

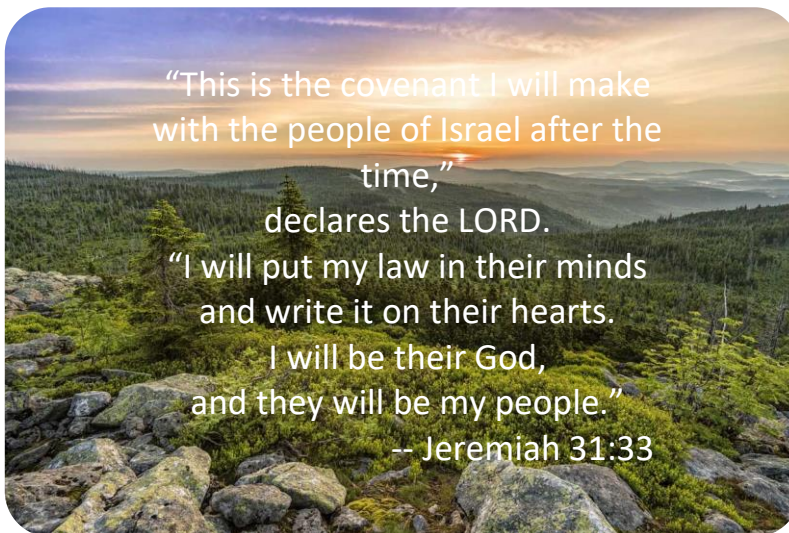


First Presbyterian Church

101 South Decatur Street • Strasburg PA 17579

(717) 687-6030

www.straspres.org



Sunday, January 1, 2023 Covenant Renewal Sunday

PASTOR: Rev. Robert K. Bronkema
ORGANIST / CHOIRMASTER: Dr. Bruce Gerlach
DIRECTOR OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC: Jon Knauss
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES: Beth Feiler
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH: Kristin Kondratowski
WORSHIP LEADER/READER: 8:30 Lynda Cornelia

WORSHIP: 8:30 am and 11:00 am

Sunday, January 1, 2023

Welcome!

8:30 AM Worship

*Open your heart and give yourself up to Christ who is here to meet you today.
"Be still and know that I am God." ~ Psalm 46:10*

PRELUDE

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

arr. Don Hustad

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: The newborn Christ is with us

People: **Praise the Lord.**

*HYMN

"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

No. 210

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

God, our Covenant Friend, You have given us life and reason. You have given us light, but we continue to long for darkness. You promise to be by our side but we flee from You. Your patience is never-ending but we get restless when things don't go our way. You are a rock of strength but we decide to build our lives on the sand. Forgive us and remind us that through Your birth You have given us life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE [*Please share Christ's peace with one another.*]

*HYMN

"Spirit of the Living God"
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kristin Kondratowski

SCRIPTURE:

Joshua 1:1-9

COVENANT RENEWAL

"Why Renew Our Covenant?"

Rev. Robert Bronkema

*HYMN

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

No. 455

WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

arr. Gordon Young

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
 Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Welcome

Distribution

[*Worshippers: Your blue bead reminds you of your baptism and your rededication to Jesus.*]

*ALLELUIA

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

"Joy to the World"

Handel

Please keep the following in your prayers

- Blaine & Shirley Danner – Lancaster General Hospital
- Vesta Herr – Promedica Rehab, Lancaster (Formerly Manor Care)
- Kay Straley – Recovering at home
- Lynn Rohrer – Lancaster Rehab Hospital
- Jane Ott – Recovering at home
- Don Emig – Recovering at home
- Louise Witmer - Under Hospice Care at the Glen at Willow V
- Heather Schnader – Recovering at home



Comfort in Time of Loss

The passing of Cheryl Faltin's father, George Stewart

In Need of the Prayer Chain?

Call Sandy Bernstorff 717-687-7276 or Janice Bowers 717-687-5676

Deacons for the Month of January - Tina Dansereau & Heidi Zook-Payne

Greeting and Announcements

*Praise & Worship

King of Heaven
Future Past
King of My Heart

Prayer & Peace

Children's Message Kristin Kondratowksi

Scripture: Joshua 1:1-9

Covenant Renewal: "Why Renew Our Covenant?" Robert Bronkema

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*Offering / Closing Song: *Light of the World*

*Benediction

ASSISTANCE CORNER

THE NURSERY is in need of volunteers for the first and second Sunday services. If able to lend a helping hand, please contact Amy Stauffer at: astauffer@straspres.org and 717-224-3036

PRESCHOOL NEEDS DONATIONS OF: Paper towels, white paper plates (small & large), napkins, tissues, sanitizing wipes, 5 oz. wax cups, Graham Crackers, pretzels, Animal Crackers, Goldfish Crackers, popcorn. Thank you for your contributions! Donations help to keep the tuition costs down.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED – Teachers are needed for the children's classes, kindergarten – 2nd grade and 3rd – 5th grades who can give their time **one Sunday a month** to lead a class. Lesson plans can be prepared for you. Contact Beth Feiler: bfeiler@straspres.org Thank you!

GIVING ENVELOPES – Giving envelopes for 2023 have been distributed to members' mailboxes. If you did not receive envelopes but would like to receive them or if you are receiving envelopes but do not want them, please contact Angie McVey at amcvey@straspres.org.

Please contribute your tithes and offerings using one of the following methods:

- Scan the QR code to the right and follow the prompts
- Click the DONATE button on the church web site
- Mail your check to FPCS, 101 St. Decatur Street, Strasburg, PA 17579



TODDLER GYM • Fridays • 9am – 10am (Sept. – May) • Weekly playtime for ages 1 – kindergarten with their caregivers. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Amy Stauffer at 717-224-3036 or astauffer@straspres.org

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, January 1, 2023 Happy New Year!

- 8:30 am **Worship** (Traditional)
9:30 am **Coffee Hour**
10 am **Sunday School Class** for all ages – In person only
Children's Sunday School (Grades K – 5) – Rm 12
Youth (Grades 6-12) – Student Ministry Rm Young Adults – Choir Rm
Wired Word – Rm 6 Young at Heart – Rm 3/4
11 am **Worship** (Contemporary)
-

Recurring Daily – Nursery Time • Monday – Friday • 9 am – 1 pm

Monday, January 2

In observance of New Year's Day, the Church office will be closed today.

Tuesday, January 3

- 2 pm Food Bank
6 pm Christian Education Committee – FH
No Worship Committee meeting tonight

Wednesday, January 4

- 1 pm Knifty Knitters – Rm 6
3 pm Stitchin' Sisters – Rm 3/4
6 pm Kid's Clubhouse
7 pm Deacons' Meeting – Rm 3/4

Thursday, January 5

- 6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast – The Well Bring your own coffee/breakfast items
6 pm Bible Study – <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzoMo4VUuahmT0CFUtwZzgg>
7 pm Choir Practice

Friday, January 6

- 9 am Toddler Gym – FH
2 pm Food Bank
6 pm "Our Table" Dinner and Prayer Gathering – Fellowship Hall

Saturday, January 7

- 9 am Officer Training – Rm 3/4
12 pm Undecorating Day



NEXT WEEK

January 8, 2023 • Baptism of Our Lord

First Scripture: Psalm 29

Second Scripture: Matthew 3:13-17

SERMON SERIES: THE GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Sermon: *The Gospel of Righteousness*

Rev. Robert K. Bronkema





WELCOME! We are glad to see you here! Check out our website: www.straspres.org under the "Happenings" tab for current church events and please be sure to like us on Facebook. Children's Church is available for kids K-5th grades. Children will go to room 11 after the children's sermon.



COFFEE HOUR - Join us today in Fellowship Hall & each Sunday at 9:30 am for coffee and fellowship with old and new friends. Hosts for today: Donna Burkholder. Hosts for next week: Fran & Wayne Carr. Volunteers are needed. If you would like to help with Coffee Hour, please call Theresa Rineer at 717-682-9954 or email rineertheresa@yahoo.com. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please choose the date(s) that work best for you.

"OUR TABLE" NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY

Friday, January 6 - Dinner begins at 6 pm. Got friends? Bring 'em along! Everyone is welcome at Our Table! The meal is followed by an interactive Bible study, worship songs, and prayer. Eat and run or stay for the fun; we're just happy you showed up.

There's always room at Our Table!



We
feed
hungry
people.

GREAT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION for the 2023/ 2024 school year begins on **January 3, 2022** for First Presbyterian church members and current preschool families. Contact Heather Reynolds, Administrative Director at hreynolds@straspres.org or 717-617-9501 or stop by the church office for an application.

UNDECORATING THE CHURCH – Saturday, January 7th, we will be un-decorating the church together to bring down the Advent and Christmas decorations. Come one and come all to join in the fun at 12 pm.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CLASS begins on **Sunday, January 8, 2023** - This culture is *designed* to take you down. Credit cards, car loans, student loans . . . they'll keep you paying way too much money for way too long. But there's one way out of the mess of debt, and it starts right here with *you*. You can change your future today by joining my Financial Peace University class at **First Presbyterian Church**. You'll learn to pay off debt fast, save more money, and build lasting wealth. Sign up today at fpu.com/1154920!

NEW MEMBERS CLASS – Beginning **Jan. 22nd at 3 PM**, anyone who might be interested in learning more about First Presbyterian Church or joining the church family is welcome to attend.

OFFICERS / STAFF RETREAT DAY • January 27-28 • Fellowship Hall

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING • Sunday, January 29

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate and elect two Congregation-At-Large Members for the 2023 Church Officer Nominating Committee, and to review and receive the 2022 Annual Report.

CHOIR REHEARSAL meets every Thursday evening at 7 pm and finished promptly at 8:10 pm. We welcome all former AND new choir members. High School students proficient in singing are also encouraged to attend.

MINISTERIUM COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND: The Community Impact Committee is accepting applications for financial relief for help in either rent, utilities or emergency needs. If you are interested in applying for this assistance please contact Alicia Eltman at aeltman@straspres.org.

