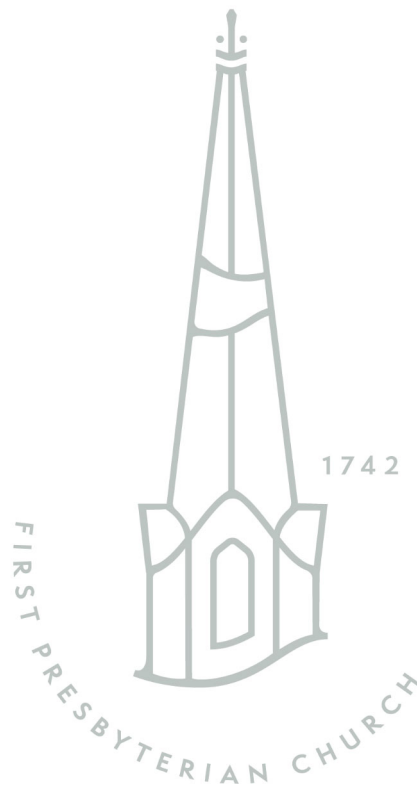


First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA | August 23, 2026 | 10:30 a.m. | in the Sanctuary



Leading in Worship Today

The Rev. Dan Snyder
The Rev. Claire George-Drumheller

MUSIC

Dr. William Wright, Director of Music
Matt Weaver, Organist
Vaughn Lindquist, Soloist

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 Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Jeanne Marie Osborne
by Robert Osborne and Beatrice & Alex Levicoff.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE ***His Eye is on the Sparrow***
Deep River

arr. Joe Utterback

arr. Joe Utterback

WELCOME

INTROIT ***Come to Us Creative Spirit***

Mark Rehnstrom

Come to us, creative Spirit, in this sacred house;
Every human talent hallow, hidden skills arouse,
That within your earthly temple, wise and simple may rejoice.

Poet, painter, music-maker, all your treasures bring;
Craftsman, actor, graceful dancer, make your offering.
Join your hands in celebration, let creation shout and sing!

Word of God eternal springing, fill our minds we pray;
And in all artistic vision give integrity.
May the flame within us burning kindle yearning day by day.

In all places and forever glory be expressed
To Reedmer, with Creator and the Spirit blessed.
In our worship and our living keep us striving for the best.

Come to us, creative Spirit, in this sacred house;
Every human talent hallow, hidden skills arouse,
That within your earthly temple, wise and simple may rejoice.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Romans 12:4-8)

ONE: As one body we have many members, each uniquely gifted for a particular purpose.

ALL: We, who are many, are one body in Christ.

ONE: Prophets and poets, thinkers and teachers, artists and advocates, consolers and caregivers.

ALL: We, who are many, are one body in Christ.

ONE: With thanksgiving we offer our varied gifts in service to Christ, who makes us one.

ALL: Let us worship God.

*HYMN #610 ***O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing***

AZMON

*CALL TO CONFESSION

ONE: We seek the will of God, but still find ourselves conformed to this world, instead of being transformed into God's image. Let us seek forgiveness for the ways we have turned away from justice and mercy.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Almighty God, when faced with earthly powers that seem overwhelming, we crumble. We fear this world. We fear losing our status, our stability, our station more than we fear you. Forgive our shortcomings and teach us to trust in you when we take a risk for what we know is right.

(silent confession)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (from Psalm 138)

ONE: The steadfast love of the Lord never ends. When we call out to God, God answers.

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.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: 'O, how God loves you and me. Je - sus to Cal - v'ry did go, O, how God loves you and me; 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!' The score includes measure numbers 8 and 15.

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: Holy God, send your Spirit to move in our hearts. Breathe through the words we hear, the songs we share, and the prayers we raise, until we discover our purpose in your liberating love. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: **Psalms 138** (pg 442 OT in the pew Bible)

After each reading:

ONE: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: **Matthew 16:13-20** (pg 14 NT in the pew Bible)

SERMON

*HYMN #310 *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord*

ST. THOMAS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Philippians 2:5-11

**ALL: Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form
he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

SOLO ***Deep River***

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Mark Hayes

Deep river, my home is over Jordan.
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.
Oh, don't you want to go to that gospel feast,
That promised land where all is peace?
Oh, deep river, my home is over Jordan.
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.
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 #353 ***My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less***

SOLID ROCK

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE ***My Hope Is Built***

arr. Joe Utterback

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All-Comers Choir!

