

First Presbyterian Church

101 South Decatur Street • Strasburg, PA 17579

(717) 687-6030

www.straspres.org



Sunday, November 30, 2025 **First Sunday of Advent**

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 Lillian Myers / 11am Andrea Petrokonis

WORSHIP: 8:30am and 11:00am

Sunday, November 30, 2025

Welcome!

8:30am 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 *"Offertoire sur 'Venez, Divin Messie'"* Jehan de Montber

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *Elias-Lizardo Family*

Family: This first Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.

People: (Sung) **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

*HYMN *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*

No. 9

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Loving Father of Lights, your ways are not our ways. You sent your Son in the flesh of a baby. He grew into a man and trusting you, He gave himself for the redemption of all people and for the healing of all evil. We confess there are times when our hope falters and our sense that the wrongs of the world will take over the work of Christ and the Church. We pull back from worship and the light of your glory fades from our attention. Our hearts grow weary and we lose wisdom. We pray you revive us with your love and light. Help us praise your Name. Help us be your hands and feet where you have placed us. 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

FIRST SCRIPTURE Isaiah 2:1-5

SECOND SCRIPTURE Matthew 26:1-16

SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

SERMON *"Jesus, the Light of the World"* Jen Eisenberg

*HYMN *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"* No. 2

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Pg. 16

WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *"Christmas Sonatina
(2nd. and 3rd. movts.)"* Carl Reinecke

*DOXOLOGY

PROFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES CREED

*HYMN *"Angels We Have Heard on High"* No. 23

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *"Toccata on God Rest Ye
Merry Gentlemen"* Alfred Fedak

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

Sermon Notes



Greeting and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Marsh Family

Family: This first Sunday in Advent we light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.

People: (Sung) **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Praise & Worship

Angels From the Realms of Glory (Emmanuel)
Cornerstone
Emmanuel

Prayer & Peace

Children's Message

Beth Feiler

Scripture

Isaiah 2:1-5
Matthew 26:1-16

SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Sermon

"Jesus, the Light of the World"

Jen Eisenberg

Offering

*Praise & Worship

King Of Kings

*Benediction

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

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





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.

COFFEE HOUR • Join us each Sunday at 9:30am for coffee and fellowship with old and new friends. Hosts for today: Don & Beth Smith. Hosts for next week: The Fulmer Family. Volunteers are needed! 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 email rineertheresa@yahoo.com. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please choose the date(s) that work best for you!



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!

LIBRARY NEWS • The brrrrr months are here! Be inspired with inspirational reading! Cozy up with a good book, there are many to choose from in the hall in front of the library. Check out the history of the church on the table outside of the library, "A History of the First Presbyterian Church of Strasburg, Pennsylvania," by The Reverend E. Bradford Davis, Th.D.



Kidz JAM (Jesus and Me) Love to sing and be a blessing to others with a song? We need you! Looking for children and youth who are available for rehearsals, and to sing in worship, with Kidz JAM. Please contact Jonathan Jones at 484-949-4514 or jjones@straspres.org, to discuss your availability for rehearsals and to sing in worship this program year. Look forward to hearing from you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS • The deadline for ordering poinsettias is **December 7th**. If you are interested, please complete the form below and submit along with payment to the Office Administrator.



Memorial Poinsettias



Orders for memorial poinsettias are now being accepted for the upcoming Advent season. **Cost is \$8 per plant.** Please place this form, along with payment, in the Office Administrator's mailbox (Nicole Keays) or drop off in the church office mail slot.

Deadline for orders & payments: December 7, 2025.

Name _____

Number of Pots _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Prayer Requests

Don Black
Dick Cummings
Vesta Herr – Hospice
Donna Law
Jim Law – Hospice
Lois Mellinger
Carla Plomchok



November Deacons of the Month: David & Melissa Edwards

December Deacons of the Month: Linda Bredin & Pam Johnson

In Need of the Prayer Chain? Please contact the church office at 717-687-6030.

TONIGHT, November 30th ~ 5pm Advent Night

Come join us as we celebrate the first Sunday of the Advent season! This night is for **EVERYONE** as we wait and prepare for the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas.

Adults create a craft to
take home!



Kids create a craft to
take home and
one to decorate the
tree at church!



Sing Christmas Carols with Goggie and Friends! 🎵



Decorate a Christmas cookie!

