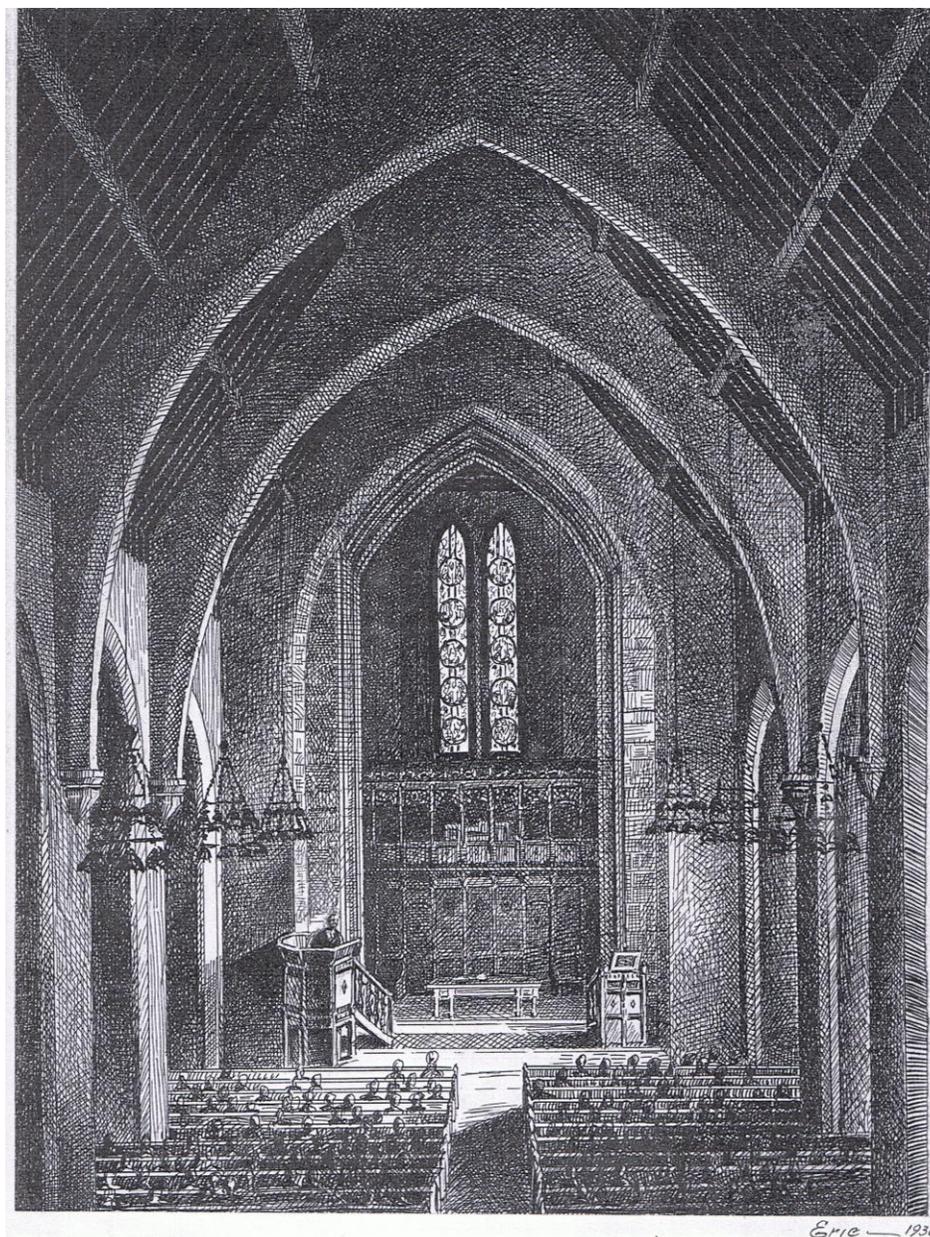

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
300 SOUTH MAIN STREET
GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA



A SERVICE OF WORSHIP
DECEMBER 3, 2022 – 11:00 A.M.
DR. JOHN BARTH SALVESON
DECEMBER 26, 1963 – SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

CHORAL ANTHEM**To the Lamb on the Throne***Dan Forrest*

Worthy the Lamb. Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim, and publish abroad His wonderful name; the name all victorious of Jesus extol; His kingdom is glorious and rules over all. "Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!" Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son; the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb. Worthy the Lamb. God rules in the height, almighty to save; though hid from our sight, His presence we have, the great congregation His triumph shall sing, ascribing salvation to Jesus our King. "Worthy the Lamb." Then let us adore and give Him his right, all glory and power; all wisdom and might; all honor and blessing with angels above, and thanks never ceasing and infinite love. "Worthy the Lamb!"

HOMILY

Dr. Ankrum

CHORAL ANTHEM**Christmas Has a Darkness***Chaz Bowers*

This anthem was commissioned by First Presbyterian Church in loving memory of Dr. John Salveson. The music is by Chaz Bowers who accompanies the choir today in its debut. The text is by Christina Rossetti from her poem *Christmas Eve*. Born on December 26, 1963, John had a particular affinity for Christmas and music that welcomed the Christ.

*Christmas has a darkness
Brighter than the blazing noon,
Christmas has a chillness
Warmer than the heat of June,
Christmas has a beauty
Lovelier than the world can show:
For Christmas bringeth Jesus,
Brought for us so low.*

*Earth, strike up your music,
Birds that sing and bells that ring;
Heaven has answering music
For all angels soon to sing:
Earth, put on your whitest
Bridal robe of spotless snow:
For Christmas bringeth Jesus,
Brought for us so low.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Dr. Ankrum

The Lord's Prayer

✠HYMN 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

✠BENEDICTION

Dr. Ankrum

✠POSTLUCE

Toccata, Symphony IV*Charles-Marie Widor*

✠ Those who are able, please stand.

Please silence all electronic devices during the service.

The congregation of FPC invites you to a reception following the conclusion of the service in the Dining Room of our church building.



DR. JOHN BARTH SALVESON

DECEMBER 26, 1963 – SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

Dr. John Barth Salveson was born December 26, 1963 to Rev. Jerry and Joan (Stenberg) Salveson on their 10th wedding anniversary. He was born in Polson, Montana while his father served English Lutheran Church in Ronan, Montana. John began his elementary education in Kindred, North Dakota. After a move to Fargo, North Dakota, he attended Grace Lutheran School and completed high school at Oak Grove Lutheran. John received his Bachelors degree in music from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. During his high school years he served as the organist at St. John Lutheran and St. Marks Lutheran churches in the Fargo area.

After college John moved to the Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota area to pursue his passion for a career in music ministry. He began his service at Mount Zion Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Minneapolis. From there he had a full time opportunity at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Waverly, MN. This was his first chance to blossom and demonstrate his full talents. The Bishop came for a service and was astounded at the music and how well the congregation sang. His priest Father Bill was not surprised. He had told John I want you to give me a Lutheran choir! From here John pursued his Masters of Music and Worship at Luther Seminary in St. Paul in a joint program with St. Olaf College. Here his professors were impressed with his knowledge of theology, which he had gained from his father.

From there John moved to Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Columbia Heights, MN, St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Inver Grove, MN. Then an opportunity for a full time Lutheran position presented itself in Lawrence, KS just west of Kansas City. But the call of Minnesota was too great and John later returned to the Twin Cities area to serve at St. Josephs Catholic Church in Hopkins, MN. After a brief stint at Christ the River of Life in Minneapolis John took a position at Mount Carmel Lutheran in Minneapolis while he pursued his doctorate. He graduated with a Doctorate in Organ Performance and Choral Conducting from the University of Minnesota in 2012. He was then able to really blossom at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Bloomington, MN. His final position was as Minister of Music/Organist at First Presbyterian of Greensburg, Pennsylvania. When the cancer diagnosis came in August of 2021 and the outlook was grim, John said, "Well, I got to do my dream job for three and a half years".

John met his future husband, Robert Moen, on June 20, 1990 at a Lutheran's Concerned (for LGBT people) worship meeting. His original thought was that Bob was a "kook". He often said this was later verified. When marriage became legal, John and Bob were married at their home congregation, Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis on June 7, 2014. This year they celebrated 32 years of their life together!

PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Dr. Martin R. Ankrum, Pastor / Head of Staff
Dr. William Jeffrey Jones, Minister of Music / Organist
Chaz Bowers, Composer / Organist
Chancel Choir
Scott Sucke, Lector
Karen Manning, Lu Ann Peters and Kim Stoner, Ushers
Melissa Dalansky, Video Technician