

The First Presbyterian Church

300 South Main Street

Greensburg, Pennsylvania

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 29, 2024 – 10 a.m.

Simulcast Service

THE GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Kevin McChesney

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

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

✠HYMN 641

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

ENGELBERG

✠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 to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me (Hymn 582)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be Amen.

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM

Emmett Hayes, son of Elizabeth Anne Carnahan and Charles Matthew Watson

✠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 124

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children are invited to the chancel steps for the Children's sermon and then be dismissed to Sunday School.

HANDBELL ANTHEM Morning Has Broken *Cheryl Sutton Baker*

SECOND READING James 5:13-18

SERMON The Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum

THE RESPONSE

✠**HYMN 469** Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying **CHILDREN PRAYING**

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 Repton *Robert Hobby*

✠**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 804** Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart **MARION**

✠**BENEDICTION** The Lord Bless You and Keep You *Peter K. Lutkin*

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. Amen.

✂POSTLUDE

Allegro

Johann Christian Kittel

✂ Those who are able to stand comfortably may do so

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP THIS MORNING:

Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum, Pastor/Head of Staff; Dr. Jeffrey Jones, Minister of Music / Organist; Ms. Louisa Dieck, Lector; Chancel Choir; Kirk Ringers; Mr. Michael Pascarella, Video Technician.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE IN HONOR OF the baptism of Emmett Hayes Watson, son of Elizabeth Anne Carnahan and Charles Matthew Watson, placed by grandparents, Tom and Mary Ellen Carnahan and Anne Watson-Vance and great-grandmothers, Dorothy Broadbent and Doris Carnahan.

IN MEMORIAM: Eleanor Mitinger, September 17, 2024; Mary Mills, September 26, 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, 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, Heather Jones, Don Kemerer, Jim L., Marge Machesney, George Maser, Joanne McIlhattan, Daphne Murray, John Noel, Dan P., Nancy Pallitta, Kathleen Piekut, Victoria Piekut, Gerry Pricer, Judy Rugh, Marnie Abraham Russell, 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.

NEW NURSERY HOURS! – Started September 8 - 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. – Drop off care is available in the FPC nursery each Sunday morning for children Birth through Pre/K. Gali Clark is 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. Registration forms can be found in the nursery. See you there!

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 Main Street and 3rd Street entrances.*

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 –Monday through Friday, Dr. Ankrum posts a new devotion on our church website. You can subscribe to an email service for this by notifying the church office.

FINANCIAL REPORT This is a new weekly feature for our bulletin reporting the current financial status of the 2024 Church Budget. Look here each Sunday for an updated version of our progress as a congregation in providing financial support to the work of Christ at FPC:

Year to Date Expenses	\$ 532,005
Year to Date Receipts	\$ 438,312
Year to Date Deficit	(\$ 93,693)

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 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!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024 - 11:00 A.M.

AGENDA

I. Opening Prayer & Approval of Agenda – Dr. Ankrum

II. Call of Meeting – Mrs. Janice Heming, Clerk of Session

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Greensburg has called a meeting of the Congregation to convene on Sunday, September 29 at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary of the church building following the 10 a.m. worship service, for the purpose of hearing a report of the Church Officer Nominating Committee.

III. Report of the Church Officer Nominating Committee – Mr. Ray Tietsworth, chair

Members of CONC: Ray Tietsworth, Ruling Elder-Trustee, chair; Cynthia Myrnga, Ruling Elder; Deacons: Linda Dickson, Peggy Taylor; At-Large Members: Jerry Cumer, Nick Fazi, Jan McNerny, Julia Schaming, Christian Slater.

Ruling Elder - Trustee - Class of 2028: Doug Stone, Rick Terrill

Ruling Elder - Class of 2028: Sarah Hines, Shelley Fazi, Jeff Hite, Chris Terrill, Dr. Jim Kellam

Deacons - Class of 2028: Linda Dickson, Matt Dudik, Matt Cohen, Gretchen Lowry, Shannan Kellam, Marquis Smith III, Peggy Taylor

At-Large Members of CONC: Jerry Cumer, Nick Fazi, Jan McNerny, Julia Schaming, Christian Slater.

V. Closing Prayer – Dr. Ankrum

PHOTO DIRECTORY - It has been a while since we, as a church, have done an updated photo directory. The deacons have considered a few options and *Instantchurchdirectory.com* will be our new resource for the directory. As technology has made membership from a distance a reality over the past few years, this will allow everyone to participate in the new directory. Families will have the option to upload and change their own photos and the deacons can help those who need assistance with the platform. The church's website will provide a link to the app and is *only available to our members and is password protected*. There will be an option to have a printed directory for those who prefer one in hand. We are working to get the directory set up and ready and will keep everybody updated when it becomes available.