Dinner will include lasagna and chicken tenders.
Please bring a dish to share: appetizer, side, dessert or beverage. A sign-up sheet is in the welcome area under the TV. If you have any questions, please see Beth Feiler or Andrea Petrokonis.

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.

-Canned Fruits

-Canned Meats

Our food pantry is currently looking for a few volunteers to help us serve our neighbors in need. We are seeking volunteers to help with our weekly shopping of the perishable items which consists of milk, bread and eggs. You would check the stock of those items before we open on Tuesday afternoon and then once again before we open again on Friday afternoon. Purchase any needed items for the week and place them in the refrigerator of the pantry room. We generally distribute anywhere from 15-25 of each item. You would be reimbursed for the costs of the items!

We are also in search of volunteers to help at our pantry desk. We have been extremely busy and could use some extra hands to serve. The pantry is open on Tuesday & Friday afternoons from 2-4pm. You would greet our neighbor in need, check them in and provide any assistance they may need while they choose their items. There are always two volunteers covering the desk. You choose a day that fits your schedule for a 2 hour shift.

If you would like to learn more about the volunteer opportunities or are interested please see either Donna Stettler or June Stum. Thank you for considering.

WATER STREET RESCUE MISSION

There are opportunities in 2026, 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 and there will be someone from our volunteer team serving with you.

*January 16, Lunch
*February 17, Dinner
*March 17, Dinner

*January 20, Dinner
*February 20, Lunch
*March 20, Lunch



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 tLsweig@gmail.com. Thanks for your consideration!



Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Events!



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.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S PAGEANT rehearsals start **TODAY, November 30th at 10am in room 12**. If anyone has a child/grandchild that would like to participate, please see Beth Feiler.



"OUR TABLE" WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY • Every Friday Night Beginning at 6pm • 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!*

The Session has called for a **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING at 12:15pm (after second service) on Sunday, December 7th**. The purpose of this meeting is to review and act on the proposed 2026 Pastoral Terms of Call, elect New Officers for the terms starting in 2026, and to review and receive the 2026 Ministry Budget. Copies of the budget are available in both foyers.



CHRISTMAS WITH THE ORGAN ~ Join us for an organ concert and Christmas carols on **December 7th at 7pm**, hosted by our very own Jonathan Jones.

PARENTS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ~ There will be a meeting on **Sunday, December 28th at 12:15pm (after second service)** to discuss the children's Sunday school class. Parents, children and CE members are invited. Pizza will be served!



NEXT WEEK ~ DECEMBER 7, 2025 THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

1st Scripture: Exodus 24:7-8

Matthew 26:17-29

SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS: LENT IN ADVENT
"Jesus, the Bread of the World"

Rev. Robert K. Bronkema, Preaching

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, November 30

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)

