



First
United Methodist
Church
of Greensburg, PA

September 17, 2017 8:30 - 10:45 AM Worship
15th Sunday after Pentecost
"Representing Christ as a Light within the City"



* Indicates where you may stand if you are able.

** Four-digit hymns are from *The Faith We Sing Hymnal*.

WE GATHER AS A CHURCH FAMILY

PRELUDE

Passacaglia

D. Buxtehude

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please sign the Welcome Tablets, pass them across your pew and back to the outside aisle.)

INTROIT

*HYMN OF PRAISE

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

No. 327

Welcoming the Light of Christ into our midst

*OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, renew our minds and cleanse our spirits, that we might rise above the petty judgments that keep us from full fellowship with you and one another. Part the waters of our worries and confusion and save us from the tides that threaten to overwhelm us. Be merciful to us and protect us with your powerful hand, that we might dance and sing to your glory. Amen.

*THE PEACE

As we are forgiven and reconciled to God through Jesus Christ, let us be reconciled to each other. Please greet one another and share the peace of Christ.

*GLORIA PATRI

No. 71

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

David Bestwick

We believe in one God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We proclaim Jesus Christ, the crucified and risen One, confessing him as Lord to the glory of God the Father. In the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, We acclaim Jesus as the Lord of the church, the Head over all things, the beginning of a new creation. We acknowledge that we live and work between the time of Christ's death and resurrection and the final consummation of all things which he will bring. We are a pilgrim people, always on the way towards the promised goal; on the way, Christ feeds us with word and sacrament, and we have the gift of the Spirit in order that we may not lose the way. We will live and work within the faith and unity of the one holy catholic and apostolic church, bearing witness to that unity which is both Christ's gift and his will. We affirm that every member of the church is engaged to confess the faith of Christ crucified. Together with all the people of God, we will serve the world for which Christ died, and we await with hope the day of the Lord Jesus. Amen.

MINISTRY IN MUSIC (10:45 AM) “The Majesty and Glory of Your Name” Chancel Choir
Tom Fettke

CALL TO PRAYER “Lead Me, Lord” No. 473

**Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain
before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.**
(You are invited to come forward and kneel at the altar rail.)

MORNING PRAYER

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

MINISTRY IN MUSIC “Look At The World” Karen & Fred Pershing, Duet
John Rutter

WE HEAR THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 14:19-31

CANTICLE OF MOSES & MIRIAM No. 135

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 18:21-25

SHARING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

The Offertory

Where True Love and Charity Are Found

Gerald Near

*DOXOLOGY

No. 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN OF FAITH

“Freely, Freely”

No. 389

(Children are invited to come forward during the last verse.)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE (10:45 AM)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God, you caused all Scripture to be written for our learning. May your holy teaching be food and nourishment for our soul, light to guide and protect our path, and life and health to all who love your name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

(Page 163 in the New Testament Pew Bible)

Romans 14:1-12

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“RIGHT TO JUDGMENT”

Rev. Net Gerber, preaching

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

No. 402

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION “Sent Forth By God’s Blessing (Stanza 1)

No. 664

**Sent forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.**

**The service is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God’s grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
to work for God’s kingdom and answer the call.**

*POSTLUDE

The Law of God Is Good and Wise
“The Meeting is Over, Let the Service Begin”

Donald Rotermund



EKKLESIA -- A COMMUNION SERVICE OF WORD & SONG

SATURDAY - 7 PM - September 23

FEATURES: CAPPELLA IV, PIANO AND FLUTE

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND
IN MEMORY OF MYRT CONRAD.

THE BULLETIN is given to the glory of God .

WE THANK THOSE WHO ARE SERVING TODAY:

- LITURGIST: - Judy Molter
ACOLYTE: - Ryan Barr
ALTAR GUILD: - Lois Reed
COFFEE HOUR: - Laurel Sedlacko **NEXT WEEK:** Brandi Jurkiewicz
GREETERS: - (8:30 AM) Ed Meadows & Laurel Sedlacko
(10:45 AM) Laurel Sedlacko **NEXT WEEK:** Barb Tucci & Bob Bloom
- NURSERY - Jean Faust
SOUND SYSTEM: - Tim Willcox
TECH TEAM: - (8:30) Kelly Wichrowski (10:45) Cheryl Lennett
USHERS: - (8:30) Bill Conrad and George Fagert
-(10:45) CarolJean Albaugh; Barb Tucci; Cathy Willcox;
Marsha Zabrosky

Please lift our friends and church family in prayers:

Our shut-ins, those in military service and all with special needs: (Please write prayer concerns on the cards in the pews and place them in the offering plate—requests left on for three weeks, unless renewed.)

PRAYER & HEALTH CONCERNS: Izzy; Sue Meadows; Holly; Sharon Detar; Mallory Baker; Melissa Pickford Baker; Ken Keiser; Tammy Hay; Sarah Swanson; Carolyn “Sis” Twigg; Chuck Daniel; Mel Zchetti; Jim; the Exon family; Joann Miller; all those affected by Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR OUR HOMEBOUND, NURSING HOME AND CARE CENTER MEMBERS:

- Paramount Sr. Living: Charles (Dick) Smith
Brookdale Latrobe: Allan Pierce, Dorothy Rutter
Greensburg Care Center: Alice Murphy
Weatherwood Manor: Helen Wolfgang
Latrobe Select Specialty Care: Mildred Stubbs
William Penn Nursing Home Sharon Detar
Home: Art Faust, Charleen Ringler

LISTENING DEVICES AND LARGE PRINT COPIES OF THE SERVICE MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE USHERS. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE, PLEASE ASK AN USHER.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8 AM-12:00 PM and 12:30-4:00 PM

- Sun. 9/17 **Read - 1 Corinthians 4:1-21**
8:30 & 10:45 AM - Worship-Sanctuary
9:00 AM - Children's Chimes
9:30 AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30 AM - Coffee Hour
- Mon. 9/18 **Read - Job 28:1-28**
6:30 PM - Boy Scouts - FH
7:00 PM - Centering Prayer - Prayer Room
- Tues. 9/19 **Read - Psalm 49**
9:30 AM - **NO BIBLE STUDY**
- Wed. 9/20 **Read - Proverbs 8:1-36**
6:00 PM - Bible Study - Library
 "Making Sense of the Bible."
6:30 PM - Finance/ Stewardship Committee Meeting
- Thurs. 9/21 **Read - Proverbs 9:1-18**
11:00 AM - 12 Step Meeting-FH
6:00 PM - Transformer Children's Choir
6:00 PM - Halos (Youth Choir)
6:00 PM - Chancel Chanters
6:30 PM - Kids Rock
6:30 PM - Youth Bible Study
6:30 PM - Bonnie Ross Ringers
7:30 PM - Chancel Choir
- Fri. 9/22 **Read - Proverbs 10:1-32**
- Sat. 9/23 **Read - Proverbs 11:1-31**
7:00 PM - Ekklesia Service-Sanctuary- Cappella IV, Piano & Flute

NEXT SUNDAY 9/24/2017:

8:30 & 10:45 AM Worship Services - 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Read: Proverbs 12:1-28

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEWARDSHIP FOCUS for the month of September is **SUNDAY SCHOOL**.

2018 BUDGET REQUEST FORMS have been distributed. If you did not receive a form in your mailbox, please pick one up in the Church Office. Budget request forms are due in the Church Treasurer's mailbox no later than Sunday, October 1st.

THE NEXT CRÈCHE SHOW meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 10, 2017 in the Library. There is much work that needs to be done before the show on November 30 - December 2. If you are interested in assisting this committee, please feel welcome to attend this meeting. If you want to assist but cannot attend the meeting, call Mary Stillman at 724-834-6547.

SPARK MISSION TEAM is once again collecting new or very gently used hats, gloves, and scarfs. We also are collecting new socks (any size). These items will be distributed during the cold weather months to those in need. A box has been provided in the hallway to collect these items.

POCKET CHANGE collection is today. We are collecting for those affected by Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma.



Welcome to Greensburg First United Methodist Church

We are so glad that you chose to worship at Greensburg First UMC this morning. Greensburg First is a place for real people with real lives to develop and nurture a real faith. We have authentic relationships, relevant messages, and are committed to raising up the next generation as disciples of Jesus Christ. We want you to know that you are loved and accepted here. Feel free to worship with us regularly and to fully participate in all our activities. If you are new to our community or are looking for a church home, please make it a point to meet one of the pastors before you leave the building. Also, help us get to know you by signing the welcome tablet. We will be happy to help you learn more about Greensburg First UMC.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

15 E. SECOND STREET, GREENSBURG, PA 15601

Phone: 724-834-3111 — e-mail: info@greensburgfirst.org — website: www.greensburgfirst.org

Anette V. Gerber.....pastornet@greensburgfirst.org.....Minister

Jill M. Croushore.....jcroushore@greensburgfirst.org.....Associate Minister

Ardyth Hill.....Retired Pastor

Robert C. Wilson.....Minister Emeritus

Sandi Foreman.....sforeman@greensburgfirst.org.....Secretary

Janice Vandenberg and Sean Hirst.....Custodians

Fred Pershing.....Director of Music

Br. Jim Caffrey Jr., OSL.....Assistant Director of Music

Ruth K. Hughes. . . .music@greensburgfirst.org.....Organist

Laramie Cowan..... youth@greensburgfirst.org.....Youth Director

**2017 Bible Studies will meet Tuesdays at 9:30 AM
and Wednesdays at 6:00 PM
in the Library.**

**A sign-up sheet for the Wednesday evening
Bible Study is located in the Narthex.**





Missions

Christian Love in Action!

*But don't just listen to God's word.
You must do what it says. - James 1:22*

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to be doers of the Word, not merely hearers. However, listening is an important part of following Jesus - in fact, listening can mean both focusing on what is being said and obeying something we are asked to do. Our willingness to serve God alongside others should be a result of listening to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and saying, "Here I am, Lord. I will Go" whether that means crossing the room, crossing the street, or crossing the ocean. Our offer of assistance comes after listening to the stories of others, learning from them what is happening in their lives and community and being invited to help.

And our ultimate task is always to witness to the perfect love of Jesus, in word, in deed, in giving, and in receiving. We listen to the commands to love, to make disciples, and to serve. We show our love by listening to the stories of others and learning from them. We show our love by telling our stories of God's grace and allowing others to listen to what our actions of service and presence say about who God is and how deeply and widely God loves.

Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. - 1 John 3:18