

First Presbyterian Church

101 South Decatur Street • Strasburg PA 17579

(717) 687-6030

www.straspres.org



Sunday, August 27, 2023

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 am Alice Eisenhooth

WORSHIP: 8:30 am and 11:00 am

Sunday, August 27, 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:

Prelude & Fugue in E Minor "Cathedral"
~ J.S. Bach/Andante Op. 122 - Louis J. A. Lefébure-Wély ~

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 15

Leader: O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

**People: Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart.**

*HYMN

"Live Into Hope"

No. 332

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

God of grace and compassion, we praise you for never excluding us from your kingdom or your everlasting love. We live within the assurance that you will never leave us or abandon us. But we often abandon those whom we think are unworthy. We turn our backs on those whom we believe don't deserve our love or our attention. God of grace, forgive us, turn us to face those whom we would exclude and give us a spirit of inclusion and welcome. We pray this in Jesus' name. 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

Beth Feiler

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Prayer Insert

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Numbers 5:1-4

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 8:1-4

Blessing of the Backpacks: A Prayer

Leader: O God, we ask that you place a blessing on each of these backpacks – and more importantly on each person who carries them: students and teachers, nurses and bus drivers, aides and administrators, and all.

People: Lord, bless these backpacks.

Leader: We pray that today will stand as a constant reminder that you go with all of those gathered here as they enter this new school year. We ask that you would calm all fear and anxiousness that may arise in them and in their parents.

People: Lord, bless these backpacks.

Leader: We pray that the knowledge of your presence with them would give your people the ability to learn well, and grow in knowledge and wisdom during this school year.

People: Lord, bless these backpacks.

Leader: We pray that in large ways and in small you would lead your people here to show the love they have received from you, and the change you have made in their lives.

People: Lord, bless these backpacks.

Leader: We pray that as a whole congregation we would be reminded to pray for our students and all who guide and help them throughout the year, constantly asking for your blessing in them, through their learning and study and growth.

People: Lord, Bless these backpacks.

Leader: We pray all this to the God who does infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, and we pray again,

All: Lord Bless these backpacks, and all those who carry them, Amen.

Sunday, August 27, 2023

Welcome!

8:30 AM Service

SERMON "The Unclean Among Us" Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

*HYMN "In Christ There is No East or West" No. 440

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY "Give Thanks/Now Thank We All Our God"
~ Henry Smith/Johann Crüger (Arr. Joel Raney) ~

*DOXOLOGY

PROFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES CREED Page 14

*HYMN "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" No. 338

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE "Toccata" Eugène Gigout

Sermon Notes

Sunday, August 27, 2023

Welcome!

11:00 AM Service

Greeting and Announcements

*Praise & Worship

*Battle Belongs
This Is How I Fight My Battles
What A Beautiful Name*

Prayer & Peace

Children's Message Beth Feiler

Blessing of the Backpacks Prayer Insert

Scripture Numbers 5:1-4
Matthew 8:1-4

Offering

*Closing Song: *Cast My Cares*

*Benediction

**You are invited to stand if you are able during those places in the worship service marked with an asterisk.*

Next Week • Sunday, September 3, 2023

1st Scripture: Isaiah 53:4-6 • 2nd Scripture: Matthew 8:14-17

Sermon Title: "*The Status of the Miracle of Healing*"
Rev. Robert Bronkema, Preaching

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, August 27

8:30 am **Worship** (Traditional)

9:30 am **Coffee Hour**

10 am **Sunday School Class** for all ages

Children's Sunday School (Grades K - 5) - Rm 12

Youth Sunday School (Grades 6-12) - Fellowship Hall Young Adults - Choir Rm

Wired Word - Rm 6 • Young at Heart - Rm 3/4

11 am **Worship** (Contemporary)

12:15pm Church Picnic • Tinney Pavilion

Ignited Students • Middle School 5-6:30pm; High School 6:30-8pm in Fellowship Hall

Nursery Time Summer Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays • 9 am - 12 pm

Tuesday, August 29

2 pm Food Pantry

7 pm Smolder Young Adult Group

Wednesday, August 30

1 pm Knifty Knitters - Rm 6

3 pm Stitchin' Sisters - Rm 3/4

Thursday, August 31

6:30 am Men's Prayer Breakfast - Now meeting in the church library.

Bring your own coffee/breakfast items

6 pm Bible Study <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzoMo4VUuahmT0CFUtwZzgg/streams>

Friday, September 1

2 pm Food Pantry

6 pm Our Table - FH

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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: The Colvin Family. Host for next week: Theresa Rineer. Volunteers are needed. If you would like to help with Coffee Hour, please contact 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.