5pm Advent Night and Potluck Dinner

***IGNITED • Advent Night & Dinner**

Monday, December 1

6:30pm IMPACT Young Adult Bible Study – Youth Room

Tuesday, December 2

9am Women's Bible Study – Room 4

2pm Food Pantry

6pm CE Meeting – Room 5

7pm Worship Committee – Library

Wednesday, December 3

1pm Knifty Knitters – Library 7pm Deacons Meeting – Room 4

3pm Stitchin' Sisters – Room 4 7pm Praise Team Practice

6pm Kids Clubhouse

Thursday, December 4

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

5pm Italy Auction Meeting – Room 4

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

7pm Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

Friday, December 5

9am Toddler Gym

2pm Food Pantry

6pm Our Table – FH





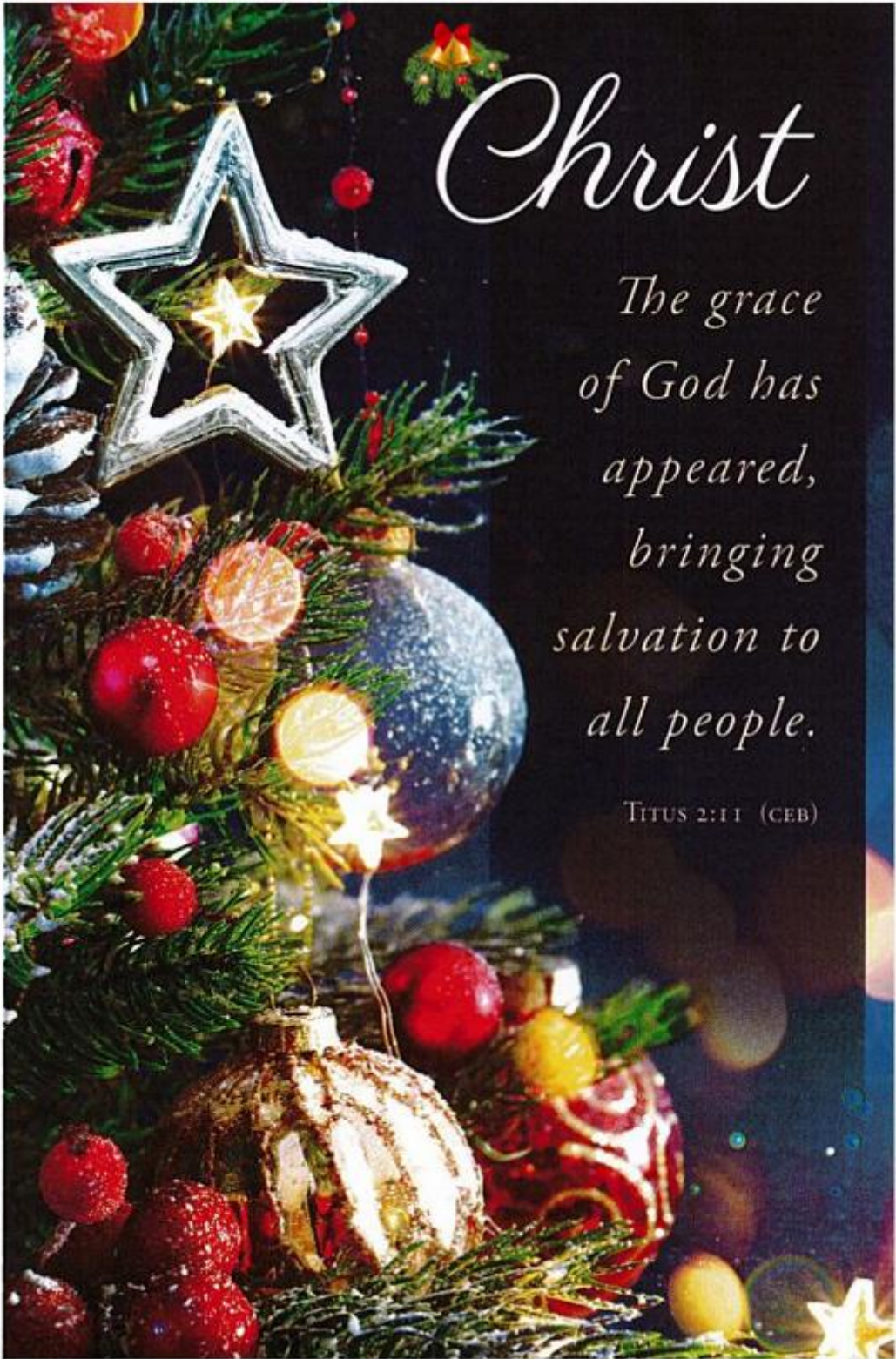
2025 SANTA'S HELPERS



This year FPS will again participate in the Santa's Helpers Program by having interested members of the congregation purchase a specific gift for a child in need. The Santa's Helpers program began over 30 years ago when the founders discovered a family that could not afford to buy Christmas gifts nor a Christmas meal for their family. The program has grown into a non-profit organization which partners with the L-S School District to provide Christmas for over 100 needy families. Our congregation joined this effort in 2011 and has purchased over 1,000 toys for children of needy families in our area since our participation began. To play a part in this valuable program all you need to do is:

- ❏ Sign-up to purchase a gift at the giving tree located next to the receptionist desk on either **Sunday, November 30** or **Sunday, December 7**.
- ❏ You sign-up by picking a tag from the tree, which will include the number of a child along with the specific gift.
- ❏ Your name and the number of your child will be registered by a volunteer at the sign-up table.
- ❏ Please spend between \$15 to \$20 for the gift.
- ❏ Gifts do not need to be wrapped; all wrapping will be done by the Santa's Helpers organization.

Please attach the tag to the gift and place under the tree by **December 14th**. If you have any questions, please contact Jo Ann or Terry Sweigart at 717-672-1427 or 717-606-6907.



Christ

*The grace
of God has
appeared,
bringing
salvation to
all people.*

TITUS 2:11 (CEB)