

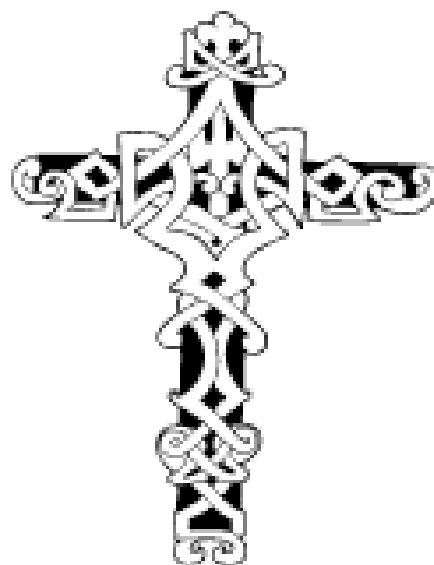
First Presbyterian Church

101 South Decatur Street • Strasburg, PA 17579

(717) 687-6030

www.straspres.org

Sunday, September 7, 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 Brianna Davis / 11am Danielle Marsh

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

"Processional"

Martin Shaw

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 99

Leader: The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

People: Let them praise your great and awesome name, Holy is he!

*HYMN

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

No. 123

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

God of earth and heaven, we rejoice that you have called us to live upon this earth with your eternal blessings. We confess that we have at times been so heavenly minded that we are of no earthly good. We confess that we have only looked at our actions as if they could replace a true relationship with you. Forgive us for our pride and lead us back to your side. 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

ANTHEM

"Behold The Lamb"

arr. Camp Kirkland

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 26:19

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 22:23-33

SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

SERMON

"What Does Heaven Look Like?"

Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

*HYMN

"Because He Lives"

insert

WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"How Great Is Our God"

arr. Lloyd Larson

*DOXOLOGY

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Welcome

Distribution

*ALLELUIA

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Toccata"

Léon Böellmann

**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 *So So Good*
 My Hands Are Open
 Firm Foundation (He Won't)

Prayer & Peace

Children's Message

Beth Feiler

Scripture Isaiah 26:19
 Matthew 22:23-33

SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Sermon *"What Does Heaven Look Like?"*

Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Offering

*Praise & Worship *Goodness of God*

*Benediction

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

Prayer Requests

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



Comfort in Time of Loss: Please pray for the family of Shirley Danner who passed into eternal life on September 3, 2025. Services will be on Saturday, September 13 at 11am with a luncheon to follow.

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 7

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)

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

Monday, September 8 *Great Beginnings Preschool Begins This Week*

6:30pm CIC – Room 4

7pm Mission & Finance – Room 5

Tuesday, September 9

2pm Food Pantry

7pm Outreach Committee – Room 5

5:30pm Personnel – Library

Wednesday, September 10

1pm Knifty Knitters – Library

6:30pm Trustee Meeting – Room 4

3pm Stitchin' Sisters – Room 4

6pm Praise Team Gathering & Practice

Thursday, September 11

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 12

9am Toddler Gym – Fellowship Hall

6pm Our Table

2pm Food Pantry

NEXT WEEK ~ SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

1st Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and Leviticus 19:18

2nd Scripture: Matthew 22:34-40

SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

"The Greatest Commandment"

Rev. Robert K. Bronkema, Preaching



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.

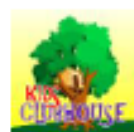
The rose in the sanctuary today is in honor of the resurrection of Shirley Danner, who passed into eternal life on September 3, 2025.



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 before your items are donated!



COFFEE HOUR • Join us each Sunday at 9:30am for coffee and fellowship with old and new friends. Hosts for today: The Nadu Family. Hosts for next week: June Stum & Sandy Wenger. 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.



Have you completed your **MISSION SURVEY**??!! We are seeking feedback on how our congregation feels led to engage in **Mission**. Please consider taking a couple of minutes to share your thoughts by filling out the survey enclosed in the bulletin, or completing the electronic survey by following the link [Mission Survey](#) or using the QR code shown.



CHANCEL CHOIR • It's that time of year again! If you enjoy singing beautiful, inspiring anthems, 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 for a 15-minute rehearsal before singing in worship. If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan Jones, 484-949-4514 or jjones@straspres.org. We would love to have you join us!



A Thank You from the Deacons for the card supply that you all have contributed to! They are no longer in need of cards at this time.



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 on **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 **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 starting **Friday, September 12th**! Join us weekly on **Fridays from 9 – 10:30am (Sept. – May)** for playtime for ages 1 – kindergarten with their caregivers. This program is free and open to the public and follows the Lampeter Strasburg School Calendar. For more information, 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!

-Peanut Butter
-Canned Green Beans

-Jelly
-Canned Corn



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.

Because He Lives

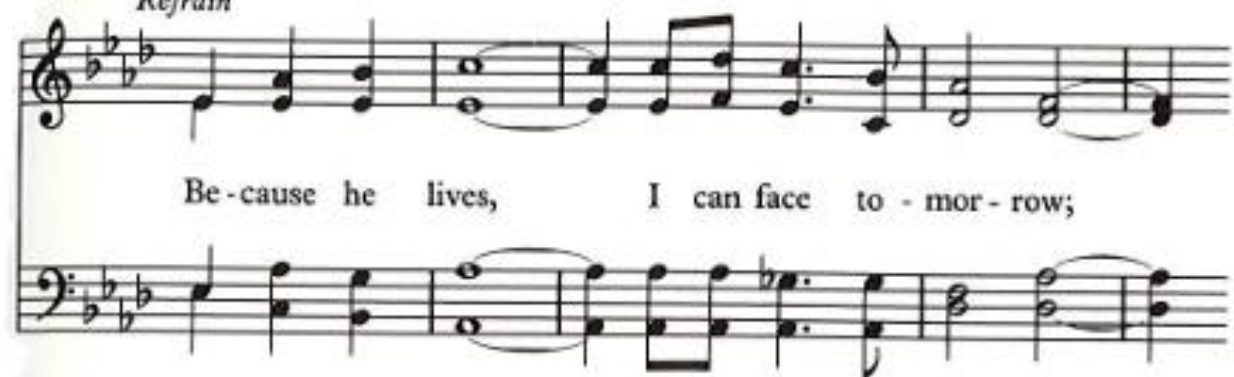
1. God sent his Son, they called him Je - sus;
 2. How sweet to hold a new-born ba - by,
 3. And then one day I'll cross the riv - er;

he came to love, heal, and for - give;
 and feel the pride and joy he* gives;
 I'll fight life's fi - nal war with pain;

he lived and died to buy my par - don,
 but great - er still the calm as - sur - ance,
 and then as death gives way to vic - tory,

an emp - ty grave is there to prove my Sav - ior lives.
 this child can face un - cer - tain days be - cause he lives.
 I'll see the lights of glo - ry and I'll know he reigns.

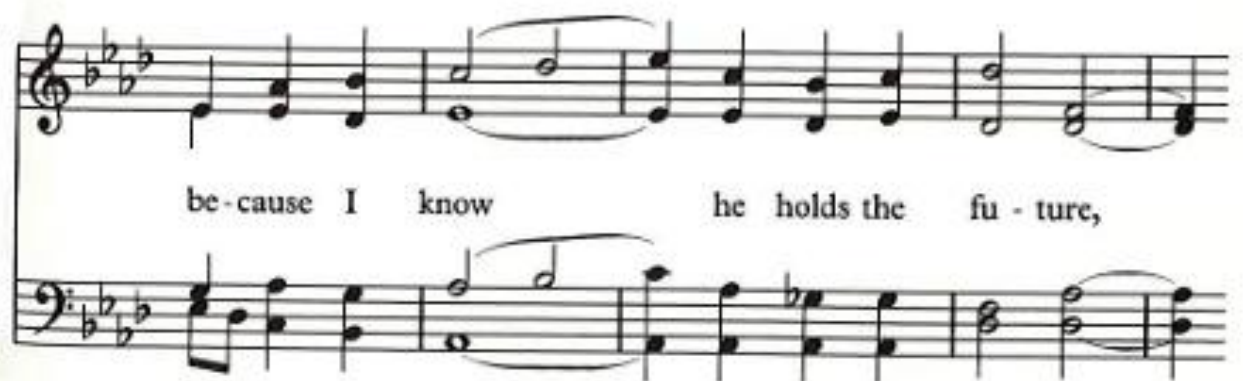
*Jesus

Refrain

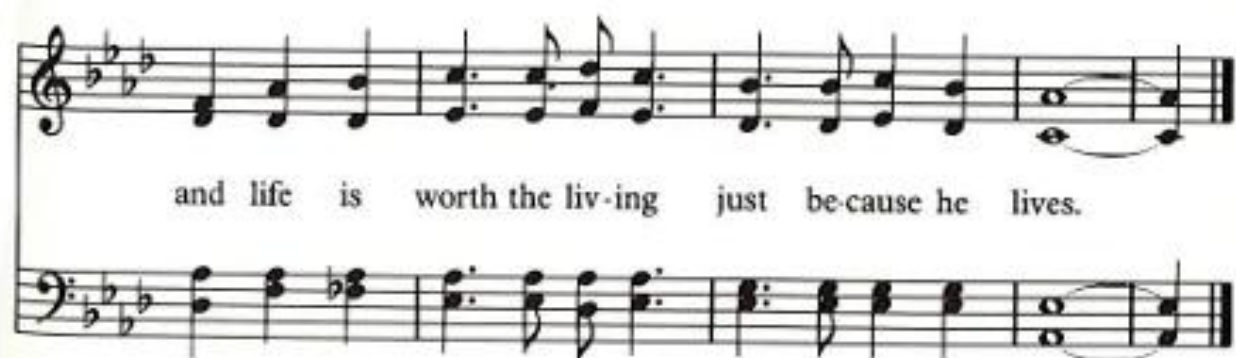
Be - cause he lives, I can face to - mor - row;



be - cause he lives, all fear is gone;



be - cause I know he holds the fu - ture,



and life is worth the liv - ing just be - cause he lives.