
WELCOME TO

**First United
Methodist Church**

MECHANICSBURG, PA

The background of the central section is dark blue with faint musical notes and lyrics. A large, light-colored circle is centered behind the text. Above the circle is a golden crown with radiating lines. The text "FAIREST" is in large, white, serif capital letters, and "LORD JESUS" is in large, golden, serif capital letters. Below this is a decorative horizontal line with a diamond in the center, followed by the text "RULER OF ALL NATURE" in white, serif capital letters. The right side of the image has a large, textured golden circle, and the bottom left has a green circle.

FAIREST LORD JESUS

RULER OF ALL NATURE

August 9, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE TRADITIONAL SERVICE

8:30 A.M

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

Prayer For The Day

Kids Moment

Pastoral Prayer (Psalm 37:1-2)

**"Do not fret because of the wicked;
do not be envious of wrongdoers,
for they will soon fade like the grass
and wither like the green herb."**

The Lord's Prayer

Ministry of Music: *"He Touched Me"*

Scripture Reading:

"Exodus 14:21-31; Matthew 14:22-33"

Sermon:

"Fairest Lord Jesus, Part 2: Ruler of All Nature"

"Fairest Lord Jesus" #189

Announcements

Offering

"I Sing the Almighty Power of God" #152

Benediction

Postlude

THE GATHERING SERVICE

11:00 A.M

Countdown Video

Welcome

"The Blessing"

"Altogether Good"

Kids Moment

Summer Childcare Dismissal

Pastoral Prayer (Psalm 37:1-2)

**"Do not fret because of the wicked;
do not be envious of wrongdoers,
for they will soon fade like the grass
and wither like the green herb."**

Scripture Reading:

"Exodus 14:21-31; Matthew 14:22-33"

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

Sermon:

"Fairest Lord Jesus, Part 2: Ruler of All Nature"

Announcements

Offering

"Graves Into Gardens"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching

Rev. Dr. Lew Parks

Liturgist:

Krissy & Eliza Marshall (830)
Katie Knorr (11)

Accompanist

Brandon Rhody

Special Music

Oliver Paris- French Horn

Worship Band

George Canonizado, John Gross,
Cindy Smith, Abigail Wertz, Tracy
Wertz

Sound and Media

Fred Espenshade, Michael Garman,
Roger Walton (830), Jim Robinson (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

11 am - 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) and on the Church Center app. Contact Director of Children and Family Ministry Katie Knorr (kidscount@fumchurch.com) with questions.

YOUTH

GRADES 6-12

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 to receive email updates.

ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's altar
flowers are given
to the glory of God.

NOTES

Going Deeper

From the beginning, the most decisive characteristic of followers of the risen Jesus is this: we worship him as “Lord”. We pray to him as we pray to God. We sing hymns to him. We renounce other lords on his behalf. This lord holds together power and love like no other. In this series, we will unpack the implications of having such a Lord, drawing on five stories from Matthew’s gospel and leaning into the words, imagery, and haunting tune of a 350-year-old hymn.

August 09, 2026 - Matthew 14:22-33 (Jesus walks on water)

Fairest Lord Jesus, Part 2: Ruler of All Nature

- Mon, Aug 10:** In the Bible the sea stands for the forces of chaos always threatening but held at bay by God’s creative acts. The Genesis version: 1:1-10; 7:1-11; 8:1-5.
- Tues, Aug 11:** The Wisdom version: Job 38:1-11; Psalm 107:23-32.
- Wed, Aug 12:** The Prophets version: Isaiah 40:10-12; 43:1-3; Jonah 1:1-6; 2:1-9.
- Thu, Aug 13:** After a good start Peter switches his focus from Jesus to the waves and sinks. His faith is still too “little”; but that will change: Acts 4:1-22.
- Fri, Aug 14:** This is the fifth of seven important events in Jesus’ life as told by Matthew when a “be not afraid” needs to be said: 1:20; 8:26; 10:31; 14:27; 17:7; 28:5; 28:10.

Please be aware of Spam Messages

We have been made aware of spam emails and text messages circulating that appear to be from Pastor Lew. Please do not respond if you do not recognize the email address or phone number. Pastor Lew will never ask for gift cards, money, or other unusual requests through email or text.

If you receive a suspicious message claiming to be from Pastor Lew, please delete it and contact the church office if you have any questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LIFELONG LEARNER

Deborah Circle| Resuming Sept 1 at 7pm in Rm 105

Deborah circle will be resuming meetings on September 1, 2026 at 7:00 PM. We study unknown women of the Bible. New members are welcome to join us for 1 meeting or all of them. We meet every other month on the first Tuesday. Join us in room 105. Any questions text/email Sandy Walton at 717-433-3687/swalton54@comcast.net. Hope to see you there.

