

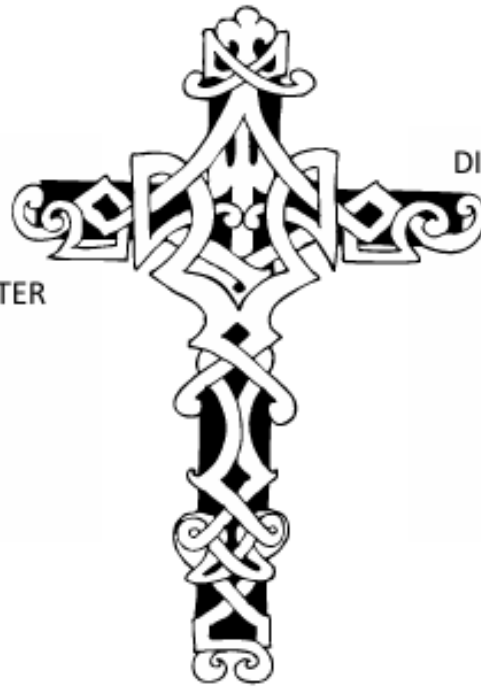
First Presbyterian Church

101 South Decatur Street • Strasburg, PA 17579

(717) 687-6030

www.straspres.org

Sunday, August 25, 2024



PASTOR
Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

INTERIM ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER
Jonathan Jones

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF
CONTEMPORARY MUSIC
Walter Kondratowski

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
Beth Feiler

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH
Kristin Kondratowski

WORSHIP LEADER/READER
8:30am Mary Lou Butler
11am Jeff 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

"Prélude"

César Franck

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 50

Leader: The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

People: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

*HYMN

"Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise"

No. 263

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Lord of heaven and earth we rejoice in your grace and your steadfast love. We praise you for providing us with a way to enter your kingdom through Jesus. Forgive us for trying to pave our own way through doing good works, or thinking we deserve your love. We have sinned and we continue to sin, we now repent. Remind us that you love us even as we sin against you. Show us your truth of never failing faithfulness even when we are surrounded by those who would turn their back on us. Thank you for loving us before we ever knew you. 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

Daniel 2:44-45

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 13:44-50

Sunday, August 25, 2024

Welcome!

8:30am Service

SERMON	SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS <i>"The Kingdom of Heaven is Like..."</i>	Rev. Robert K. Bronkema
*HYMN	<i>"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"</i>	insert
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER		Pg. 16
WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD		
OFFERTORY	<i>"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"</i>	arr. Larry Shackley
*DOXOLOGY		
PROFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES CREED		
*HYMN	<i>"O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!"</i>	No. 476
*BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE	<i>"Carillon-Sortie"</i>	Henri Mulet

**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

*Praise & Worship *The Lion And The Lamb*
 Graves Into Gardens
 Firm Foundation (He Won't)

Prayer & Peace

Children's Message

Beth Feiler

Blessing of the Backpacks

Prayer Insert

Scripture Daniel 2:44-45
 Matthew 13:44-50

SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Sermon *"The Kingdom of Heaven is Like..."* Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

Offering

*Praise & Worship *Grace Alone*

*Benediction

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

Prayer Requests

Please keep the following in your prayers.

Emily Garber
Bev Wiker
Adelene, sister of John Ford, battling cancer



August Deacons of the Month: Janice Bowers, Tessa Kondratowski & Lynda Margerum
September Deacons of the Month: Joyce Charles and Heidi Zook-Payne

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

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, August 25 * Blessing of the Backpacks

- 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 - 12) - Youth Room
Young Adults - Choir Room
Wired Word - Library
Young at Heart - Rm 3/4
11am **Worship** (Modern)

IGNITED • Combined Youth Group - 6 - 8pm - Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, August 27

- 2pm Food Pantry
7pm IMPACT - Youth Room

Wednesday, August 28

- 1pm Knifty Knitters - Library
3pm Stitchin' Sisters - Room 3/4
7pm Praise Team Practice - Sanctuary

Thursday, August 29

- 6:30am Men's Fellowship & Devotions - Library - Bring your own coffee/breakfast items
6 pm Bible Study - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzoMo4VUuahmT0CFUtwZzgg>
7pm Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

Friday, August 30

- 2pm Food Pantry
6pm Our Table - FH

Saturday, August 31

- 6pm Bluegrass Festival - Strasburg Community Park

NEXT WEEK ~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson, Guest Preacher

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 sermon.

COFFEE HOUR • Join us on Sundays at 9:30am for coffee and fellowship with old and new friends. 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!



FLAT JESUS: If you still have a kid's bag, please return it to Room #5. Please send any pictures with Flat Jesus to Beth Feiler at bfeiler@straspres.org.

CHANCEL CHOIR'S regular weekly rehearsals will begin this **Thursday, August 29th, at 7pm**. We need more *sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses...especially more tenors and basses*. If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan Jones at jjones@straspres.org or 484.949.4514. Come join us as we lift our voices to the Lord and sing His praises!



Water Street Rescue Mission Volunteer Opportunities

There are opportunities this fall 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 each of the following meals and there will be someone from our volunteer team serving with you.