NEW SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL - The Christian Education Committee is excited to announce a change in time for Sunday School classes this fall. All Sunday School classes from kindergarten to fifth grade will take place during the church service. (Classes for grades 6-12 will remain at 9:00 a.m.) Children will be taken to the Sunday School room following the children's sermon. We will conclude at the end of the service. Parents will collect their children following the service and before going to Fellowship Hour. The committee hopes that this change will increase opportunities to share and discuss God's word with our children. The new schedule is as follows:

9:00 a.m. – Adult Forum

9:00 a.m. – Youth Sunday School

10:15 a.m. Kindergarten – Fifth Grade Sunday School*

11:15 a.m. – Music for Children and Youth – 3rd Floor Music Room

*The children will start in worship in the sanctuary and then be dismissed to their class following a Children's Sermon.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 – Are you interested in joining our congregation? Please prayerfully consider your participation in the life of Christ's church and God's call upon your life. The Membership & Evangelism Committee will be offering a New Members Class on Sunday, November 10 at 11:15 a.m. in the PW Lounge. Those who wish to join the church will be received into membership during the worship service on Sunday, November 17. If you are interested, or if you have questions, please contact Dr. Ankrum at the church office.

ADULT FORUM ON SUNDAY MORNING We meet **Sundays at 9 a.m.** in the PW Lounge on the first floor of the CE Wing. We are reading and discussing a wonderful book written by the late Rev. Peter Gomes: ***The Good Book: Reading the Bible with Mind and Heart.*** Gomes unpacks the scriptures for his reader, covering how the Bible is often misunderstood by Christians and others alike. The book helps to open up our hearts and minds to the profound words of scripture that give us comfort and challenges our faith as well.

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY - EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING AT 7:30 A.M.: This Bible study has many wonderful ingredients: warm fellowship, good friendships, open discussions, great breakfasts AND the opportunity to grow in faith together. We gather every Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m. at Eat n' Park across from Westmoreland Mall. We are currently studying the Gospel of Mark.

THRU THE BIBLE CLASS will meet **Monday, September 30 at 7 p.m.** in the Assembly Room of the church building. We have been working our way through the Bible from cover to cover and will be discussing the Letter to the Hebrews. The class lasts just an hour and is led by Dr. Ankrum. Please join us for a lively discussion!

OLD-FASHIONED POTLUCK: TODAY - AFTER WORSHIP- Help our Stewardship Committee bring back a bit of nostalgia with our first all-church after worship potluck in some time! We'll gather immediately following worship today in the Fletcher Room. **All are invited, whether you signed up or not! We'll always have enough!**

COMMITMENT SUNDAY AND CHILI AFTER CHURCH SLATED FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 The Stewardship Committee has set Sunday, October 27 as our Commitment Sunday. Please join us on that Sunday as we commit our financial support for the 2025 budget year AND celebrate with our Chili After Church luncheon! Sign-up for the lunch during Fellowship Hour or call the church office!

AN OPEN INVITATION to join the Monday Morning Sewing Circle that meets at 9:00 a.m. Monday mornings in the Fletcher Room. You don't have to be an expert tailor to hem the cotton flannelette baby receiving blankets or to sew the "little dresses for Africa". If you are interested, please contact Sylvia Carlson at 724-755-2288 for information. Membership at this church is not a requirement. Anyone is welcome.

THE CORNERSTONE GROUP INVITES YOU TO JOIN THEM ... Saturday, October 12 at 5 p.m. We will be dining at The Lamplighter on Route 22 in Delmont. Hopefully they will still have Octoberfest items on the menu. Please sign-up by October 8 by calling Sandy Beauregard (724-834-2247 or 724-331-3457), emailing her at sandbeau1@verizon.net or during Fellowship Hour, to reserve your spot.

THE SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE CONCERT SERIES presents Gregory Brandt, Baritone on Friday, October 4, 2024 at noon at Verostko Center for the Arts, Dale P. Latimer Library. Gregg is a member of our choir and a veteran Broadway singer and actor. Listen as Gregg presents classical and Broadway Songs.

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

9:00 a.m. Adult and Youth Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship and Children's Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting - Sanctuary

11:15 a.m. Pot Luck Lunch – Dining Room

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

9:00 a.m. Sewing – Fletcher Room

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

6:30 p.m. Stewardship Meeting - Refectory

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

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

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

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting – Assembly Room

6:30 p.m. Christian Education Meeting – Dining Room

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

5:30 p.m. Brass Ensemble Practice - Sanctuary

6:30 p.m. Kirk Ringers Practice – Bell Room

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

8:30 a.m. Worship Committee Meeting – Assembly Room

10:00 a.m. Arthur Caramella Memorial Service - Sanctuary

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6 COMMUNION SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Adult and Youth Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship and Children's Sunday School

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

11:15 a.m. Children's Choir – Choir Room

ADORATION

641 When in Our Music God Is Glorified



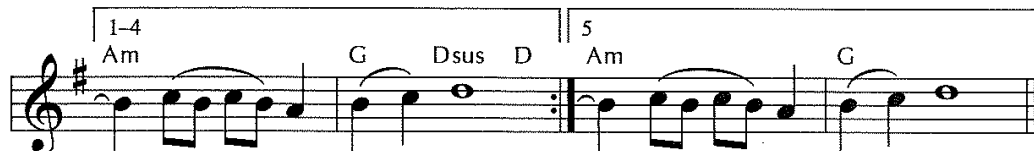
1 When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied,
 2 How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we - have found
 3 So has the church, in lit - ur - gy and song,
 4 And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night
 5 Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise!



