

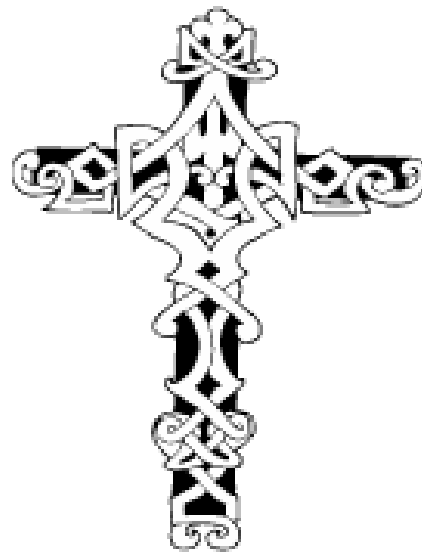
First Presbyterian Church

101 South Decatur Street • Strasburg, PA 17579

(717) 687-6030

www.straspres.org

Sunday, September 14, 2025



PASTOR: Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER: Jonathan Jones

DIRECTOR OF MODERN WORSHIP: Goggie Sween

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES: Beth Feiler

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH: Kristin Kondratowski

WORSHIP LEADER/READER: 8:30am Jean Pontz

WORSHIP: 8:30am and 11:00am

*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

"Cathedral Shadows"

Gilbert Martin

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

People: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

*HYMN

"To God Be the Glory"

No. 485

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Eternal and loving God, we come before you today praising your name and worshiping you as the way, the truth, and the life. Only through you are we able to experience and live in the fullness of the life you have provided for us. Forgive us for not loving you as the one who has created us and given us purpose. Forgive us for not loving our neighbor as someone who is a gift from you. Lead us back into your way. 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

Ali Elias-Lizardo

ANTHEM

"I Will Rejoice"

Joseph Martin

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and Leviticus 19:18

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 22:34-40

SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

SERMON

"The Greatest Commandment"

Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

*HYMN

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

No. 438

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"The Power of Your Love"

arr. Jane Holstein

*DOXOLOGY

PROFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES CREED

*HYMN

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

No. 280

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

"Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals"

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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

Sermon Notes

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

- Place your contribution in the collection plate
- 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 S. Decatur Street, Strasburg, PA 17579



Greeting and Announcements

*Praise & Worship *Grace Alone*
 I Thank God
 What A Beautiful Name

Prayer & Peace

Children's Message

Ali Elias-Lizardo

Scripture Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and Leviticus 19:18
 Matthew 22:34-40

SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Sermon *"The Greatest Commandment"*

Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

Offering

*Praise & Worship *The Blessing*

*Benediction

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

Prayer Requests

Ed Bredin
Gwen Bortzfield – Abbeyville
Red Bortzfield
Dick Cummings
Vesta Herr – Hospice
Jim Law – Hospice



Deacons of the Month: Lynda Margerum & Deb Welk
In Need of the Prayer Chain? Please contact the church office at 717-687-6030.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 14

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

9:30am **Coffee Hour**

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

*Children's Sunday School Grades K – 5: Rm 12

*Youth Sunday School

~Grades 6 – 7: Room 5

~Grades 8 – 12: Youth Room

*Young Adults – Choir Room

*Wired Word – Library

*Young at Heart – Room 4

11am **Worship** (Modern)

12:15pm Italy Mission Meeting – Fellowship Hall

***IGNITED • Combined Youth Group: 6 – 8pm – Fellowship Hall**

Monday, September 15

5:30pm IMPACT Young Adult Women's Bible Study – Youth Room

Tuesday, September 16

2pm Food Pantry

Wednesday, September 17

1pm Knifty Knitters – Library

7pm Session Meeting – Room 4

3pm Stitchin' Sisters – Room 4

7pm Community Worship Rehearsal – FH

Thursday, September 18

6:30am Men's Fellowship & Devotions – Library

3:30pm Kindermusik – Fellowship Hall

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

7pm Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

Friday, September 19

9am Toddler Gym – Fellowship Hall

6pm Our Table

2pm Food Pantry

NEXT WEEK ~ SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

Community Wide Worship in the Park

Gather with all the churches of Strasburg for worship at the
Strasburg Park at 10am.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



We are glad to see you here! Check out our website: www.straspres.org under the "Events" 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 message.

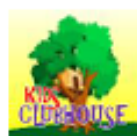


Volunteers are needed for the table at the **Lampeter Fair** for First Presbyterian Church. The fair will be held this year from **Wednesday, September 24 – Friday, September 26**. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the welcome area under the TV. Contact Alice Eisenhooth with any questions.

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS • There are a number of items that have made a home in the lost and found. If you are missing cups, containers, sweatshirts, or other items, please check the lost and found, located on the coat rack in the foyer. **Any items not claimed by September 16th will donated!**



COFFEE HOUR • Join us each Sunday at 9:30am for coffee and fellowship with old and new friends. Hosts for today: June Stum & Sandy Wenger. No Coffee Hour next week, September 21st, due to Community Wide Worship at Strasburg Park. All volunteers will be reimbursed for their purchases. If you would like to help with Coffee Hour, please contact Theresa Rineer at 717-682-9954 or rineertheresa@yahoo.com. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please choose the date(s) that work best for you!