*We are pleased to welcome **Jonathan Jones** as our guest organist this Sunday.*

Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Events!



ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC • Tinney Pavilion • Sunday, Aug. 27
Today at 12:15pm after 2nd service

Food, fellowship, games, including the corn-hole tournament, Bingo, pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs, drinks, and place settings are provided. Please bring a dish to share! It is a great opportunity to invite a neighbor, family, and friends to experience the life of First Presbyterian.

NEW MEMBER'S CLASSES - Interested in finding out more about First Presbyterian or joining the church? Come and join us for new member's classes starting on **August 27 at 3pm** in the library. Pastor Bob will lead you on a journey to answer your questions and give you insight into the church.

BIBLE CHALLENGE - Beginning **September 4**, we will once again provide the opportunity to take part in a 9 month read through the Bible Challenge. It is going to be very similar to the one we did in 2022 except that it will begin in September and carry us through to next year. Bible Challenge brochures are available on the information table in the glass foyer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

"OUR TABLE" NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY • Every Friday Night Beginning 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!*

BEING IN THE PRESENCE - On September 9 at 10am in Fellowship Hall we will have our first new gathering of *Being in the Presence* led by our very own Carole Turano.

JOIN US ON A CONSTRUCTION MISSION TRIP TO WEST VIRGINIA: We will be taking part in a mission trip to West Virginia to help build steps and a large outdoor porch for a family in need in West Virginia. The dates of the trip are **September 22-24**. Cost of the trip is \$50. There will be an informational meeting for the trip after church on September 3 at 12:15pm.

COMMUNITY WIDE WORSHIP ON SEPTEMBER 24 IN THE STRASBURG PARK - Once again the Strasburg Ministerium is offering a time of worship for the entire Strasburg community. The church will be closed on that Sunday, September 24, and we will all be gathered at 10am to worship together at the Strasburg Park. Come and join your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ of Strasburg.

MOVIE NIGHT - A movie night is set for **September 30th** beginning at 6pm. Ice Cream will be served. Bring your lawn chairs, comfy blankets or sleeping bags and join us in Fellowship Hall. The movie will be Disney's *Encanto*, a 2021 animated family comedy. Everyone from our church family is invited to bring a friend.

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



Please keep the following in your prayers

- Vesta Herr - The Legend of Lancaster
- Bob Hartman - Recovering at home
- Louise Witmer - Under Hospice Care at The Glen at Willow Valley



August Deacons of the Month: Marcia Andersen & Joyce Charles

In Need of the Prayer Chain? Call Sandy Bernstorf 687-7276 or Janice Bowers 687-5676

ASSISTANCE CORNER

CLUBHOUSE VOLUNTEERS: We are looking for volunteers to shepherd the Clubhouse children to their different activities. Clubhouse is like a mini VBS program that runs the first Wednesday night of each month from 6pm-7:30pm. Activities include singing, Bible stories, crafts and games. Please contact Beth Feiler or Amanda Allison.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We are still collecting items for our shoeboxes. Needed are the following; school supplies, toys, small books, games, stuffed animals, socks, hats, caps, sunglasses, mittens and water bottles. Please drop these items in the box outside of room 5.

FOOD PANTRY:

CURRENT FOOD PANTRY PRIORITY NEEDS:

Canned items: Pears, Pineapple, Fruit Cocktail, Oranges, Chicken, Progresso Soups, Sliced or Diced Potatoes. Diced or Stewed Tomatoes



Pasta/Grains: Dry/Boxed Pasta or Rice; Tuna or Beef Helpers

Other: Single box tissues

Donations of items can be left in the bin outside of the Pantry room across from the church secretary's office. There are also envelopes in the pews marked "Food" if you would like to make a monetary donation. Thank you for your support of this ministry.

LOOKING FOR PRESCHOOL AIDES

The preschool has grown and we are looking to hire a few aides to help our teachers. If you have one morning a week where you can help out for a few hours we would love to bring you on board, and you'll get paid as well! Let Pastor Bob or Heather Reynolds know if you are at all interested.

Nominations for Elders, Deacons and Trustees

The Church Officer Nominating Committee requests names from the congregation for consideration for the next class of Elders, Deacons and Trustees.

When submitting names for consideration, you may include the names of congregation members as well as your own.

Please submit names to be considered for nomination to Carolyn Groff and Linda Younger or to the church office by September 3.

Elder:

Deacon:

Trustee:



STRASBURG BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

Featuring

Summit Hill Bluegrass Band

With Guests Hammer Creek Bluegrass Band

SATURDAY September 2 AT 6:00PM

Strasburg Community Park

151 Precision Ave, Strasburg

Bring your lawn chair and a friend!

Sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church of Strasburg