On Sunday, August 30, we will be gathering an All-Comers Choir to sing at the 10:30 a.m. service. Anyone interested in a one-morning singing experience is invited to join us for a 9:30 a.m. rehearsal in the sanctuary, in advance of the service. No robes, no procession, no fuss! All are welcome. For more information, please email William Wright at: Music@fpclancasterpa.org

Mission Volunteer Opportunities

Those interested in volunteering, please email: info@fpclancasterpa.org

Crispus Attucks Food Pantry

(every second & fourth Wednesday of the month)

Next opportunity: Wednesday, Aug. 26 | 12:45-3:45 p.m.

Volunteer parking lot-412 Locust Street or Carpool from Wegman's lot

A free choice food distribution pantry at 404 S. Duke St.
Neighbors register for a scheduled shopping time.

Volunteers needed to stock shelves and serve as shopping assistants to those visiting the pantry.

Household Goods Drive for North Star Initiative August 16-30

As a continuation of our support for our Mission partners at North Star Initiative, we will collect household supplies and snacks. Items from the list below may be dropped off in the dedicated collection bins in Shirk Hall and the narthex (just outside the sanctuary).

Household Items: toilet paper, paper towels, disinfecting wipes (non-bleach, please), laundry detergent (for sensitive skin), trash bags

Snacks (packaged in individual servings): popcorn, veggie chips, protein bars, roasted edamame, protein snack mix

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

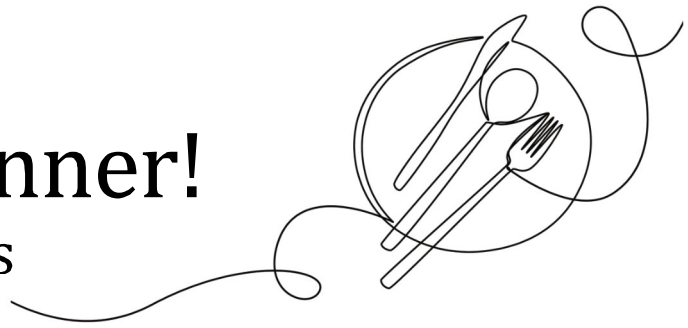
North Star Initiative, based in Lititz, helps survivors of human trafficking make the transition to a healthy, sustainable, and independent life. www.northstarinitiative.org

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



Come to Dinner!

FPC Supper Clubs



In the Book of Acts, the early church "broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts" (2:46). The first generation of Christians discovered that faith grows not only in worship, but also around the dinner table. FPC Supper Clubs is an opportunity to meet new people, to strengthen existing friendships, and to share a meal together. Groups of 6–8 adults will gather once a month for three consecutive months (September, October, and November). Please register by August 23.

What is the commitment? Three meals—one each month in September, October, and November.

What's the agenda? Good food. Good conversation. New friendships.

Who hosts? Each group decides what works best. Many take turns hosting potluck meals, while others gather at a restaurant or another location.

Can children come? Yes! When you register, let us know whether you prefer a family-friendly group or an adults-only group.

What about dietary needs? Tell us about any allergies or dietary preferences when you register. Groups should be able to accommodate all needs.

What if we can't find a date that works for everyone? Groups will do their best to accommodate all schedules, but a Supper Club may have to move forward with a date, even if it does not work for everyone.

Will I be with the same people as last time? Expect to connect with new friends this time around!



REGISTER

Zoom Connect Group

Wednesday, 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 code to register or email Beth in the church office: beth@fpclancasterpa.org



REGISTER

New Member Class @ FPC

Sunday, September 13

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at FPC

The New Member Class is for those who want to learn more about how we live out our faith at FPC and would like to become members. We will begin with lunch after the 10:30 worship service on September 13, and participants will have the opportunity to join the church as members at the end of class. Childcare can be provided if requested at registration. New members will be introduced in worship on Sunday, September 20.

Please register by Monday, September 7 so that lunch can be arranged. Register on Realm or by contacting the church office (info@fpclancasterpa.org or 717-394-6854).



REGISTER

Hospitality Volunteers Needed

As we near the completion of the new Commons area, we would like to form a Hospitality Committee to oversee Sunday morning refreshments. Volunteers will be responsible for helping with set-up, serving, clean-up, etc. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Gaye Cox: gay@gbcox.com or (717) 575-4497.



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.

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:

