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WELCOME TO

First United  
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA



CLIMB HIGHER



“Grounded in Gratitude”

FOUNDATION SERVICE

OCT. 29, 2023

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

*"For All the Saints" - No. 711*

Time of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Opening Prayer

Choir Anthem

*"Grace Flows Down with Amazing Grace"*

Scripture

*Matthew 25:14-30*

Sermon

*"Grounded in Gratitude"*

Hymn

*"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" - No. 89*

Morning Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Announcements and Offering

Doxology

Closing Hymn

*"How Great Thou Art" - No. 77*

Benediction

Postlude

## **LEADING IN WORSHIP**

Preaching.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Liturgist..... Sarah Pugh

Accompanist..... Taylor Shepley

Special Music..... Sounds of Worship

Sound and Media..... Fred Espenshade, Michael Garman, Jim Robinson, Jason Kichline

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**WELCOME TO**

**First United  
Methodist Church**

**MECHANICSBURG, PA**



**CLIMB HIGHER**



**“Grounded in Gratitude”**

**THE GATHERING SERVICE**

**OCT. 29, 2023**

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Praise and Worship  
*"What a Beautiful Name"*  
*"Holy Forever"*

Time of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

*Baptism*

Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

Scripture  
*Matthew 25:14-30*

Sermon  
*"Grounded in Gratitude"*

Pastoral Prayer  
Announcements and Offering

*"Gratitude"*

Benediction

Postlude

## ***LEADING IN WORSHIP***

Pastor.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Worship Leader.....Sarah Pugh

Worship Team.....John Gross, Sarah Pugh, Lauren Sanker, Tracy Wertz

Sound and Media.....Fred Espenshade, Michael Garman, Jim Robinson,  
Jason Kichline

# COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH

## **WEEK OF OCT. 29**

### **Youth Battleball (Off Site)**

TODAY, 1 p.m.

### **Pastor Denny's Bible Stud-**

Wednesday, 6:45 p.m.

### **Squares and Prayers**

Thursday, 9 a.m.

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## **WEEK OF NOV. 5**

### **Martha Circle**

Tuesday, 1 p.m.

### **Indoor Pickleball**

Tuesday, 5 p.m.

### **NA Meeting**

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

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*Scan here or  
visit our website at  
[fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com) for  
more details on all  
of our upcoming  
events!*



# WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

## **WEEK OF OCT. 29**

<b>Sunday</b>	Worship
<b>Monday</b>	Revelation 7:9-17
<b>Tuesday</b>	I John 3:1-3
<b>Wednesday</b>	Psalm 34:1-10
<b>Thursday</b>	Matthew 5:1-12
<b>Friday</b>	Joshua 3:7-17
<b>Saturday</b>	Rest and Reflect

## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Rev. and Mrs. Raymond J. Tyson by the family.

# TEACHING NOTES

## “Climb Higher: Grounded in Gratitude”

Matthew 25:14-30

Stewardship is:  
**Grounded in Gratitude**  
Revealed in Prayer  
Lived in Faith

### 1. **God owns everything.**

*“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted **his property** to them...”*

Matthew 25:14

### 2. **God is generous far beyond what we could ask or imagine.**

*“... to one he gave five **talents**, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.”*

Matthew 25:15

3. **When we receive and share God's gifts we enter into the joy of God's kingdom.**

*“Then **the kingdom of heaven** will be like this...”*

Matthew 25:1

*“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; **enter into the joy of your master.**’”*

Matthew 25:21

*“For to all those who have, **more will be given**, and **they will have an abundance**, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.”*

Matthew 25:29

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **LIFELONG LEARNER**

### **Sunday School | Sundays, 9:45-10:45 a.m.**

Looking for intentional learning and community on Sunday mornings? Find a complete list of current studies on our website ([fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com)) or on the Church Center app, and jump into a class anytime!

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## **PRAYING FOLLOWER**

### **Moms in Prayer | Mondays, 7:30-8:30 p.m.**

Unite with women around the world in praying for our children and grandchildren through Moms in Prayer International. Our prayer group, led by Deb Noss, meets on Monday evenings in room 105, and all mothers and grandmothers are invited! No prayer experience is required, and your child can be any age or stage of life. All prayers remain confidential within the group. Please contact Tina Eaton ([adultministry@fumchurch.com](mailto:adultministry@fumchurch.com)) if you have questions or would like to join this group.

### **Share Your Joys and Prayer Concerns With Us!**

Green prayer cards are located in the pews and at the prayer station under the balcony. Simply fill one out during worship and place in the offering basket or Janice Bowen's mailbox. You can also contact Janice directly ([wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com) or 717-766-4611, ext. 112).

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## **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](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)) for other ways to connect to First Church.

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## **DEDICATED MISSIONARY**

### **Operation Christmas Child | Boxes Due by Sunday, Nov. 19**

Support Operation Christmas Child by filling a shoebox with gifts for the upcoming holiday season! Pick up the instructions and a shoebox (or use your own box) at the display in the main entrance hallway. Then, fill your box with items suggested on the list. Bring your filled shoebox back to the church display in the lobby by Nov. 19. After the 11 a.m. worship service, we'll load the boxes and send them off to the distribution center for delivery by Christmas!





## RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

### **Men's Breakfast | THIS SATURDAY, Nov. 4, 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 to RSVP.

### **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](tel:717-766-4611), ext. 112 or [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)) with questions.

### **Greeters and Ushers**

We're looking for more greeters and ushers to serve on Sunday mornings. These important volunteers arrive at church about 30 minutes before the service starts and give a warm welcome to those arriving. To learn more or sign up to volunteer one Sunday a month, please contact Judi Buddenbaum ([ljcbuddenbaum@verizon.net](mailto:ljcbuddenbaum@verizon.net)).

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## GENEROUS GIVER

### **World Thank Offering Baked Good Giveaway | Sunday, Nov. 19**

Support the United Women in Faith World Thank Offering with your sweet tooth! Stop by the table near the couches (close to the Children's hallway) to pick up a tasty treat and make a donation to the World Thank Offering. Visit us between worship services for a sweet treat and a chance to help women, children and youth. If you can donate a baked good, please bring to the display that morning. If you have questions about United Women in Faith or the World Thank Offering, please contact Lori Hoffnagle ([l\\_hoffnagle@yahoo.com](mailto:l_hoffnagle@yahoo.com)).

### **Handbell Choir Pie Fundraiser | Orders Due Sunday, Nov. 12**

Support the Handbell Choir by purchasing a homemade pie! See a bell choir member or fill out an order form outside the sanctuary after worship to place your order. Pick up your pies between noon and 2 p.m. on Nov. 18.

### **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 on our website ([fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com)) or in 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 and Kids Worship

Every Sunday these special worship programs are held (for kids through fifth grade) at the 11 a.m. service.

**Wonderful Wednesday-Expanded!** | Has begun! But you can still sign up at [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com)

## 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

**Sleep Out for the Homeless |**  
Nov. 17 - 18

*Thanks for joining us in worship!*

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

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**Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors**

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