
WELCOME TO

**First United
Methodist Church**

MECHANICSBURG, PA



I BELIEVE

**A JOURNEY THROUGH
THE APOSTLES' CREED**



**“I Believe in the
Forgiveness of Sins”**

FOUNDATION SERVICE

JUNE 4, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" - No. 140

Opening Prayer

The Apostles' Creed

Sermon

"I Believe in the Forgiveness of Sins"

Hymn

"Just As I Am" - No. 357

Invitation, Confession and Pardon
Passing the Peace

Choir Anthem

"Song of Remembrance"

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

The Bread and the Cup

Announcements and Offering

Closing Hymn

"Freely, Freely" - No. 389

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Liturgist..... Al Robinson

Accompanist..... Karen Philp, Sounds of Worship

Sound and Media.....Michael Garman, Jim Murdoch, Holly Kurten, Jim Robinson

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THE GATHERING SERVICE

JUNE 4, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Praise and Worship

"Lord, I Need You"

"This I Believe (The Creed)"

Wee Worship Dismissal

"Reckless Love"

The Apostles' Creed

Sermon

"I Believe in the Forgiveness of Sins"

Communion Prayer

Communion

Announcements and Offering

"This Is Amazing Grace"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Pastor.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Worship Leader.....Al Robinson

Worship Team.....George Canonizado, Emily Hammaker, Cindy Smith,
Abigail Wertz, RJ Wertz, Tracy Wertz

Sound and Media.....Michael Garman, Jim Murdoch, Holly Kurten, Jim Robinson

COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH

THIS WEEK

Moms In Prayer

Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Bible Study

Wednesday, 1:30 p.m.

Men's Group

Wednesday, 8 p.m. (offsite)

NEXT WEEK

Pickleball

Tuesday, 5 p.m.

Jubilee Day

Thursday

Food Trucks

Friday, 4:30-8 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 JUNE 4

Sunday

Worship

Monday

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Tuesday

Genesis 12:1-9

Wednesday

Psalm 33:1-12

Thursday

Romans 4:13-25

Friday

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Saturday

Rest and Reflect

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of our 65th wedding anniversary by Gerald and Darlis Aumiller.

TEACHING NOTES

“I Believe in the Forgiveness of Sins”

1. Who needs forgiveness?

Sin = “to miss the mark”

²² *By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,* ²³ *gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.*

Galatians 5:22-23

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
– UM Hymnal #890

All have sinned and fall short of God's glory.

Romans 3:23

2. Will God forgive my sins?

“She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”
Matthew 1:21

²⁶ *While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."*²⁷ *Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you, ²⁸ for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."*

Matthew 26:26-28

To forgive = to release

⁹ *He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.*

¹⁰ *He does not deal with us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our iniquities.*

¹¹ *For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;*

¹² *as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.*

Psalm 103:9-12

3. Must I forgive others?

¹⁴ *"For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."*

Matthew 6:14-15

"I choose to release you, and I choose to release me."

Questions for Reflection:

1. Where do you see evidence of sin in the world around us?
2. What is the effect of sin on our relationships with God and with other people?
3. What saying of Jesus, action He took, or parable He told shows you what God is like?
4. When have you received forgiveness, and what did it feel like?
5. When have you forgiven someone? What happened as a result?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFELONG LEARNER

Zoe Mazi | Mondays, 7:15-8:45 p.m.

Are you a college student at home for the summer? A young adult looking for Christian community? Zoe Mazi (which means “Life Together”) is a ministry group that welcomes young adults (18+) from a variety of churches in the Mechanicsburg Area. On the first and third Monday of each month, they meet at Strock’s Corn Crib for a large group gathering that features of worship and teaching from a local speaker. On the second and fourth Mondays, they meet at the home of Zoe Mazi Executive Director Shannon Zimmerman for a time of small group discussion. Find more details and get connected at zoemazi.org

New Adult Sunday School Study | Starts NEXT SUNDAY, June 11-25, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Jump into a new three-week study, “Spiritual Warfare is Real” by Pastor Jim Cymbala (lead pastor of Brooklyn Tabernacle Church). This study meets in room B003. Contact Wayde Leister (waydeleister@outlook.com) for more details.

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

Join a group of First Church men at the home of Barry Eaton as they continue studying, “Faith Commander.” In this study, 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 (theeaton5@verizon.net) if interested.

PRAYING FOLLOWER

Share Your Prayer Requests

To share joys and concerns, visit our Prayer Station under the balcony 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.

PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

Online Worship

Worship with us and invite others to join 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.

DEDICATED MISSIONARY

June Mission Focus: Little Free Pantry

As we approach summer, many children who rely on free and reduced lunch programs during the school year won’t have enough to eat. Your support of the Little Free Pantry can help local families in need. Most needed items include easy breakfast items, like small cereals, peanut butter, and oatmeal packets; lunch items such as macaroni and cheese, pasta and sauce, and in-

dividual soups; and dinner items including canned meats, canned vegetables, and nonperishable dinner kits; and snacks like granola bars, crackers, pudding and cookies. Place donations on the display table in the main entrance hallway or drop them off at the church office. Thanks for helping our neighbors!

Homeland Hospice Casseroles

Share some home-cooked comfort with families receiving services from Homeland Hospice! We invite you to prepare a soup or casserole and leave it in the freezer in Fellowship Hall during the month of June. Containers and pans are available next to the Share the Harvest display if needed. Contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 112) with questions.

Gleaning | THIS WEDNESDAY, June 7, 6 p.m.

This growing season, we're excited to once again partner with Oak Grove Farms to provide fresh produce to families receiving monthly groceries from Fishing Creek Salen UMC's food pantry. Contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 112) to be added to our 2023 Glean Team communications!



RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Summer Movie Nights | June 23, July 28, Aug. 25

Save the date for Summer Movie Nights at First Church! Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for a picnic dinner in the parking lot at 6 p.m., followed by a movie and popcorn in the multipurpose room.

Singles Ministry Event | THIS FRIDAY, June 9

Enjoy good food and fun music at Cassel Vineyards of Hershey. Food trucks start serving at 5 p.m. and dueling pianists will perform 6-8:30. Contact Karen Hutter (klh103@verizon.net) if you're interested in attending!

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 is experience 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.



GENEROUS GIVER

Giving to First Church

We're so grateful for all the ways you support First Church – through your prayers, time, talents and resources. Everything you give to First Church helps us build disciples and love our neighbors. You can place any tithes or offerings in the baskets as you exit the sanctuary, send them into the church office, or give online via our website (fumchurch.com) or on the Church Center app.

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 for the Summer

We offer child care and special worship during Sunday services through the summer for kids ages six and under.

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.

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/fourgyouthministry)