

# *First Presbyterian Church*

*101 South Decatur Street • Strasburg, PA 17579*

*(717) 687-6030*

*www.straspres.org*



**Sunday, January 19, 2025**  
**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

PASTOR: Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

FULLER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY INTERN: Jen Eisenberg

ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER & INTERIM DIRECTORY OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC: Jonathan Jones

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES: Beth Feiler

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH: Kristin Kondratowski

WORSHIP LEADER/READER: 8:30am Lynda Margerum/ 11am Andrea Petrokonis

**WORSHIP: 8:30am and 11:00am**

Sunday, January 19, 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

*"Homage to Buxtehude"*

Malcolm McKelvey

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 66

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of His name. Give Him glorious praise.

**People: We sing praises to Your name. Come and see what the Lord has done. He is awesome in His deeds among people.**

\*HYMN

*"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*

No. 276

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

**Almighty God, You made Christ Head of the Church. In You, we live and move and have our being. Where else can we go? You call us to fill in every pothole on the road to You. We confess that we fail to be a community of Your hope and perseverance. We struggle to envision a place among us for every one of Your children. Heal us, we pray. 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

Kristin Kondratowski

ANTHEM

*"Come and Worship"*

arr. Patti Drennan

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 40:3-5

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 18:1-5

SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

SERMON

*"Lifting Valleys and Leveling Mountains"*

Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

\*HYMN "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!" No. 142

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

WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD  
OFFERTORY "My Faith Looks Up To Thee" arr. Kenon Renfrow

\*DOXOLOGY

PROFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES CREED

\*HYMN "Lift Every Voice" No. 563

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Toccata and Fugue in F Major" Dietrich Buxtehude

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

### Sermon Notes

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**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



Sunday, January 19, 2025

*Welcome!*

11:00am Service

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Greeting and Announcements

\*Praise & Worship      *House Of The Lord*  
   *Great Things*  
   *Holy Forever*

Prayer & Peace

Children's Message

Kristin Kondratowski

Scripture                      Isaiah 40:3-5  
   Matthew 18:1-5

Sermon                      SERMON SERIES: MATTHEW: GOSPEL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS  
   *"Lifting Valleys and Leveling Mountains"*                      Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

Offering

\*Praise & Worship      *Graves Into Gardens*

\*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.

Glenna Kirchner  
Linda Hook  
Clark Taylor  
Ray Frye – Hospice Care  
Jinny Russell

Sue Schenke – Recovering from surgery  
Ray Reinmiller Sr. – Recovering from surgery  
Henry Miller – Recovering from surgery  
Elinor Rudy – Hospice Care at Willow Valley  
Dottie Wood

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



## WEEK AT A GLANCE

### **Sunday, January 19**

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 Confirmation Class – Room 5

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

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### **Monday, January 20**

*\*In observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the church office will be closed.*

6pm IMPACT Women's Bible Study – Youth Room

### **Tuesday, January 21**

2pm Food Pantry

### **Wednesday, January 22**

1pm Knifty Knitters – Library

7pm Praise Team – Sanctuary

3pm Stitchin' Sisters – Room 4

7pm Master Plan Meeting – Room 4

### **Thursday, January 23**

6:30am Men's Fellowship & Devotions – Library – Bring your own coffee/breakfast items

5:45pm Kidz JAM Rehearsal

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

7pm Choir Rehearsal

### **Friday, January 24**

9am Toddler Gym

2pm Food Pantry

7pm Officer/Staff Retreat – FH

\*No Our Table

### **Saturday, January 25**

8:30am Officer/Staff Retreat – FH

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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We are glad to see you here! Check out our website: [www.straspres.org](http://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-5<sup>th</sup> grades. Children will go to room 11 after the children's sermon.

**COFFEE HOUR** • Join us each Sunday at 9:30am for coffee and fellowship with old and new friends. Hosts for today: Sandy Wenger and June Stum. Hosts for next week: Stacy Bronkema and Alice Eisenhooth. Volunteers are needed for January and after! 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](mailto:rineertheresa@yahoo.com). There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please choose the date(s) that work best for you!



**IGNITED Student Ministry** has a merch store! If you'd like to purchase clothing or hats with an embroidered logo, please visit the following website <https://premierscreenprinting.tuosystems.com/stores/ignited> or scan the QR code.