COVENANT RENEWAL SERVICE

Sunday, January 1, 2023

First Presbyterian Church
101 S. Decatur St.
Strasburg PA 17579

PROCLAMATION

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
the Christian life is redeemed from sin and consecrated to God.

Through baptism, we have entered this life
and have been admitted into the new covenant
of which Jesus Christ is the Mediator.

He sealed it with his own blood, that it might last forever.

On the one side, God promises to give us new life in Christ,
the Source and Perfecter of our faith.

On the other side, we are pledged
to live no more for ourselves but only for Jesus Christ,
who loved us and gave himself for us.

From time to time we renew our covenant with God,
especially when we reaffirm the Baptismal Covenant and gather at the Lord's table.

Today, however, we meet, as the generations before us have met,
to renew the covenant that binds us to God.

Let us make this covenant of God our own.

INVITATION

Commit yourselves to Christ as his servants.

Give yourselves to him, that you may belong to him.

Christ has many services to be done.

Some are more easy and honorable,
others are more difficult and disgraceful.

Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests,
others are contrary to both.

In some we may please Christ and please ourselves.

But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ
except by denying ourselves.

It is necessary, therefore,
that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ.

Let us, therefore, go to Christ and pray:

Let me be your servant, under your command.

I will no longer be my own.

I will give myself to your will in all things.

Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

Lord, make me what you will.

I put myself fully into your hands:

put me to doing, put me to suffering,

let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,

let me be full, let me be empty,

let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and with a willing heart

give it all to your pleasure and disposal.

Christ will be the Savior of none but his servants.

He is the source of all salvation to those who obey.

Christ will have no servants except by consent;

Christ will not accept anything except full consent
to all that he requires.

Christ will be all in all, or he will be nothing.

Confirm this by a holy covenant.

To make this covenant a reality in your life, listen to these admonitions:

First, set apart some time, more than once,

to be spent alone before the Lord;

in seeking earnestly God's special assistance

and gracious acceptance of you;

in carefully thinking through all the conditions of the covenant;

in searching your hearts

whether you have already freely given your life to Christ.

Consider what your sins are.

Consider the laws of Christ, how holy, strict, and spiritual they are,

and whether you, after having carefully considered them,

are willing to choose them all.

Be sure you are clear in these matters, see that you do not lie to God.

Second, be serious and in a spirit of holy awe and reverence.

Third, claim God's covenant,
rely upon God's promise of giving and grace and strength,
so you can keep your promise.
Trust not your own strength and power.

Fourth, resolve to be faithful.
You have given to the Lord your hearts,
 you have opened your mouths to the Lord,
 and you have dedicated yourself to God.
With God's power, never go back.

And last, be then prepared to renew your covenant with the Lord.
Fall down on your knees, lift your hands toward heaven,
 open your hearts to the Lord, as we pray:

COVENANT PRAYER

(The people may kneel or bow if they so choose)

**O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
 see me as I fall down before you.
Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will,
 for you have promised mercy to me if I turn to you with my whole heart.
God requires that you shall put away all your idols.**

**I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all,
 covenanting with you that no known sin shall be allowed in my life.
Against your will, I have turned my love toward the world.
In your power**

**I will watch all temptations that will lead me away from you.
For my own righteousness is riddled with sin,
 unable to stand before you.**

Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again
 if you would let him.

**Before all heaven and earth,
I here acknowledge you as my Lord and God.
I take you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for my portion,
and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as your servant,
to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.**

God has given the Lord Jesus Christ
as the only way and means to coming to God.

**Jesus, I do here on bended knees accept Christ.
as the only new and living Way,
and sincerely join myself in a covenant with him.**

**O blessed Jesus, I come to you,
hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked,
unworthy even to wash the feet of your servants.**

I do here, with all my power, accept you as my Lord and Head.

**I renounce my own worthiness,
and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness.**

I renounce my own wisdom, and take you for my only guide.

I renounce my own will, and take your will as my law.

Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

**I do here covenant with you, O Christ,
to take my lot with you as it may fall.**

**Through your grace I promise
that neither life nor death shall part me from you.**

God has given holy laws as a rule of your life.

I do here willingly put my neck under your yoke, to carry your burden.

All your laws are holy, just, and good.

**I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions,
promising that I will strive
to order my whole life according to your direction,
and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.**

The Almighty God searches and knows your heart.

**God, you know that I make this covenant with you today
without guile or reservation.**

If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it aright.

**And now, glory be to you, O God the Father,
whom I from this day forward shall look upon as my God and Father.**

**Glory be to you, O God the Son,
who have loved me and washed me from my sins in your own blood,
and now is my Savior and Redeemer.**

**Glory be to you, O God the Holy Spirit,
who by your almighty power have turned my heart from sin to God.**

**O mighty God, the Lord Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
you have now become my Covenant Friend.**

And I, through your infinite grace, have become your covenant servant.

So be it.

And let the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven.

Amen.

Signature: _____ Date: _____