

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We warmly welcome all who worship with us today. Please fill out the Connection Card. Visitors, please provide your address so we may acknowledge your presence.

Beth will be on vacation from August 18th to September 2nd. We encourage you to provide pastoral care for each other while she is away. Additionally, contact the church office (during the week) and our Clerk of Session (during weekend) in case of an emergency or a hospitalization. Rev. Tillie Chase, Rev. Ed Freeborn, and Nicole Vogel will be our "Pastors-On-Call" during this time. Thank you.

We welcome children to our services. We provide a "playground" for them, hoping they will worship with families until the Time with the Children, then they may stay at the table and do activities during the sermon. Parents may sit close to the pew, or at the table with their child. After the sermon, children can return to the pew and finish worship with their families, or they may stay at the table.

Fully accessible restrooms are just across from the lift on the lower level of the church. A second restroom is behind the sanctuary on the upper level (out the right-side door and left down the little hallway). All restrooms are equipped with changing tables.

Please wear your name badge every Sunday as a courteous and welcoming gesture.

Presbyterians believe that God calls people into this particular faith community to bring gifts that we need. If you feel called by God to serve and be served by First Presbyterian and would like to join, please contact the pastor. You and your gifts will be welcome here!

Greeters: Jean Stevens, Boyd Weiss
Ushers: Dale, Jacob, & Emily Hendershot, Judy Dondey
Counters: Rob Riedmiller and Don Ayers
Secure Building: Rob Riedmiller

Birthdays: Kathy Asencio, 8/18; Kristen Clark, 8/18.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

575 Main Street, PO Box 966, Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Office: 570-421-7751 www.fpcstroudsburg.org

Beth Utley, Pastor: 336-847-2280 bethutley@ptd.net

Curt Hargash, Clerk of Session: 570-369-4831

Patricia Thor Straten-Mohr, Music Director Michael Capone, Organist

Amy Hochfeld, Office Administrator Debby Tanico, Financial Secretary

First Presbyterian Church

18th Sunday in

Ordinary Time



Welcome & Announcements

August 13, 2017

10:00 a.m.

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY TO WORSHIP GOD

The asterisk indicates standing in body or spirit

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST COMES TO US

Nathan Barrett

PRELUDE

"Prelude in D Major"

J. F. K. Fischer

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

One: Come! Come and worship.

All: Let our hearts be open to the Word God has for us.

One: Let us not assume we know what needs to be known, can do what needs to be done, can see what needs to be seen.

All: Let us trust in God more than we trust in ourselves. Let us worship God.

*OPENING HYMN

"O Worship the King"

#476

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsive)

Gracious God, we long for lives of wonder and grace but our assumptions often keep us from celebrating what you offer us every minute of every day. We assume we know all there is to know instead of asking questions. We assume we can do it all ourselves instead of embracing the relationships you bring before us. We assume things will never change instead of opening our eyes and hearts to the new life you create every day.

Keep reminding us that you are God. Keep showing us that when we are curious and open, we will see and know the wonder and grace that is created for us.

(Consider what is most frustrating or discouraging and what assumptions might keep you from seeing God at work as silence is kept.)

*KYRIE

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

#565

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

from Psalm 32

One: While we kept silence, our bodies wasted away through our groaning all day long.

All: For day and night your hand was heavy upon us; our strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Then we acknowledged our sin to you, and we did not hide our iniquity; We said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of our sin.

One: Believe the good news of the gospel. You are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen!

*JOYFUL RESPONSE

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Sung to #466

**To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given
By saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.**

*GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the Peace of Christ be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

GOD'S WORD FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

MUSICAL OFFERING

"We Shall See Jesus"
Robert Wehe, Baritone

arr. Tom Fettke

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sara Denny

FIRST LESSON

Micah 6:8

Pew Bible pg. #851

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 20:1-16

Pew Bible pg. #21

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"Fair" and "Right"

Rev. Beth Utley

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*Affirmation of Faith

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION

"There Is Now a New Creation"

see insert

THE GIVING OF SELF, TITHES, AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"Amazing Grace"

arr. Gordon Young

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

#592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We make the one assumption that we rejoice in making, O God, as we trust that you will bless our gifts to your service. Use them to meet needs known and unknown, use us to be good stewards of all we have been given, living in ways you would judge as right. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE GO OUT TO SERVE IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN OF CONSECRATION

"Go to the World"

see insert

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*WE FOLLOW THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"Song of Hope"

#432

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all,
Working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

*POSTLUDE

"The Courts of Praise"

Ben Logan