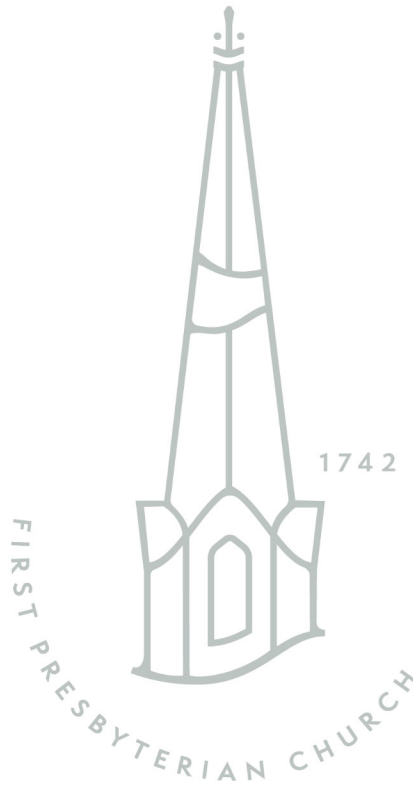


First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA | July 12, 2026 | 10:30 a.m. | in the Sanctuary



Leading in Worship Today

The Rev. Dan Snyder
Lynn Rising, Worship Host

MUSIC

Dr. William Wright, Director of Music
Michael Groff, Guest Organist
Seth Antes, Vocalist

Welcome Visitors!

*We would love to reach out and say hello!
Write your contact information on the back of an orange prayer card and place it in the offering plate or hand it to any volunteer with a nametag. We are grateful you have joined us for worship and hope you will come back again soon and often.*

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers are given in loving memory of Jane & Charlie Huber and Elizabeth & Theo Krapels, parents of Janet and Theo Krapels.

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

PRELUDE *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

arr. Dan Miller

WELCOME

INTROIT *I will Sing New Songs of Gladness*

Antonín Dvořák

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Isaiah 55:23-13)

ONE: The Lord promises: "You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace."

ALL: The mountains and hills will burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

ONE: Creation joins in praise of its Creator.

ALL: We join our voices with all creation, giving thanks to our God whose word brings life. Let us worship together.

*HYMN #32 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

ELLACOMBE

*CALL TO CONFESSION

ONE: As much as we try not to stray, we do. As hard as we try to follow God's word, we falter. As we continue on this journey, let us seek God's forgiveness. Let us pray together.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: God, we are quick to say, "We didn't know." "We didn't mean to." "We didn't expect that to happen." But we have not tended the soil of our lives. We let it stay shallow and rocky by not learning from the experience of others. We let it be riddled with thorns by giving way to prejudice. Life-giving God, help us to tend our soil. Open us to being challenged and enable us to learn, so that your word will take root and bear good fruit in our lives.

(silent confession)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (from Romans 8:1)

ONE: There is no condemnation for us: God has forgiven us that we might live according to the Spirit.

ALL: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE *O, How God Loves You and Me*

Kurt Kaiser

O, how God loves you and me. O, how God loves you and me;
Je - sus to Cal - v'ry did go, His love for us — to show;
Christ gave His life, what — more could He give? O, how He loves you;
What He did there brought hope from de - spair:
O, how He loves me; O, how He loves you and me!

WORSHIP ARTS BLESSING

Children through 7th grade can meet their Worship Arts teachers at the front of the sanctuary.

God be with you here.

God be with you there.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ALL: Loving God, send your Spirit to help us hear your word. Equip and inspire us, that your love may be at the center of our lives. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: **Psalm 65:9-13** (pg 407 OT in the pew Bible)

After each reading:

ONE: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: **Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23** (pg 11 NT in the pew Bible)

SERMON

*HYMN #36 *For the Fruit of All Creation*

AR HYD Y NOS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SOLO *A Simple Song*

Leonard Bernstein

During this time of music, you are welcome to come forward to present your offerings, to leave a prayer request, or to light a candle as a symbol of your prayer.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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.

*HYMN #714 *God of the Fertile Fields*

ITALIAN HYMN

POSTLUDE *Allegro maestoso e vivace* from Sonata No. 2 in C Minor Op. 65

Felix Mendelssohn

Mission Giving

Supports our Mission Partners and
the services they provide to the local Community

Our third quarter mission partners are nonprofits that support women and vulnerable populations.

