberger, Gretchen Highberger, Lucas James, Lee Jamison, Weston Johnson, Don Kemerer, Marge Machesney, George Maser, Joanne McIlhattan, John Noel, Dan P., Nancy Pallitta, Kathleen Piekut, Victoria Piekut, Gerry Pricer, Judy Rugh, Nancy Skrot, Mary Smith, Jerry Sohick, Nancy Stahl, Eileen Stefl, Crystal Stone, Brooke Stutzman, Sonny & Jo Thomas, Lynda Turin, Linda & Tom Turin, Doug Wessling, Don Whipkey.

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.

NURSERY NEWS – SUMMER HOURS! The nursery's summer hours have begun. There will only be drop off care available during the 10 a.m. worship hour. Gali looks forward to seeing you and your children for worship this summer. The nursery will open again at 9 a.m. at the start of the new program year on September 15!

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.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED SPONSORING A FELLOWSHIP HOUR? Provide 6 dozen baked goods or \$35 donation to cover the cost. Use the sign-up sheet on the Dining Room bulletin board. Your contributions and participation are greatly appreciated. Fellowship 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.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL We are currently taking applications for the fall term. Check us out at <https://www.firstpresbyteriangreensburg.com/preschool.html> The website contains lots of information about our preschool, including upcoming events, our education methods, and more! **Know someone looking for a preschool next year? Open Enrollment is happening NOW! Recommend us to a friend. Also – Please help us advertise our wonderful preschool by putting a yard sign in your front lawn. Signs can be found in the Main St. entrance of our sanctuary.**

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. *Starting August 31, 2024, the church will accrue a monthly fee for those who give by credit card. The church currently also incurs a 2.84% fee plus 45 cents on every credit 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!

SIGHT & SOUND PRODUCTION - SATURDAY, AUG. 17 - We have scheduled a trip to the Dutch Valley in Sugar Creek, Ohio on August 17th. We will be seeing the Sight and Sound production of *Ruth* at the Ohio Star Theater at 1:00 p.m. Prior to the play, we will be dining at the Dutch Valley Restaurant at 11:30 a.m. **THERE ARE A FEW TICKETS LEFT!** We will be taking the church van, but only 14 people will be able to ride in it. Some will need to car pool and follow the van. The trip will take approximately 2 1/2 to 3 hours one way. We will be leaving from the church lot at about 7:45 a.m. and have one comfort stop. After the play ends (3:00 p.m.) there will be time to visit some of the numerous shops on the campus prior to returning. We should be back at the church by 8:00 p.m. Tickets for this event are \$75 per person and the price includes the play, lunch, tax and tip. ***You can mail a check to the office, payable to First Presbyterian Church, by August 1st.*** Persons interested in attending should contact Sandy Beauregard at 724-834-2247, 724-331-3457 or sandbeau1@verizon.net.

CHURCH PICNIC, AUGUST 25 – Please join your church family and friends on Sunday, August 25 following the morning worship service for our annual church picnic at the Heather Lund Pavilion in Mt. Odin Park, Greensburg, just off Route 30. The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments and paper products. Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share. If you are not a cook, no worries! We always have plenty of food and your presence will make the event a memorable one! Come meet and socialize with family and friends from the congregation. If you can bring along food to share, please call the church office to indicate your contribution. This event is held rain or shine!

AN OLD FAVORITE RETURNS IN SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER & NOVEMBER! It's fun! It's fellowship! It's food! Here's how it works: someone hosts and provides the main course, others come with accompanying dishes and a good time is had by all! Please consider participating in this great activity. We will be forming the new ***Dinners for Eight*** groups during the summer months with an eye to starting in September. The hosts for the first month have been recruited, now we need folks to sign up as participants. The gatherings will be created merely by drawing names out of a hat, then the hosts will be informed of who is coming to their house and the guests will be informed of who their host will be. It will be up to the group to determine a mutually acceptable date and time. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Miller or Dr. Ankrum. Look for our sign ups in Fellowship Hours in the summer or call the church office.

Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure 42

(Psalm 145)

1 Your faith - ful - ness, O Lord, is sure in
 2 The eyes of all are fixed on you; by
 3 Lord, you are just in all your ways, and
 4 My mouth shall speak your praise, O Lord; my

all your words, your gra - cious deeds; you gen - tly lift all
 you their wants are all sup - plied; your o - pen hand is
 kind in ev - ery - thing you do; for - ev - er near you
 soul shall bless your ho - ly name; let all things liv - ing

bur - dened souls and well pro - vide for all our needs.
 boun - ti - ful and ev - ery soul is sat - is - fied.
 stand to hear and help all those who call on you.
 join the song of praise, from age to age the same.

This paraphrase of verses from the latter part of Psalm 145 celebrates God's providential care for all creation, especially for those in any need or trouble. This anonymous German tune was apparently introduced to English hymnody by John Wesley in a 1742 music collection.

630

Fairest Lord Jesus

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Rul - er of all
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Rul - er of the

na - ture, O thou of God to earth come
 wood - lands, robed in the bloom - ing garb of
 moon - light, and all the twink - ling, star - ry
 na - tions, Son of God and Son of

down, thee will I cher - ish, thee will I
 spring. Je - sus is fair - er; Je - sus is
 host. Je - sus shines bright - er; Je - sus shines
 Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o -

hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.
 ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Franz Liszt used this melody for a "Crusaders' March" in an oratorio, but this hymn had nothing to do with the Crusades. No record of the German text exists before the middle of the 17th century or of the Silesian folk melody before the first half of the 19th century.

269 Lead On, O King Eternal!

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,

hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents shall be our home.
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
 for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears;

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong,
 for not with swords' loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums;
 your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light.

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 with deeds of love and mer - cy the heaven-ly king-dom comes.
 The crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Not everything that looks like a battle ends up being one. This text, written for a seminary graduation, works well with its martial tune in the first stanza; but later stanzas turn from such imagery and focus on "deeds of love and mercy" and courage for life's journey.