



# OUTER DARKNESS

March 22, 2026

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## **FOUNDATION SERVICE** **8:30 A.M**

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

*"All Glory, Laud, and Honor" v. 1, 4, 5*

A Time of Prayer

Handbell Anthem  
*"Beneath The Cross of Jesus"*

Scripture Reading  
*Matthew 25:24-30*

Sermon:  
*"Outer Darkness"*

Apostles' Creed

Announcements

Offering

*"And Can It Be that I Should Gain"*  
#363 v 1,3,5

Benediction

Postlude

## **FOUNDATION SERVICE** **11:00 A.M**

Countdown Video

Welcome

*"Holy Forever"*

*"Who You Say I Am"*

Kids Moment  
Wee & Worship Dismissal

Scripture Reading  
*Matthew 25:24-30*

Sermon:  
*"Outer Darkness"*

Pastoral Prayer

Announcements

Offering

*"Living Hope/The Blood"*

Benediction

Postlude

# LEADING IN WORSHIP

## Preaching

Pastor Mira

## Liturgist

Katie Knorr

## Accompanist (830)

Brandon Rhody

## Special Music

Handbell Choir

## Worship Band

John McHenry, Sarah Pugh, Lauren Sanker, Allison Shield, Tracy Wertz

## Sound and Media

Ron Nichols, Bill Richie, Holly Kurten (8:30), Violet Sanker (11)

# KIDS

## NEWBORN-GRADE 5

### Kid Worship

**8:30 am** - WeeWorship for infant-Pre K, 1st floor kids wing; drop off before worship or anytime during

**11am** - WeeWorship for infant-Pre K & Kid Worship K-5th; leave after Kids Message or drop off before worship, 1st floor kids wing

\*\*Kids Activity bags at entrances anytime, see an Usher

### Stay Connected!

Learn more about our programs and upcoming events on our website ([fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com)) and on the Church Center app. Contact Director of Children and Family Ministry Katie Knorr ([kidscount@fumchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com)) with questions.

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# YOUTH

## GRADES 6-12

### College Scholarship Forms

Forms are available in the Church office or you can ask for an electronic copy to be emailed to you.

### Keep in Touch!

We have a **new** Youth Ministry texting platform.

To get the most up-to-date and real time messages please text "fumyouthmin" to 717-722-4800 to opt into receiving texts.

Contact Lisa Aronson at [discipleship@fumchurch.com](mailto:discipleship@fumchurch.com) to receive email updates.

# ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Robert & Mildred Shannon and Jimmy Shannon placed by The Shannon family.

This week's mache basket is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Gayle Ann Elder placed by her mother, Annabelle Elder.

# NOTES

# Lent Discipleship Opportunities

Lent, the 40 days before Easter, is a time set aside for self-reflection and renewal as we prepare to celebrate the sacrifice and gift of Jesus' death and resurrection. Here are some opportunities to center your focus on Jesus and his word during this time:

## **Sermon Study - "The Difficult Words of Jesus"**

- Sunday Mornings, 9:45-10:45 AM, Rm. 105, Feb 22-March 29
- Wednesday Evenings, 6:00-7:30 PM, Rm. 105, Feb 25-April 1

## **Sunday School Classes with Lent-Specific Studies (9:45-10:45 AM):**

- Growing in Christ, Rm. B006, "The Final Days: A Lenten Journey Through the Gospels."

## **Wednesday Morning Study - "Bless the Lord" online readings**

- Wednesday Mornings, 9:00-10:00 AM, Hardwood Cafe, February 18-April 1

## **FUMC Lent Devotional - Available in the main lobby**

- Pause and reflect with devotional writings and scripture recommendations from church family and friends. Information and registration on Church Center or the Registration Table in the Main Lobby.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## LIFELONG LEARNER

### New Member Class | Begins April 19

Ready to become a member of First Church? Just want to explore the foundations of our faith? Join us for a four-week study beginning April 19th, "A Disciple's Path." Together with Pastor Mira, you'll explore what it means to faithfully participate in the life of the Church through your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. If you are a student wishing to join as well, we will be offering a confirmation class at the same time led by Lisa Aronson. Confirmation is best suited for those 6th grade and older. Older high school can choose to attend the adult class if preferred. Additionally, there is a conference wide confirmation retreat happening on April 18th that you can register for as well. Sign up in the main lobby or on Church Center, contact Pastor Mira with any questions.



## PRAYING FOLLOWER

### Good Friday Prayer Walk, Friday, April 3

The annual Community Good Friday Prayer Walk will be held on Friday, April 3 starting at 11:00 a.m. Led by local pastors, prayer walkers will start at one of the prayer sites and then cover the surrounding area in prayer. Participants are then invited to join together at noon at Mechanicsburg First Church of God on the square (28 East Main Street) for closing prayer and worship. All are welcome! The starting prayer sites are: Mechanicsburg Area Senior High, First United Methodist Church, St. Mark Lutheran Church, Town Square Green Space and Turning Point Church. Watch for more details and updates on our website and on Church Center. If you have any questions about the Good Friday Prayer Walk, please contact Lori Hoffnagle at outreach@fumchurch.com. Looking forward to praying for our community with you! 1 Thessalonians 5:17



## PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

### 2026 First Church Concert Series

The Worship Arts Ministry is pleased to announce the schedule for the 2026 First Church Concert Series! All concert and events open to the public to celebrate the joy of music, as we feature various performers and musicians. All concerts are free, though donations are accepted.