**Kidz JAM (Jesus and Me)** • We are thrilled that this young choir is growing each week! We are excited to sing in worship on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, during the Classic service. Come and join us on Thursday evenings at 5:45 pm, in the Sanctuary each week for our rehearsal. We look forward to building this music ministry with boys and girls of all ages! If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan Jones at [jjones@straspres.org](mailto:jjones@straspres.org).

**CHANCEL CHOIR** • 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 choir loft, for a 15-minute rehearsal. We would love to have you join us! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Jonathan Jones: [jjones@straspres.org](mailto:jjones@straspres.org) or 484.949.4514.

**SEWING GROUPS** • Would you like to learn to sew, quilt or knit? The Stitching Sisters and Knifty Knitters would love to help you! If interested, contact Bette Davis or Pam Johnson. There is no age/gender requirement!



**GREAT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION** for the 2025-2026 school year opened on January 2, 2025 for First Presbyterian Church members and current preschool families. Contact Heather Reynolds, Administrative Director at [hreynolds@straspres.org](mailto:hreynolds@straspres.org) or 717-617-9501, or pick up an application at the church office or the preschool mailbox.



## Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Events!

**“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!

**OFFICER/STAFF RETREAT** will take place on **Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>** and **Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>** in Fellowship Hall.

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING • Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>** the church will have our annual meeting to elect two Members-At-Large to serve on the 2025 Church Officer Nominating Committee, approve the revised FPCS Bylaws, and review and receive the FPCS 2024 Annual Report.



**WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY •** Please mark your calendars that we will be starting new Bible Studies on Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Classes will be held in room 4 at 9am and 7pm. All are welcome! The morning class will be using a new 7 session study by Kristi McLelland called “Luke in the Land” (Walking with Jesus in His First Century World). The evening class will be using a 7 week study called “Jesus and Women,” also by Kristi McClelland. For any questions please contact Stacy Bronkema, Linda Bredin, or Sandy Wenger.

**SAVE THE DATES!** Sittings for the new **2025 First Presbyterian Pictorial Directory** will be: Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. We have reserved these dates with the photographer, John Powl. Sign-ups will begin March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Questions, see Alice Eisenhooth.



**NEXT WEEK ~ JANUARY 26, 2025  
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

1<sup>st</sup> Scripture: Isaiah 53:4-7

2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture: Acts 8:26-40

Sermon: *“Coming to Worship Jesus”*  
Jen Eisenberg, Preaching



## ASSISTANCE CORNER



**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** to help on Sunday mornings during both services and Sunday school. Please consider helping at least one time per month. There is a sign-up sheet on the wall racks by the welcome desk, or contact Amy Black at [ablack@straspres.org](mailto:ablack@straspres.org) or 717-224-3036.

### CURRENT FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

-Canned or instant potatoes                      -Jelly                      -Canned Fruit (pineapple, peaches, mixed)

This past month the pantry has seen more than double the numbers of client visits; a lot of food has left our shelves. Monetary donations are also gladly accepted. Kindly use the envelopes marked FOOD found in the pews. This allows the volunteers to purchase most needed items when our stock is depleted. Thank you for considering this request.



**We are looking for drivers** to help with transportation for medical appointments or other appointments. We often get requests from within our community and we would love to be able to help out. Please reach out to Nicole Keays in the church office at [nkeays@straspres.org](mailto:nkeays@straspres.org) or 717-687-6030 if you are able and willing to be added to this list.

**FPCS Wildfire Disaster Relief** ~ In light of the ongoing Fire Disasters in California, the Session of our Church has approved the contribution of \$10,000 from the Mission Memorial Fund to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program. If you, in the congregation, feel led to make an additional contribution to this Relief Fund, this will be added to the total from FPCS. Please make a notation on an Offering Envelope or Check stating "Wildfire Relief," making your check out to First Presbyterian Church.

### Water Street Rescue Mission Volunteer Opportunities

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 each of the following meals and there will be someone from our volunteer team serving with you.

2/11/25	Tuesday	Dinner
2/21/25	Friday	Lunch
3/11/25	Tuesday	Dinner
3/21/25	Friday	Lunch
4/8/25	Tuesday	Dinner
4/18/25	Friday	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 [tsweig@gmail.com](mailto:tsweig@gmail.com). Thanks for your consideration.