Tuesday, September 10	Dinner	4:00 pm to 6:30 pm
Tuesday, October 8	Dinner	4:00 pm to 6:30 pm
Wednesday, October 9	Breakfast	6:00 am to 7:30 pm
Friday, October 11	Lunch	11:00 am to 1:30
Tuesday, November 5	Dinner	4:00 pm to 6:30 pm
Friday, November 15	Lunch	11:00 am to 1:30
Tuesday, December 10	Dinner	4:00 pm to 6:30 pm
Friday, December 20	Lunch	11:00 pm to 1:30 pm



**WATER STREET
MISSION**

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.



Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Events!

COMMUNITY WIDE WORSHIP – Gather with all the churches of Strasburg for worship at the Strasburg Park on **Sunday, September 22nd 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. In the event of rain, service will be held at Strasburg Mennonite Church.



“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!

WEDNESDAY MORNING WALK/RUN GROUP • Wednesday mornings (weather permitting) we will meet at the church parking lot at 5:25am and take off at 5:30am sharp. We will embark on 3, one mile loops through town, each loop ending at the church before starting the next. All are welcome! You can walk, run, or both. You can do 1, 2, or all 3 miles and then some! Questions, or to be added to the text message update group please contact Dillon Sickler at 484-467-1587.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY • Mark your calendars that we will be starting a new Bible Study on **Tuesday, September 17th**. Classes will be held in the **morning @ 9:00** or in the **evening @ 7:00**. All are welcome! We will be using a study called “Now That Faith Has Come” by Beth Moore & Melissa Moore – A study of Galatians. For any questions please contact Stacy Bronkema, Linda Bredin, or Sandy Wenger.



REVERBERATE • Join us and other churches from Lancaster County on **Sunday, September 15th at Longs Park** for an evening of praise, unity and worship. The event is free but there will be **food trucks open from 4-6pm and worship from 6-8pm**. Bring a chair or a blanket to sit on. Everyone is invited! Meet us in the parking lot at FPC at 5pm to carpool or meet us there!

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 St. Decatur Street, Strasburg, PA 17579



ASSISTANCE CORNER

CURRENT FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

- Peanut Butter
- Canned Soups
- Canned Chicken or Spam



We are looking for a few volunteers to help us with our weekly shopping of perishables items. Volunteers would check the stock of milk, eggs, margarine, and bread 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 in the refrigerator of the pantry room.

We currently have a handful of shoppers but could use some additional support. If you would like to learn more about this volunteer opportunity or are interested please see either Donna Stettler or June Stum. Thank you for considering.



NURSERY NEEDS: The nursery is in need of goldfish crackers, baby wipes and Clorox wipes. Thank you for considering this request!

USHERS are needed for both first and second services. If interested, please contact Wayne Carr at waynec01@comcast.net for first service or Andrea Petrokonis, petrokonisandrea@gmail.com for second service.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES: For the month of August we will be collecting small stuffed animals, ragdolls, beanie babies, plastic cups, plastic bowls, small plastic new water bottles, reusable plastic utensils (all items can be purchased at the dollar store). The collection box is outside room #5.



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help on Sunday mornings in the Nursery, Children's Church and Sunday School. Please consider and pray about assisting in these rooms and getting to know the awesome children of our church family. There are sign-up sheets located on the wall racks by the welcome desk, or contact Beth Feiler or Amy Black.

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.

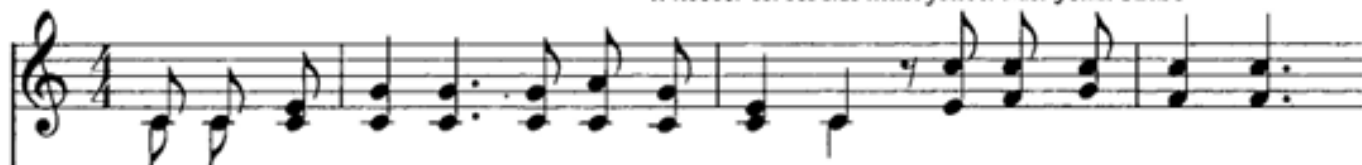
People: Lord, Bless these backpacks.

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.

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus 376

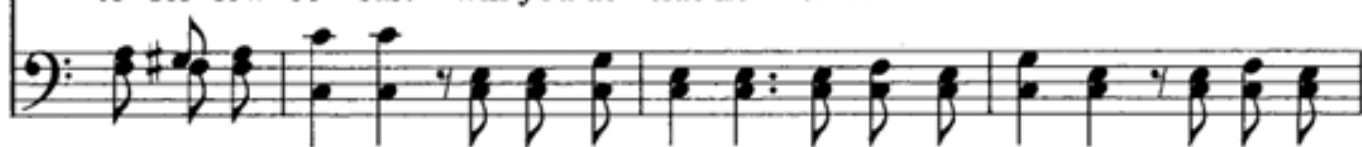
Whoever serves Me must follow Me. John 12:26



1. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus, I have de - cid - ed
2. The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me; The world be - hind me,
3. Tho' none go with me, I still will fol - low, Tho' none go with me,
4. Will you de - cide now to fol - low Je - sus? Will you de - cide now



to fol - low Je - sus, I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus,
the cross be - fore me; The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me, No turn - ing
I still will fol - low, Tho' none go with me, I still will fol - low,
to fol - low Je - sus? Will you de - cide now to fol - low Je - sus?



back, no turn - ing back. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Him.



TEXT: Source unknown

MUSIC: Folk melody from India; arranged by Eugene Thomas

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ASSAM

Irregular meter

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 J-Time Bluegrass & Gospel Band

SATURDAY August 31 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