Church World Service, based in Lancaster, helps refugees and asylum seekers from around the world get resettled in the U.S. www.cwsglobal.org

North Star Initiative, based in Lititz, helps survivors of human trafficking make the transition to a healthy, sustainable, and independent life. www.northstarinitiative.org

Lancaster YWCA, based in Lancaster, strives to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. www.ywcalancaster.org



FPC to take part in celebrating America's 250th in Lancaster

As part of Lancaster's ongoing celebration of America's 250th anniversary of its independence, FPC, along with the other pre-Revolution Churches in the city, will keep their doors open to the public today, July 12, for a walking tour. Our doors will remain open to guests, and hosted by volunteers, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Zoom Connect Group

July 22 & August 26 | 7:00 p.m.

Join Tom and Connie Paisley for some good conversation and reflection on that week's Sunday Scripture.

Use QR codes to register or email Beth in the church office: beth@fpclancasterpa.org



July 22



August 26

FPC Together/Summer Events Hosted by Family Ministry

Radiant Light

Inspired by Scripture, the intention is to provide a space for students and families to explore that they are each a bright gift from God, to begin to think about their purpose, and to illuminate their gifts and the gifts of others. This will be reflected in the Nursery, Worship Arts, Youth Group, Choral Camp, and summer Family Ministry events.

Save the Dates!

Tuesday/Wednesday, August 4-5—24-hour Downtown Mission at FPC for students, grade 7-12. Pre-registration required: katie@fpclancasterpa.org.

See the Youth Ministry flyer for Youth summer events

July 1—Night of the Fireflies

This FPC Together summer event was held at the Lancaster Department of Parks and Recreation's Environmental Center.

FPC friends and families learned about the Pennsylvania state insect, the firefly, along with other nocturnal insects. We even caught a Polyphemus moth!





Family Ministry

Katie Kindig
Director of Family Ministry

Celebrating Children at FPC

Dear parents of young children,

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house! All are welcome!

Sit toward the front where it is easier for little ones to see and hear what's going on. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.

Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, ushers, musicians, etc.

Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

Remember, the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the church, to God, and to one another. Let them know they are at home in this house of worship.

Dear church members,

The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing.

Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

Summer Sunday Mornings

The Nursery

Suggested for 6wks up to 4yrs

Second Floor, open 9:00-11:30 a.m. / Professional Staff

Nursery students engage in free-play, a short Scripture lesson and organized activity time.

We ask that you assist with your student's hand-washing upon arrival. We have hand sanitizer stations as well.

A nut-free snack is provided. Please bring a labeled water bottle and alternative snacks if needed. A changing table, with quiet room are also available.

Worship Arts Faith Formation

Suggested for 4yrs through grade 7

Worship Arts begins with a combined lesson and then splits to separate age-appropriate groups to study. A peanut free snack is offered.

Taught by FPC volunteer teachers, we study Scripture through reading, dramatic play, storytelling, and song.

Students begin worship in Shirk Hall (9:00 a.m.) OR the sanctuary (10:30 a.m.) with their families.

Teachers will escort students who wish to participate in Worship Arts to the upper level following the "Worship Arts Blessing."

Parents attending the 9:00 a.m. service - Students will be escorted back to you before the end of the service.

Parents attending the 10:30 a.m. service - Students will return to the sanctuary at the end of worship or can be picked up in the lobby.

Youth Ministry Summer Adventures

Direct questions to katie@fpclancasterpa.org

Suggested ages: 6th-9th grade

Monday, July 13–Glow Croquet, Meet at West Art, 816 Buchanan Ave., Lancaster, 8:30 p.m. Students & Youth Group leaders will walk to the Lytches' backyard down the street for an epic game of croquet! Parents, you're invited to gather in community at West Art. We'll walk the students back to you afterward.

Monday, August 17–Sunset & Ice Cream, Pine View Dairy, 2225 New Danville Pike, Lancaster, 7:00-8:00 p.m. The students and youth leaders will gather for a brief check-in, yummy ice cream, and time with baby cows.

Suggested ages: 9th-12th grade

Sunday, August 16–Sunrise Kayak at Conejohela Flats, Wrightsville, 6:30-8:00 a.m. Coffee and donuts will be provided, and we will join the 9:00 a.m. worship service following the event. Please register: katie@fpclancasterpa.org.

**Guest WIFI Password:
Welcome2FPC**

Large-print hymnals are available. Please alert an usher or greeter if you would like one for today's service.

Online prayer request here:

