

A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day



Sacrament of Communion



Sunday, January 5, 2025 10:00 am

† Indicates a time to stand, if you are able

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

†CALL to WORSHIP (*responsively*)

The Magi waited and watched, knowing something wondrous would happen.

**We waited to celebrate the birth of Jesus;
now something wondrous is happening!**

The darkness that invaded our lives is banished by the light of that star.

The darkness that surrounds us is gone!

Let us celebrate the bright shining light of God's love in our lives.

Let us reflect that light of God's love into our world!

†CAROL of PRAISE *“There’s a Song in the Air”* UMH 249

†AFFIRMATION of FAITH: THE NICENE CREED (*unison*) UMH 880

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
Eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through Him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven;
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.**

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end!**
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son, is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**
**We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen!**

†**SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST**

†**CHORAL RESPONSE** *(sung in unison)*

UMH 204

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, His name is called Emmanuel.*

A READING from the NEW TESTAMENT

I Peter 2:4-10 NIV

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

MINISTRY in MUSIC

Chancel Choir
“O Living Bread of Heaven” ~Lloyd Larson

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

AN ORDER of THANKSGIVING for the BIRTH of a CHILD

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the birth of a child is a joyous and solemn occasion in the life of a family. It is also an occasion for rejoicing in the church family. I ask you, therefore, to join with Garrett and Emily in giving thanks to God for the gift of Elayna to be their daughter.

Garrett and Emily, I now ask you: will you endeavor by your example and teaching to provide your daughter with a home of faith and love? Will you both covenant in prayer to live out the love and grace of Jesus Christ in your daily lives, so that Elayna may learn from your example? And will you help her discover what is the breadth and length and depth of the love of God, and of Jesus Christ, through whom God has made such love known?

Parents: With God’s help, we will!

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us join together in prayer for all of them:

Gracious God, we give You humble and hearty thanks that You have preserved through the pain and anxiety of childbirth Your servant Emily, and You have upheld Your servant Garrett. They desire now to offer You their praise and thanksgivings. Grant in Your mercy that, by Your help, they may live faithfully according to Your will in this life, that they may raise Elayna in the Christian faith, and that they both promise to do all in their power to teach her about the love and grace of Jesus Christ. This we ask in His holy name. Amen!

*Elayna Jean Bele, born October 14, 2024
Daughter of Garrett and Emily (Tetil) Bele*

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

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!

SHARING of HIS TITHES and OUR GIFTS

THE OFFERTORY

†**THE DOXOLOGY** ~means "Praise be to God" *(sung in unison)*

UMH 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**

†**CAROL of PRAYER**

"The First Noel"

UMH 245

A READING from the NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 2:1-21, 37-47 NIV

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

THE MESSAGE "The Force Awakens!" Pastor Kevin Haley

Worship theme: "STAR BORN—Long Ago in A Galilee Not So Far Away"

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Before the mountains were brought forth, or You had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, You alone are God. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in Your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, Your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through Your prophets. And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might!

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory! Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!

Holy are You, and blessed is Your Son Jesus Christ, in whom You have revealed Yourself, our light and our salvation. You sent a star to guide the Magi to where the Christ was born; and in Your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world, You have led Your people from far places to His glorious light. In His baptism and in table fellowship, He took His place with sinners. Your Holy Spirit anointed Him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when You would save Your people. By the baptism of His suffering, death, and resurrection, You gave birth to Your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Holy Spirit.

On the night in which He gave Himself up for us, He took bread, gave thanks to You, broke the bread, gave it to His disciples, and said: “Take, eat; this is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.”

When the supper was over, He took the cup, gave thanks to You, gave it to His disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again!

Pour out Your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and the vine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by His blood. By Your Holy Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at His heavenly banquet. Through Your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in Your holy church, all honor and glory is Yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen!

GIVING the BREAD and CUP

Communion will be served to you where you are seated.

Please take a piece of bread from its tray, then wait until directed to eat together.

(The bread is a piece of a rice cracker that is gluten-free)

Please do the same with the juice: take one, wait until directed to drink...

PRAYER after COMMUNION (*unison*)

We give You thanks, O Lord, for once again, You have filled us with good things—not just bread and juice, but Your very self. Now may this glimpse of Your Kingdom sustain us, and give us eyes to see You at work in every place, and give us strength to be Your body in the world—the church awakened and reflecting Your hope and light. As You have blessed the bread and broken it, You have blessed us and You let Your light shine through us. Make us Your people, again and again, to be Your light for this world, lost in the darkness. In Jesus name, we pray. Amen!

†**THE CAROL**

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

UMH 251

†**DISMISSAL with BLESSING**

†**THE POSTLUDE**

†**GOING FORTH to SERVE**

Liturgist: **Jim Caffrey**
Tech Team: **Nevaeh Hirst, Conner Grant**
Acolyte: **Elijah Miller**

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday ~ January 5 ~ Read Exodus 6:28-7:13

- 8:30 am Coffee Fellowship (*Sanctuary Hall*)
8:45 am Children's Chimes rehearsal (*Chapel*)
9:00 am Sunday School for all ages
10:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary*)
11:15 am Halo Choir rehearsal (*Choir Room*)
6:00 pm Youth 180 (*Youth Café*)

Elementary age 4-grade 5

(rm. 305 - upper level)

Youth grades 6-12

(rm. 302 - upper level)

Genesis Adults

(library - lower level)

Monday ~ January 6 ~ Exodus 12:1-28

- 5:30 pm Girl Scouts (*Fellowship Hall*)
6:30 pm Board of Trustees (*Trustee Room*)

Tuesday ~ January 7 ~ Exodus 12:29-51

- 9:30 am Adult Bible Study (*Lounge*)
1:30 pm Staff Meeting (*Church Office*)

Wednesday ~ January 8 ~ Exodus 13:11-22

RSVP Deadline for Fella♦Ship

Thursday ~ January 9 ~ Exodus 14:1-31

- 10 am-1 pm 12-Step (*Library*)
10:30 am Centering Prayer (*Prayer Room*)
1:30 pm Food Pantry Set-Up (*Fellowship Hall*)
6:00 pm Chancel Chanters rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)
6:30 pm Bonnie Ross Ringers Adult Bells rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)
6:30-8:30pm Evening Women's 12-Step (*Fellowship Hall*)
7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal (*Choir Room*)

Friday ~ January 10 ~ Exodus 15:1-21

- 8-10:00 am Food Pantry - unload truck & organize (*Fellowship Hall*)
10:00 am Food Pantry - Distribution (@ glass doors on S. Maple)
12:00 noon Visitation with family of Betty White (*rear of Sanctuary*)
1:00 pm Memorial Service for Betty White (*Sanctuary*)
1:30 pm Funeral Luncheon (*Fellowship Hall*)

Saturday ~ January 11 ~ 1 Samuel 16:1-23

9:00 am Fella♦Ship Men & Boys Prayer Breakfast (*Fellowship Hall*)

Prayer Requests: Bob B. / Dave B. /

Doug B. / Isie B. / Nancy B. / Bill Beam / Becky /
Debbie C. & family / Christy & Emily / Connie /
Janet Craig / Debbi / Denny Doran /

Pastor Kevin & Amy Haley / Eugene Humenay / Diane K. / Eric K. / Ginny K. / Shirley Kahler /
Kathi / Diane M. / Dorothy M. / John M. / Anthony McKenna / Melanie P. / Page family /
Margie Price / Pam Proctor / Ruth / Sam S. / Stan / Sue / Tokarcik family / our Church Family

*Please write prayer concerns on attendance cards
in the bulletin, **check the box(es)**
and place them in offering. Requests are listed in the
bulletin for 3 weeks, unless renewed.*

Those who wish to...
but cannot
be among us.

Marge Trumbetta Brookdale Latrobe

Paulette Hood Hempfield Manor Greensburg

Myrna Baer, Shirley Kahler St. Anne Home (Greensburg)

Donna Bush Westmoreland Manor Greensburg

2025 Envelope Packets NOW available in Sanctuary Hall.

TODAY

- **Children's Chimes** rehearse at 8:45 am in the Chapel. Contact Fred Pershing with questions.
- **Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship** begins every Sunday at 8:30 am, in Sanctuary Hall.
- **Sunday School for ALL AGES** begins at 9:00 am. See calendar page for details/locations.
- **Join us for Sunday Morning Worship** at 10:00 am in our Sanctuary.
- **Halo Choir** will rehearse at 11:15 am in the Choir Room.
- **Youth 180** will meet at 6:00 pm in the Youth Café on the upper level.

THIS WEEK

- **Food Pantry Special Collection Request** ~ Canned Soup to be distributed Jan. 10, 2025
- **Board of Trustees** will meet on Monday, Jan. 6, at 6:30 pm in the Trustee Room.
- **Adult Bible Study** resumes on Tuesday, Jan. 7, at 9:30 am in the church Lounge.
- **RSVP Deadline for Fella♦Ship** is Wednesday, Jan. 8, to the church office or Pastor Kevin.
- **Centering Prayer** resumes meeting on Thursday mornings, at 10:30 am, in the Prayer Room.
- **Food Pantry Set-Up Team** meets on Thursday, Jan. 9, at 1:30 pm in Fellowship Hall to prepare tables, bags, and boxes for the Friday distribution.
- **Adult Music Ministries** resume. See calendar page, under Thursday, Jan. 9, for choirs, times, and locations. Want to join this weekly time of fellowship? Call the Church Office.
- **Food Pantry "Distribution" Team** will meet Friday, Jan. 10. The delivery truck arrives at 8:00 am when we unload, organize, and prepare the supplies in the Fellowship Hall, with actual distribution at 10:00 am at the glass doors on S. Maple.
- **Memorial Service for Betty White** ~ Friday, Jan. 10
~ **Visitation** 12-1:00 (*Rear of Sanctuary*) ~ **Service** 1:00 (*Sanctuary*) ~ **Luncheon** 1:30 (*Fellowship Hall*)
- **Fella♦Ship Men & Boys Prayer Breakfast** will meet on Saturday, Jan. 11, in Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am.

LOOKING AHEAD

- **Food Pantry "Truck of the Month"** sponsorship board now in Sanctuary Hall.
- **Installation of Church Officers** ~ Sunday, Jan. 12 ~ during 10:00 am Worship
- **All Church Officer Pizza Lunch** ~ Sunday, Jan. 12 ~ 11:15 am (*Fellowship Hall*)
- **SPRC** ~ Tuesday, Jan. 14 ~ 6:30 pm (*Church Lounge*)
- **February Circuit Rider Article DEADLINE** ~ Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2025
- **Roast & Toast** ~ celebrate Pastor Kevin's 65th Birthday & Retirement...details on back page
- **Pocket Change for a Purpose** ~ Sunday, Jan. 19 ~ to benefit our Greensburg Fire Department
- **Church & Office CLOSED** ~ Monday, Jan. 20 ~ for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- **Finance & Stewardship** ~ Tuesday, Jan. 21 ~ 6:00 pm (*Church Library*)
- **Church Council** ~ Wednesday, Jan. 22 ~ 6:30 pm (*Church Lounge*)
- **Circuit Rider Assembly** ~ Thursday, Jan. 30 ~ 8:30 am (*Church Office*)
- **Staff Luncheon** ~ Friday, Jan. 31 ~ 12 noon (*Church Library*)

Welcome home to First United Methodist Church!

Sunday morning Worship Service at 10:00 in the Sanctuary

(Livestream worship continues at 10:00)

We are glad that you are with us in worship today! Greensburg:First is a church where you can come to learn that God loves you just the way you are, but that God also loves you too much to let you stay this way. God wants you to become more like Jesus! If you do not have a church home of your own, we hope that you might prayerfully consider becoming a part of our church family, as we reach out with love and in the name of Jesus Christ! **Also, please help us get to know you,**

or to be able to contact you in the case of an emergency/cancellation,
by filling out a Welcome Card (inserted in this bulletin).

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of GREENSBURG PRESENTS

Roast & Toast

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2025 | 7:00 pm



CELEBRATING PASTOR KEVIN'S 65TH BIRTHDAY and RETIREMENT

First United Methodist Church
15 East 2ND Street
Greensburg PA 15601

Hors d'oeuvres and
Birthday Cake
will be enjoyed by all!



~Come and celebrate with us!~

Please RSVP As Soon As Possible

to Barb Bloom at 724-454-2212 or email at betangellover@hotmail.com

Find us on FACEBOOK:

First United Methodist Church—Greensburg

Regular Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

*(may change without notice... thank you
for your understanding & patience)*

Wi-Fi Network

Name: Greensburg First
Password: Jeremiah2911



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

15 E. 2nd Street, Greensburg PA 15601 Phone: 724-834-3111

Church website: www.greensburgfirst.org

Rev. Kevin R. Haley
Peaches Clark
Fred Pershing
Jim Caffrey, Jr.
Terry Lasut
Ruth K. Hughes
Bob Coder
TBD...
Custodians

Senior Pastor pastorkevin@greensburgfirst.org
Secretary churchsecretary@greensburgfirst.org
Director of Music tumusic@comcast.net
Associate Director of Music
Director of Youth alasuterry@gmail.com
Organist ruthkhughes@gmail.com
Church Treasurer
Outdoor Maintenance
Simply Spotless Cleaning LLC