Wednesday Men's Group – 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, at 8:00 p.m.

This group enjoys great fellowship while focusing on discussion-based Bible studies. Contact John Bowen or Bob Wertz, Jr. if interested in more information.

Single Solo's Fellowship | August 11

The Single Solo fellowship will dine at Snappers Bar & Grill on August 11, at 11:30 a.m. If you plan on attending, please call Bonnie Guyer at (717)766-0145. Transportation can be provided upon request.



PRAYING FOLLOWER

Backpack Blessing: August 16 8:30/11:00

Students, Teachers, and other School Workers are invited to bring their backpacks and bags to worship as we pray over you and your schools for this upcoming year. Please contact Katie Knorr at kidscount@fumchurch.com

Prayer for our Schools

The Mechanicsburg Community of churches work together to assure that our schools are given prayer and attention during the year by our church communities. This year we are praying for Northside Elementary. If you would like to join us in praying, we will be at Northside at 2:00 PM next Sunday, August 16th to pray for the campus, teachers, staff, and students. If you can't physically join us, you can still be praying. There will be a prayer guide available on church center.

Handbells

As we continue to pray for our bell ringers and their families who are in Scotland, remember that you can follow their journeys by following them on their facebook and instagram accounts. You will also be able to learn about their trip and experience at our last combined Sunday school on August 30th.



PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

Isaiah 61 Homeless Ministry and Easier Way to Support! | Next Opportunity is Aug 19

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 prepare and serve meals to the homeless in downtown Harrisburg on the third Wednesday of each month. The next volunteer opportunities are Wednesday, August 19 at 6:30 p.m. To find out how to get involved, contact Tiffany Holland at tholland1967@gmail.com. We now have a simpler way to sign up for items, see the Time to Sign Up link on Church Center and the church website at fumchurch.com.



DEDICATED MISSIONARY

Gleaning 2026 | 6 pm in the Oak Grove Parking Lot 3rd Thursdays: June – October

This growing season, we are excited to once more have the opportunity to glean locally in partnership with Oak Grove Farms! We will share the fresh produce with our local community. If you haven't gleaned with us before, please contact Janice Bowen at wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112 to have your name/contact information added to the list to receive more info! New this year.....come at 5 pm for picnic table fellowship, a chance to purchase ice cream before Oak Grove closes, and to share in a devotional from the book "Playing in the Dirt."



RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Camp Fancy Gala | Saturday, Sept. 12, 4 - 8 p.m. | Order tickets by Sept 1st!

Everyone who values the power of our Camp and Retreat Ministry experiences is invited to enjoy an evening of inspiration, fun, and generosity. This annual fundraising event will take place this year at Calvary UMC in Harrisburg. The Gala features a catered meal, special music, and a silent auction. The event will celebrate the stories, relationships, and transformations that happen through camp. This year, we will welcome Jody Oats of Kaleidoscope who will share exciting plans and news regarding our Expansion Project. Buy tickets, make a donation and learn about sponsorship opportunities at suscrm.org/gala. If you have questions, want to volunteer, or donate an auction item, please contact Steve Noss (sdppp@msn.com).



GENEROUS GIVER

Share the Harvest

If you have extra flowers, fruits, or vegetables from your yard or garden this summer, we encourage you to share them with your church family and community! Whether you leave goodies or take some home with you, please look for the Share the Harvest display set-up on the counter space near the children's department.....as well as the shelf attached to the Little Free Pantry alongside the church parking lot. Contact Janice Bowen (wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611 x112) with any questions.

Yard Sale

The Annual Yard, Book, and Bake Sale is happening this Saturday, August 15th from 8:00 am - Noon. Come and enjoy the morning as you shop, eat and support a variety of First Church ministries. If you are interested in helping the youth man the indoor yard sale, please reach out to Lisa Aronson or see the sign up link on church center.

***Scan here or visit 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

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:



Rev. Dr. Lew Parks, Senior Pastor | pastorlew@fumchurch.com

Kelsey Goll, Office Manager & Communications | communications@fumchurch.com

Lisa Aronson, Youth & Adult Discipleship | discipleship@fumchurch.com

Katie Knorr, Kids & Family Ministry | kidscount@fumchurch.com

Sarah Pugh, Worship Arts | worship@fumchurch.com

Janice Bowen, Congregational Care | wecare@fumchurch.com

Paul Zito, Facilities Manager | facilities@fumchurch.com

Lori Hoffnagle, Administration & Outreach | outreach@fumchurch.com

Amy Erno, Finance Director | financedirector@fumchurch.com

Janet Rice, Director of Little Friends Preschool | director@littlefriendspreschool.org

"Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, Lead Courageously"

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