Clubhouse Helpers: Another year of Clubhouse has begun and we need YOU! What is Clubhouse? It is a monthly program for children preschool through 5th grade that meet from 6 – 7:30pm on the first Wednesday of each month, September – May. The children are from our church family, preschool family, and the community. The program is Christian theme incorporating music, crafts, games and Bible stories. Volunteers are involved with these activities and "shepherd" a group of children to these activities as a group leader. You certainly don't need to commit to each month. Please see Beth Feiler or Amanda Allison if you are interested.

The **Chancel Choir** *always welcomes new singers and musicians* who love to sing and enjoy sharing their musical gifts in the music ministry of the church! We enjoy providing beautiful and uplifting anthems and various types of instrumental music during the program year. We invite you to join us for a one-hour rehearsal each Thursday at 7pm, in the Choir Room, and then again each Sunday at 8am, in the Sanctuary choir loft, for a 15-minute rehearsal before singing in worship. If you are interested or know of anyone who would be a good addition to the choir, please contact Jonathan Jones at 484-949-4514 or jjones@straspres.org. We would love to have more singers and instrumentalists join us!"



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS • Bring your pet on **October 19th at 3pm** as we will have an opportunity for a pet blessing service. All animals are welcome! Join us outside in the grassy area of the church yard. More details to come!



Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Events!



Register for **"Toddler Music, Movement & Play Classes"** KINDERMUSIK through All Together Now Studios. Join Fiona Gillespie this fall **here at FPCS**. Classes will be held **Thursday afternoons from 3:30-4:15pm**, and will run as monthly sessions. Caregivers are required to stay present and encouraged to participate! Sign up using the link <https://www.fionagillespiemusic.com/kindermusik.html> or QR code.



BIBLE CHALLENGE • It's not too late to join us for a 9-month read through the Bible Challenge. Bible Challenge brochures are available on the table under the TV in the Well and on the glass table in the foyer.

COMMUNITY WIDE WORSHIP • Gather with all the churches of Strasburg for worship at the Strasburg Park **NEXT SUNDAY, September 21st at 10am**. There will be no worship here at FPC, so come and join our brothers and sisters in Christ from Strasburg to worship on this day.



MISSION TO ITALY 2026 • Parents of high school students, your youth is invited to attend this experience with First Presbyterian in 2026. Join us for an informational and organizational meeting on **TODAY, Sunday, September 14 at 12:15pm**. Please contact Pastor Bob or Kristin Kondratowski with any questions.



MANDATED REPORTER TRAINING • If you are a volunteer with our youth/children, there are several clearances you must complete. One is **Mandated Reporter Training**, which is available to complete on your own at www.reportabusepa.pitt.edu. It is a 3-hour online course, for which you will receive a certificate at the completion of the course. Please make a copy of your certificate and give to Nicole Keays or Beth Feiler. We will be offering a group training session on **September 28th at 12:15pm**. Pizza will be served. There is a signup sheet in the Well on the table under the TV. Any questions please see Beth Feiler.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY • Please mark your calendars that we will be starting a new Bible Study on **Tuesday, September 23rd**. Classes will be held at **9am and 7pm in room 4**. All are welcome! This fall we are using a study by Kelly Minter entitled "Esther" (Daring Faith for Such a Time as This). It is a 7-week study on the Biblical book of Esther. For any questions please contact Linda Bredin, Stacy Bronkema, or Sandy Wenger.



TODDLER GYM is back! Join us weekly on **Fridays from 9 – 10:30am (Sept. – May)** for playtime for ages 1 – 6 with their caregivers. This program is free and open to the public and follows the Lampeter Strasburg School Calendar. For more information, check out our [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) page, or contact Alyssa Gregory at 717-495-3939 or alyssadriedger@gmail.com.

ASSISTANCE CORNER

CURRENT FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

We continue to need your help in supplying our neighbors in need with items to face any food insecurities that they may be experiencing. You can be a vital part of this ministry by considering donating any of the following most needed items listed below. Thank you for your consideration and being a part of this ministry!

- Canned Meats: Chicken, Spam, Tuna
- Canned Soups: Beef, Chicken or Progresso Soups



If you would like to make a monetary donation there are envelopes in the pew racks marked FOOD and one of our board members or volunteers will do the shopping. Lastly, please continue to pray for our neighbors in need.

The Church World Service Kids Kit ministry program provides much needed school supplies to children in their time of need. **See the list below for items we are still in need of and collecting.** Please put your items in the basket outside room 5. If you have any questions, please see Beth Feiler.

- *12 pack of colored pencils
- *Soft sided Pencil pouches

- *Hand held pencil sharpeners
- *Blunt-tip scissors



LAY READERS ARE NEEDED to read Scripture for second service. If you are willing and able to sign up to read for one or more Sunday services please use the link below, scan the QR code to sign up, or contact Andrea Petrokonis at petrokonisandrea@gmail.com. Middle school or older children are more than welcome to participate as well! [FPC Worship Leader 2nd Service Sign Up](#)



WATER STREET RESCUE MISSION

There are opportunities for our congregation to serve meals at Water Street Rescue Mission. These events will require around 2.5 hours of your time serving meals to the Mission's residents. Our church has 2 slots reserved for the following meals and there will be someone from our volunteer team serving with you.

-Tuesday, September 23, Dinner

If you are interested in serving or if you would like to learn more about these serving opportunities reach out to Terry Sweigart at 717-606-6907 or by email at tsweig@gmail.com. Thanks for your consideration.

