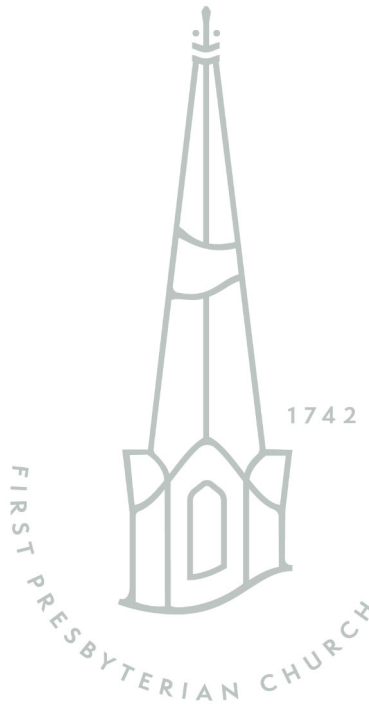


First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA
September 20, 2026 | 11:00 a.m. | Sanctuary



Leading in Worship Today

The Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson, Guest Preacher
The Rev. Claire George-Drumheller

MUSIC

Dr. William Wright, Director of Music
Matt Weaver, Organist
The Chancel Choir

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
Sue & Don Goldstrom by their grandchildren.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Please stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE *Carillon*

Leo Sowerby

WELCOME

INTROIT *Behold a Sower!*

Words by Washington Gladden
Music by Theodore Parker Ferris

Behold a sower from afar, he goeth forth with might;
The rolling years his furrows are his seed the growing light;
For all the just his word is sown, it springeth up alway;
The tender blade is hope's young dawn, the harvest love's new day.

Shine forth, O light that we may see with hearts all unafraid,
The meaning and the mystery of things that thou hast made.
Shine forth and let the darkling past beneath thy beam grow bright;
Shine forth and touch the future vast, with thine untroubled light.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Exodus 16:2-15)

ONE: Draw near to the Lord, who hears our pleas and our praise.

ALL: We come to rest in God's holy presence.

ONE: Here is bread that the Lord provides; here is manna to nourish our souls.

ALL: We gather to feast on God's sustaining Word.

ONE: Remember the Lord's wonderful works each evening; see God's glory with the morning's light.

ALL: Come, let us worship the Lord!

*HYMN #41 *O Worship the King*

LYONS

*CALL TO CONFESSION (from Philippians 1:27)

ONE: We try to live our lives in a manner worthy of Christ. We try to stand firm in God's spirit, but our human self-interest gets the better of us. In humility and faith, let us confess.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: God of generosity, forgive us our bitter responses to your abundant grace. Too often we believe ourselves more deserving than others. We nurse our anger and resentment at those you forgive, instead of rejoicing in the infinite love you show. Forgive us when we wish your grace was scarce. Forgive the double standards we hold. Help us to know that we are all in need of your grace, and help us rejoice as we all gratefully receive your mercy.

(silent confession)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

ONE: God extends to us mercy beyond our deserving and grace beyond our ability to earn it.
Therefore, let us live as grateful and forgiven people!

ALL: 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

1 Sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place; we can
2 Sure - ly the Spir - it of the Lord is here in love, and it
feel His might - y pow - er and His grace. We can
brings God's peace as qui - et as a dove. We can
hear the brush of an - gels' wings, we see glo - ry on each face;
see the glow of an - gels' wings shin - ing bright - ly from a - bove,
Sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place.
Sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is here in love.

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: Awaken our hearts and minds to your word, O God. Give us understanding so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we are able to do all that you command for love's sake. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 1:1-3 (pg 379 OT in the pew Bible)

After each reading:

ONE: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Philippians 1:1-11 (pg 152 NT in the pew Bible)

SERMON "Getting to Know You"

HYMN #300 *We Are One in the Spirit

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

*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.**

ANTHEM *Look with Eyes That See Forever*

Words by Lisa M. Clark
Music by Jeffrey Blersch

Look with eyes that see forever, faithful to the Lord's design.
Work within the world, but never choose its call o'er things divine,
Nothing on this earth can sever you from love that will refine.

Serve with hands that toil unceasing, diligent in great and small.
With the Kingdom's realm increasing, rob the devil's lair of all.
Joyous souls, releasing, sing their rescue from the fall.

Love with hearts that will not waver underneath the fearsome fight,
Show the weary Jesus' favor, won to make creation right.
By all means, bring all to savor mercies rich and glories bright.

*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 #719 ***Come, Labor On***

ORA LABORA

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE ***Amen***

John L. Bell

POSTLUDE ***Voluntary on Diadem and Lyons***

Susan Caudill

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About today's guest preacher:

Michael Wilson serves as the Director of Education for the Arc of Ministry for the PC(USA) Board of Pensions. Michael holds two doctorates, a Doctor of Ministry from Fuller Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Philosophy from Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam (VU Amsterdam). He also holds a Master of Theology from Columbia Theological Seminary, a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Dickinson College. Michael has been a dear friend to FPC for many years, as both a member of and previous staff member at the Presbytery of Donegal. Please welcome him warmly and offer your gratitude for his witness.

Nominating

The Nominating Committee is hard at work recruiting the next class of officers. If you are interested in becoming an Elder, Deacon, or Trustee, or know someone who would make a good candidate, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee:

**Randy Schrecengost, Patti Overly, Ellen Stephenson,
Ryan Stadel, Carol Aastad, Ginny Landis**

Zoom Connect Group

Wednesday, September 23 & October 28 | 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
SEPTEMBER



REGISTER
OCTOBER



FPC will collect the World Communion Offering between October 4-10, 2026. We join with other congregations in supporting the wider church in the work of racial justice, gender justice, peacemaking, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith relations. Mark gifts (cash, check, or online) with "World Communion Offering."

Gender Justice Highlight: The Commission on the Status of Women is the largest gathering on gender equality at the United Nations. The Commission formulates policies that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women worldwide and measures progress toward the accomplishment of those policies. Guided by PC(USA) General Assembly policy, delegates engage in advocacy efforts at the U.N. and work in partnership with others from around the globe to further the empowerment of women, its link to sustainable development, and the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls.

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, Sept. 23 | 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.

Community Meal at First Reformed

Tuesday, October 6 | Food prep help: 3:00 p.m. | Servers: 4:30 p.m.

First Reformed Church, 40 E. Orange St.

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





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.

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

Designed for grades 6-12 (unless otherwise noted) and led by Family Ministry staff and volunteers. Direct questions to katie@fpclancasterpa.org

Confirmation Class (9th-11th grade) Confirmation is an opportunity for youth to discover their purpose and to join the church. Students learn and grow as a group with classes led by our pastors, family ministry staff, and youth volunteers. Gatherings are on Monday evenings from 7:00-8:00 p.m. (October 5, November 2, January 11, and February TBD), plus an overnight retreat at Gretna Glen, April 16-17. Contact Katie to learn more, and register through Realm.

Sunday, Sept. 20, 4:00-6:00 p.m. Kayaking at Speedwell Forge. Registration is required. Rain plan: bowling.

Sunday, Sept. 27, 4:30-6:00 p.m. Youth group study & parent meet-up. Meet at West Art (816 Buchanan Ave.). Youth will walk to the Lytches' house for their study, while families hang out at West Art.

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:

