
WELCOME TO

**First United
Methodist Church**

MECHANICSBURG, PA



THANKFUL IN TOUGH TIMES

“Thankful in Tough Times”

FOUNDATION SERVICE

NOV. 26, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude
Welcome
Call to Worship

Opening Hymn
"Come, Ye Thankful People Come" - No. 694

Opening Prayer

Hymn
"Glorify Thy Name" - No. 2016

Scripture
Philippians 4:4-9

Sermon
"Thankful in Tough Times"

Hymn
"Now Thank We All Our God" - No. 102

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer
Announcements and Offering
Doxology and Offering Prayer

Closing Hymn
"Rejoice, the Lord Is King" - No. 715

Benediction
Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Liturgist..... Sarah Pugh

Accompanist..... Brandon Rhody

Special Music.....Sarah Pugh

Sound and Media..... Michael Garman, Ken Rapp, Jason Kichline

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THANKFUL IN TOUGH TIMES

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THE GATHERING SERVICE

NOV. 26, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Praise and Worship
"Great Are You Lord"
"A Thousand Hallelujahs"

Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

"Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me"

Scripture
Philippians 4:4-9

Sermon
"Thankful in Tough Times"

Pastoral Prayer
Announcements and Offering

"Gratitude"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Pastor.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Worship Leader.....Sarah Pugh

Worship Team.....George Canonizado, Sarah Pugh, Cynthia Smith,
Tracy Wertz, RJ Wertz

Sound and Media.....Michael Garman, Ken Rapp, Jason Kichline

COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH

WEEK OF NOV. 26

Rejoicing Spirits

TODAY, 4 p.m.

Pastor Denny's Bible Study

Wednesday, 6:45 p.m.

Men's Breakfast (Off Site)

Saturday, 7:30 a.m.

WEEK OF DEC. 3

Moms In Prayer

Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Men's Group (Off Site)

Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Sensory Santa

Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 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 NOV. 26

Sunday

Worship

Monday

Isaiah 64:1-9

Tuesday

Psalms 80

Wednesday

I Corinthians 1:3-9

Thursday

Mark 13:24-37

Friday

Isaiah 9:2-7

Saturday

Rest and Reflect

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's flowers are given to
the glory of God and in memory
of loved ones.

TEACHING NOTES

“Thankful in Tough Times”

Philippians 4:4-9

Cultivate an Attitude of Thankfulness...
A Change of Perspective

“Who we listen to determines what we hear. Where we stand determines what we see. What we do determines who we are.” – Robert McAfee Brown

Rejoice **in the Lord** always; again I will say, Rejoice.

Philippians 4:4

1. God is near to you.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone. **The Lord is near.**

Philippians 4:5

2. God is listening to you.

Don't be anxious about anything; rather, **bring up all of your requests to God** in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks.

Philippians 4:6

3. God is keeping you.

Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will **keep your hearts and minds** safe in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:7

Cultivate an Attitude of Thankfulness...
A Change of Behavior

1. Pray.

Don't be anxious about anything; rather, **bring up all of your requests to God** in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks.

Philippians 4:6

2. Focus.

From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, **focus your thoughts on these things**: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise.

Philippians 4:8

3. Practice.

Practice these things: whatever you learned, received, heard, or saw in us. The God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:9

“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched – they must be felt with the heart.” – Helen Keller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFELONG LEARNER

Advent Study | Starts Dec. 3

"Names for the Messiah" by Walter Brueggemann is both the basis of our Advent sermon series, as well as a book study everyone is invited to enjoy during this special season! Isaiah 9:6 uses four royal titles for Jesus – Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace. This study reflects on how Jesus fulfilled each. Guided prayers and questions are provided in the book, which is intended for either individual or group study. Order your own book today on Amazon (amazon.com/Names-Messiah) and grab a few friends for fellowship and discussion during this most wonderful time of the year. Contact Tina Eaton (adultministry@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 104) with questions.

Health and Wellness Presentation | Jan. 7, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Join us in the multi-purpose room to hear from Bob Buhrig with Buhrig's Funerals and Cremations. Bob will speak on various points of interest related to funeral planning, including some of the less traditional and newer burial options. This is the first of a two-part series on topics related to death and dying.

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) 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 or 717-766-4611, ext. 112).

PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

Rejoicing Spirits | TODAY, Nov. 26, 4 p.m.

First Church invites everyone to attend this "shush-free" worship experience that celebrates all expressions of worship and individuals of all abilities. This monthly service includes music, scripture, prayer and a brief message, along with refreshments and fellowship afterward.

DEDICATED MISSIONARY

November Mission Focus: New Hope Ministries

This month, we're partnering with New Hope to make Thanksgiving and Christmas extra special for local families in need. First Church has a long tradition of collecting canned sweet potatoes that help New Hope provide Thanksgiving meals. You can also support New Hope's annual Christmas Blessings Express, which allows guests to shop for Christmas gifts for their families, by donating a gift card to Walmart or Target. Learn more and drop off your items at the display in the main entrance hallway, or contact Deb Karns for more information.

RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Men's Breakfast | Saturday, Dec. 2, 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.

Forged Anew: A One80 Ministries Storytelling Experience | TONIGHT, Nov. 26, 5 p.m.

Join our friends from One80 Ministries at Grantham Church (421 Grantham Rd., Mechanicsburg) in a celebration of transformation. Hear from One80 Ministries founders Julia and Dwayne Johnson as they share how Christ completely changed the trajectory of their lives, as well as honor those who have forged new paths for themselves through Christ and through One80. Light refreshments will be provided. Register now at one80ministries.org.

GENEROUS GIVER

Cookie Walk | Saturday, Dec. 16, 9-11 a.m.

Calling all bakers! We need your help to make our annual Cookie Walk a success! Last year, this sweet event helped raise over \$2,000 for our youth mission trip, and we're excited to begin fundraising for our 2024 trip to Dayton, Ohio. We need bakers to provide 4-5 batches (8-10 dozen) of any style of homemade cookies. Sign up on Church Center or by filling out a form at the display in the lobby. Please have your cookies to the church by 7 a.m. on Dec. 16 (cookies brought in before this can be placed in the kitchen and labeled "Cookie Walk"). Contact Lynn Rapp (minion.youth17@gmail.com) with any questions. Thank you for supporting our youth as they serve!

Scrip Fundraiser

Support First Church by purchasing your Christmas gift cards through our Scrip program! Pick up a form and place it in the dropbox in the gathering area near the couches and water fountain. Orders placed on Sunday are filled the following week. Contact Kathie Bittenbender with any questions.

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.

Sensory Santa | Dec. 9

Christmas Movie Night | Dec. 16

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

Youth Winter Retreat | Dec. 8 - 10

Zeteo | Feb. 3 - 5

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)

POINSETTIA ORDERS

Honor your loved ones and beautify our sanctuary this Christmas! To reserve your poinsettia, fill out this form and return it to the church office. You can also call or email the office (office@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611). **All orders must be received by Sunday, Dec. 10.**

Poinsettias cost **\$11 each**. Checks can be made out to First United Methodist Church (with "Poinsettias" on the memo line).

Quantity: _____ **Total: \$** _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Placed by: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please **pick up your poinsettias at Christmas Eve worship services** on Sunday, Dec. 24, or contact the church office to make alternate arrangements. Plants not claimed by Jan. 1 will be disposed of.



Service of Remembrance and Hope



Sunday, Dec. 3, 4 p.m.

First United Methodist Church Sanctuary