
WELCOME TO

**First United
Methodist Church**

MECHANICSBURG, PA



I BELIEVE

**A JOURNEY THROUGH
THE APOSTLES' CREED**



“I Believe in God”

FOUNDATION SERVICE

APRIL 30, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

"God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale" - No. 122

Opening Prayer

Ministry of Music

"You're Beautiful"

The Apostles' Creed

Sermon

I Believe in God

Hymn

"This Is My Father's World" - No. 144

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Announcements and Offering

Doxology and Offering Prayer

Closing Hymn

"How Great Thou Art" - No. 77

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Liturgist..... Katie Knorr

Accompanist..... Gail Leinhos

Sound and Media.....Fred Espenshade, Ron Nichols, Holly Kurten, Sarah Pugh

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I Belve in God

THE GATHERING SERVICE

APRIL 30, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Praise and Worship

"Great Are You Lord"

"How Great Thou Art"

Wee and Kids Worship Dismissal

"This I Believe (The Creed)"

The Apostles' Creed

Sermon

I Believe in God

Pastoral Prayer

Announcements and Offering

"How Great is Our God"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Pastor.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Worship Leader.....Katie Knorr

Worship Team.....George Canonizado, John Gross, Sara Pugh, Cynthia Smith,
Tracy Wertz

Sound and Media.....Fred Espenshade, Ron Nichols, Holly Kurten

COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH

THIS WEEK

Martha Circle

Tuesday, 1 p.m.

Men's Group

Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, 7:30 a.m.

NEXT WEEK

Handbell Concert

Sunday, 7 p.m.

Mom's In Prayer

Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, 1:30 p.m.

***Scan here or
visit our website at
fumchurch.com for
more details on all
of our upcoming
events!***



WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

WEEK OF APRIL 23

Sunday Worship

Monday Luke 1:26-38

Tuesday Luke 2:1-20

Wednesday Matthew 27:45-65

Thursday John 20:1-18

Friday I Corinthians 15:1-4

Saturday Rest and Reflect

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Lancaster by Don and Kay Heiges.

MACHE BASKET

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of our Edna S. Neumyer by her loving family.

TEACHING NOTES

“I Believe in God”

First in the Apostles’ Creed Series

April 30, 2023

Credo: I Believe

1. I believe that God is **intensely personal**.

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

¹¹“Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

Luke 11:11-13 (NRSV)

2. I believe that God is **infinitely powerful**.

I believe in God the Father **Almighty**,
maker of heaven and earth.

*¹³But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” ¹⁴God said to Moses, “**I am who I am.**” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I am has sent me to you.’”*

Exodus 3:13-14 (NRSV)

³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8:38-39 (NRSV)

3. I believe that **God's beauty and majesty** is revealed throughout creation.

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

*¹The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.*

*²Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.*

*³There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;*

*⁴Yet their voice goes out through all the earth
and their words to the end of the world.*

Psalm 19:1-4 (NRSVUE)

Questions for Reflection:

1. Why do you choose to believe there is a God?
2. Have you ever found it difficult to believe? What were the circumstances?
3. How does your belief affect your daily life?
4. When do you feel most connected to God?
5. What do you need to trust God for today?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFELONG LEARNER

Camp and Retreat Ministry Job Opportunities!

Our Susquehanna Conference camps are looking for summer staff! Would you prayerfully consider accepting a position for the summer or sharing them with someone who would? Visit suscrm.org for job descriptions, salary information, site details and perks!

Wednesday Night Men's Group | First and Third Wednesdays, 8-9:30 p.m.

Join a group of First Church men as they start a new study on May 3 at the home of Barry Eaton. In this five-session study, "Faith Commander," Korie Robertson and Chrys Howard (of the hit television show, Duck Dynasty) discuss some of the Bible's most beloved parables and how their lessons apply to your life. Contact Barry (theaton5@verizon.net) if interested.

PRAYING FOLLOWER

Share Your Prayer Requests

To share joys and concerns, visit our Prayer Station under the balcony to share joys or contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 112). While you're there, help yourself to a devotional book or journal to enhance your personal prayer time.

National Day of Prayer Gathering | THIS THURSDAY, May 4, 4:30 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to join us on the Community Green Space Patio for an hour of guided prayer for our community, our schools, our businesses, our government and military, our country and its leaders. No registration is required. In the event of rain, this gathering will be held inside the church sanctuary. If you cannot attend that day but would like a prayer guide, or if you have questions, contact Tina Eaton (adultministry@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 104).

PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

Online Worship

Worship with us and invite others to join us any time of the week! Check out our livestream at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays or watch recorded messages on our YouTube and Facebook pages 24/7. If you're unable to access online worship services, contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com) for other ways to connect to First Church.

"Rejoice, Believers!": 2023 Handbell Choir Concert | NEXT SUNDAY, May 7, 7 p.m.

The First Church Praise Ringers will perform their free annual concert in our sanctuary. Invite your friends, family and neighbors to enjoy beautiful music, refreshments and fellowship!



DEDICATED MISSIONARY

April Mission Focus: Backyard Missions

This month, First Church highlights Backyard Missions. This ministry shows the love of Christ to our neighbors through home repairs, yard work, painting and other acts of service. Check out our display in the main entrance hallway to learn more!



RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Men's Breakfast | THIS SATURDAY, May 6, 7:30 a.m.

Join other First Church men for good food and light-hearted fellowship on the first Saturday of each month at Brothers Restaurant (705 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg). Please contact Barry Eaton (theeaton5@verizon.net) to RSVP.

Men's Retreat | Friday, June 2-Saturday, June 3

Join other men of First Church for fellowship, fun, food and faith at Mount Asbury Retreat Center in Newville. The retreat starts Friday at 6 p.m. and concludes at 4 p.m. on Saturday. Participants can also enjoy a one-day option from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, which includes lunch. The full event costs \$100 and the one-day cost is \$25 (financial assistance available upon request). Sign up in the Church Center app, at fumchurch.churchcenter.com, or by contacting John Bowen (bowenhome720@gmail.com). Be sure to register by May 17!

Senators Baseball Game and Picnic | Sunday, June 11

Invite your friends and family to FNB Field to enjoy a picnic and a Harrisburg Senators baseball game! The picnic starts at noon and the game begins at 1 p.m. Discounted tickets are just \$22 for adults and \$12 for children ages 4-12 (children 3 and under enter for free!). To get your ticket, sign up on Church Center, visit fumchurch.com/senators or contact Tina Eaton (adultministry@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 104). Be sure to register by May 21!

Pickleball in the Park | Tuesdays, 5-7 p.m.

Join us on the pickleball court at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park (across from the pool) for some fun and games! No experience is necessary, and paddles and balls will be available to borrow. In the event of bad weather, we will play in the multipurpose room. Contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611, ext. 112 or wecare@fumchurch.com) with questions.

Joy in the Morning | Next Meeting Monday, May 15, 1-2 p.m.

If you live with chronic pain or ongoing health challenges, we invite you to join in sharing discussion and supportive friendship with this spiritually-focused small group. For more information, contact Janice Bowen (717-766-4611, ext. 112 or wecare@fumchurch.com).



GENEROUS GIVER

First Church Scholarship Opportunity

Did you know First Church offers scholarships to students? Applications are now open! Pick up a paper copy in the church office or contact Pastor Lisa for a digital form. Please return completed forms to the church office or to Judi Buddenbaum by Sunday, May 21.

KIDS

Stay Connected!

Want to know more about First Church Kids? Check out our landing page or contact Director of Children and Family Ministries Katie Knorr (kidscount@fumchurch.com).

Wee Worship and Kid Worship | Sunday mornings

We offer special worship programs during our Sunday services for kids in pre-K through fifth grade, as well as a nursery for infants and toddlers. Stop by the children's wing to learn more!

Hero Hotline: VBS 2023 | July 17-21

Join Super Meer the Meerkat and learn what it means to be a true hero! Sign up on Church Center by May 31 to receive a free VBS CD!

YOUTH

Keep in Touch!

Help us connect with you so that you don't miss any of the fun!

- Join our Remind text list (text @4Gyo to 81010).
- Follow our Instagram (@fourgyouthministry).
- Like us on Facebook (4G — First United Methodist Youth Group).
- Email Lisa to receive emails about all things First Church Youth.

Coming Up

Summer Mission Trip to Mayfield, Kentucky | July 1-7

Thanks for joining us in worship!

8:30 a.m.	FOUNDATION SERVICE (Traditional)
9:45 a.m.	SUNDAY SCHOOL (View classes at fumchurch.com)
11 a.m.	THE GATHERING SERVICE (Modern)
4 p.m.	REJOICING SPIRITS (Fourth Sunday of each month)

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors

135 W. Simpson St., Mechanicsburg | 717-766-4611 | fumchurch.com | [@fumchurch](https://www.instagram.com/fumchurch)

HERO HOTLINE

Called Together
to Serve God!



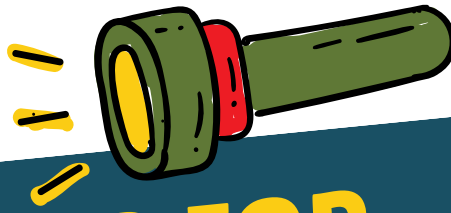
VBS 2023
July 17-21
9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Join Super Meerkat and learn
what it means to be
a true hero!

For kids age 4 through
completed fifth grade

\$5 per child (scholarships available!)

Registration is now open!
Sign up on Church Center by May 31
and receive a free CD!



REGISTER FOR SUMMER CAMP!

GROW IN FAITH // MAKE LIFELONG FRIENDS
ENJOY NATURE // HAVE FUN



SPECIAL OFFERS:

Early Bird Discount - Save \$25 if you register by May 1.

Sibling Discount - Register the one at full price, and additional siblings receive a \$15 discount.

Invite-a-Friend Gift - Invite a friend who has never been to camp and receive a special gift after they register.

Financial Assistance - First Church will pay half of your camp fees!



TO LEARN ABOUT:

- Financial assistance for campers
- Details on discounts
- What to expect at camp
- Becoming a prayer partner
- Volunteering as a camp dean, nurse or counselor
- Working at camp
- Campsite workdays

**CONTACT OUR FIRST CHURCH
CAMP COORDINATORS!**



DEB NOSS: SDPPP@MSN.COM
AMY ORTIZ: AMY.OGDEN7@GMAIL.COM

Visit [suscrm.org](https://www.suscrm.org) to register and see a complete list of 2023 camps!