This year's concerts include:

- "Together in Praise": A Benefit Concert – Oliver Paris, French Horn | TODAY, 3 p.m.
- Praise Ringers in Concert – FUMC Handbell Choir | Sunday, May 3, 7 p.m.
- An Acoustic Evening of Worship – Christy Holliday & Jesse King | Sunday, Sept. 20, time TBD
- "Holiday Harmony" – First Church Music Ensembles | Sunday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m.

Join us today at 3pm as we kick off the 2026 Concert Series!

First Church former youth Oliver Paris will present "Together in Praise", a French horn benefit concert for Messiah University's International Concert Choir Tour. From classical pieces to hymn collaborations and solo pieces, come enjoy an afternoon of brass music. The concert is free and open to the public; light refreshments in the MPR will follow.



## **DEDICATED MISSIONARY**

### **Isaiah 61 Homeless Ministry | April 15, 6:30 pm**

First Church is pleased to support Isaiah 61 Ministries, a local organization that serves the needs of the homeless in Dauphin County. They provide a variety of services including a soup kitchen, clothing bank and Life groups. Specifically, First Church members help serve meals to the homeless in downtown Harrisburg on the third Wednesday of each month. The next volunteer opportunity is April 15 at 6:30 p.m. To find out how to get involved, contact Tiffany Holland at [tholland1967@gmail.com](mailto:tholland1967@gmail.com). We can always use desserts for meals, specifically Brownies and Rice Krispy Treats. Please contact Tiffany to provide a treat for the upcoming meal.



## **RELATIONSHIP BUILDER**

### **Ladies Paint Night | April 17, 6:30 pm, Registration open!**

Join us for a fun evening, as we learn to paint a beautiful spring picture on canvas. Step by step instructions provided by Kayla from the Fredricksen Library. Every skill level is welcome. We will meet in our Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. for snacks and painting. The fee is just \$15 and includes all materials, instructions and snacks. Registration open on Church Center. Class is limited to 20 and will be for adults 18+. Questions, contact Lori Hoffnagle at [outreach@fumchurch.com](mailto:outreach@fumchurch.com).

### **Trustees Spring Work Day | April 18**

Our annual spring work day is coming up April 18th, Help always needed. If interested, feel free to show up at 8am at the church to help volunteer and beautify our church outside!



## **GENEROUS GIVER**

### **Peanut Butter Collection Thanks**

Thanks to everyone who has donated peanut butter for the Lenten Peanut Butter Collection. We have collected 170 jars of peanut butter so far to be shared with our own Little Free Pantry and New Hope Ministries. Thanks again for your generosity!

### **Easter Sunrise Breakfast**

Our Easter Sunrise service will be taking place at the Mechanicsburg Cemetery at 6:40AM on Sunday, April 5th. Following our time together we invite everyone back to the church Fellowship Hall for breakfast (estimated time of 7:30). If you plan on attending and can help us in providing a potluck style breakfast, please sign up here to let us know what you are able to bring. Thank you for helping us in providing this time of fellowship and food on such a joyous morning! Sign up to provide food by following the link on Church Center.

### **Handbell Spaghetti Dinner | April 11, 4-6:30pm**

Support the First Church Praise Ringers at their annual All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti Dinner! The dinner will be Saturday April 11th, come anytime between 4-6:30pm. Prices are \$12 for adults, \$5 for kids ages 4-10, kids under 3 eat free. To register and for more information, visit Church Center, the handbell hub table, or see a handbell member.

***Scan here or visit [fumchurch.com](http://fumchurch.com)  
for more details on upcoming events and  
opportunities!***



# First UMC Worship

**8:30 am** - Traditional Worship with Choir

WeeWorship for infant-Pre K

Kids Activity bags at entrance for K-5th graders

**11am** - Contemporary Worship with Worship Band

WeeWorship for infant-PreK & Kids Worship for K-5th graders

Kids Activity bags at entrance for K-5th graders

**\*Both services also streamed live or view later at**

[www.youtube.com/@FUMCMechanicsburg](http://www.youtube.com/@FUMCMechanicsburg)

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## Looking for a Sign-Up?

In the Main Lobby is the Registration Table for current studies, fundraisers, events, and more.

### Church Center

FUMC app to sign up for classes, donate, and request access to the church directory. Scan QR code:



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**Rev. Mira Hewlett, Senior Pastor** | [pastormira@fumchurch.com](mailto:pastormira@fumchurch.com)

**Kelsey Goll, Office Manager & Communications** | [communications@fumchurch.com](mailto:communications@fumchurch.com)

**Lisa Aronson, Youth & Adult Discipleship** | [discipleship@fumchurch.com](mailto:discipleship@fumchurch.com)

**Katie Knorr, Kids & Family Ministry** | [kidscount@fumchurch.com](mailto:kidscount@fumchurch.com)

**Sarah Pugh, Worship Arts** | [worship@fumchurch.com](mailto:worship@fumchurch.com)

**Janice Bowen, Congregational Care** | [wecare@fumchurch.com](mailto:wecare@fumchurch.com)

**Paul Zito, Facilities Manager** | [facilities@fumchurch.com](mailto:facilities@fumchurch.com)

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*"Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, Lead Courageously"*

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