and ad - o - ra - tion leaves no room for pride,
 a new di - men - sion in the world of sound,
 in faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong,
 when ut - most e - vil strove a - gainst the light?
 Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise!



it is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried:
 as wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found
 borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - ery tongue:
 Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
 And may God give us faith to sing al - ways:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Written to supply this tune with words suitable for occasions celebrating music, this text explores how human song gives voice to creation, how music can convey new insight, how sung faith has kept the church authentic, how Jesus relied on the psalms, and how sound can be praise.

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying 469

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray - ing. Lord, send your

The first system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb) and a 4/4 time signature. It features a melody of eighth and quarter notes, with a dotted quarter note on 'ing.' and a quarter rest. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment of eighth and quarter notes.

Spir - it in this place. Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren

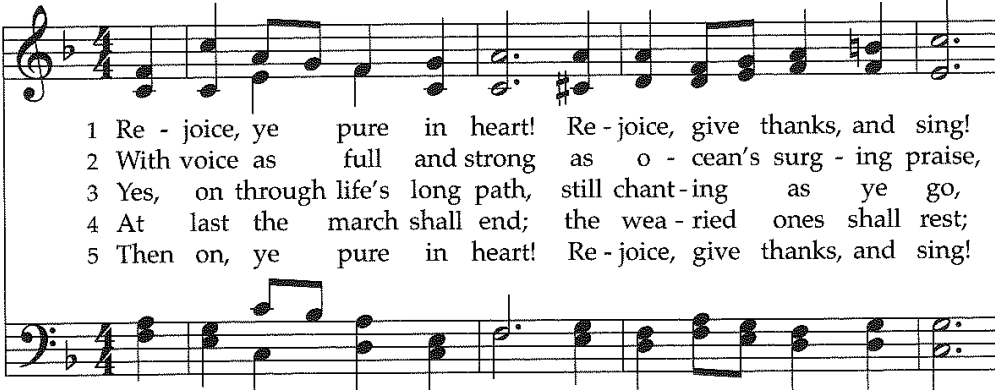
The second system of music consists of two staves. The top staff continues the melody from the first system, with a quarter rest on 'place.' and a dotted quarter note on 'dren'. The bottom staff continues the accompaniment.

pray - ing. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

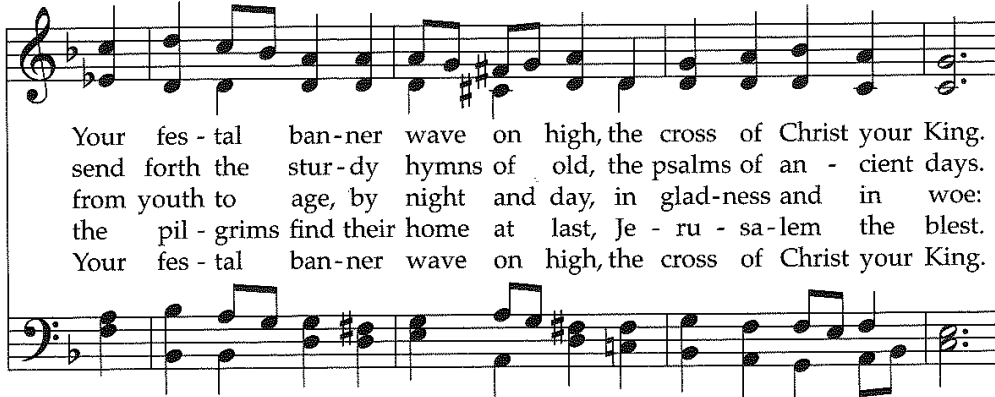
The third system of music consists of two staves. The top staff concludes the melody with a dotted quarter note on 'ing.' and a quarter note on 'grace.' The bottom staff concludes the accompaniment with a dotted quarter note on 'grace.'

This chorus from a longer song has become a popular sung prayer for the presence of the Holy Spirit. Easily memorized, it makes a very suitable sung response at appropriate points during a series of prayer concerns or with repeated singing can open or close a time of prayer.

804 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!



1 Re - joi - ce, ye pure in heart! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing!
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 3 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go,
 4 At last the march shall end; the wea - ried ones shall rest;
 5 Then on, ye pure in heart! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing!



Your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
 from youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe:
 the pil - grims find their home at last, Je - ru - sa - lem the blest.
 Your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain



Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing!
 Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce!

These stanzas are drawn from a much longer hymn created for the processional at an English choir festival in 1865. The original text lacked the refrain that gives the hymn so much of its energy and interest. That feature was added by the composer of this tune in 1883.