



First United Methodist Church

15 East 2nd Street, Greensburg PA 15301

A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day
Sunday, January 26, 2025 ♦ 10:00 am



† *Indicates a time to stand, if you are able*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us” ~arr. Donald Rotermund

†CALL to WORSHIP *(responsively)*

God is in our midst, forming us to be His own people.

Though the way may be difficult, God will be with us.

We need not fear.

In the Lord we will take our refuge, for He is our strength.

Come to the Lord who will surround you with His own righteousness.

The Lord will open our hearts and our spirits,

so that we may faithfully follow Him in all that we say and do.

†HYMN of PRAISE

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

UMH 89

†A PRAYER for ASSURANCE *(unison)*

Lord of abiding love and infinite patience, be with us this day. We have come from times of stress and difficulties, as well as times of hope and joy. We bring to You our concerns and fears, and You offer healing mercies. We confess that we have allowed events and demands to crowd You out of our thoughts; yet when we come to this Your house, we kneel in confession and repentance, seeking Your forgiveness for our blindness and apathy. Turn our lives around, O Lord. Help us look again at the many ways in which You bless and care for us. Help us be people who will reach out to others in loving compassion. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen!

†WORDS of ASSURANCE

†SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST

†**GLORIA PATRI** ~means “Glory be to the Father” (*sung in unison*)

UMH 70

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!

A READING from the NEW TESTAMENT

Hebrews 12:1-3 NIV

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

Brothers and sisters in Christ, through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are initiated into Christ's holy church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Holy Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

I present DeMarco Antonio Catone for baptism.

The Pastor addresses the parents...

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,
reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

Parents: I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice,
and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

Parents: I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in His grace,
and promise to serve Him as your Lord, in union with the church
which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

Parents: I do.

Will you nurture this child in Christ's holy church, that by your teaching
and example, he may be guided to accept God's grace for himself,
to profess his faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

Parents: I will.

The Pastor addresses the congregation...

Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin
and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include
these people now before you in your care?

With God's help, we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these people with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

The Pastor pours and blesses the baptism water...

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Let us pray: Eternal Father, when nothing existed but chaos, You swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah, You saved those on the ark through water. After the flood, You set in the clouds a rainbow. When You saw Your people as slaves in Egypt, You led them to freedom through the sea. Their children, You brought through the Jordan to the land which You promised.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Tell of God's mercy each day!

In the fullness of time You sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by Your Spirit. He called His disciples to share in the baptism of His death and resurrection, and to make disciples of all nations.

Declare Christ's works to the nations, His glory among all the people!

Pour out Your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and he who receives it, to wash away his sin and clothe him in righteousness throughout his life, that, dying and being raised with Christ, he may share in His final victory.

All praise to You, Eternal Father, through Your Son Jesus Christ, who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen!

The Pastor baptizes the child, then addresses the congregation...

Now it is our joy to welcome our new brother in Christ!

Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation, and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus. With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you as members of the family of Christ!

May the God of all grace, who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you that you may live in grace and peace! Amen!

*DeMarco Antonio Catone, born March 23, 2024
Son of Carly Rae Seabol and Anthony John Catone II*

MINISTRY in MUSIC

Chancel Choir
“An Expression of Gratitude” ~Schwoebel

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MINISTRY in MUSIC

Bonnie Ross Ringers Bell Choir
“Father God, All Praise to Thee” ~Howard F. Starks

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

“Hope of the World” ~arr. Allan Mahnke

†**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**

†**HYMN of PRAYER**

“Be Thou My Vision”

UMH 451

A READING from the NEW TESTAMENT

II Timothy 4:1-8 NIV

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

THE MESSAGE

“Finish with Integrity”

Pastor Kevin Haley

AN ORDER of FAREWELL for OUR PASTOR

SPRC Chair: The time has come to mark the end of ministry here for Pastor Kevin Haley, as he and Amy leave us to enter retirement.

God has blessed us with his faithful service as our co-worker in Christ, our counselor, our teacher, our companion, and most of all, our Pastor. With a mixture of joy and sadness, we give thanks to God for our time together.

People: Pastor Kevin, we welcomed you as our Pastor to proclaim God’s Word, to baptize and confirm new members into the church, to announce God’s forgiveness to us, and to share and live out the gospel of Jesus Christ. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you and Amy have been important to our life together as a church family, and in service to the greater Greensburg community.

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, you called me to serve among you. Now God is leading Amy and me into a season of retirement. I am thankful for the time God has given us together. I have known Your love and patience, as we served the Lord here as a church family. The Holy Spirit brought us together for a time, and I shall not soon forget you!

A few personal remarks will be made...

SPRC Chair: Let us pray together...

People: Eternal God, we thank You that You led Pastor Kevin and Amy to serve Your people in this place, to build up Your church, and to glorify Your name. We have labored in common for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Together we have studied Your Word, been nourished at Your table, lifted our voices in prayer and song, sought Your comfort and guidance, and witnessed Your deeds of love and grace in our mutual ministry. For all of this, we give You our thanks and our praise, in the name of the One who unites us in His love, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

†HYMN of COMMITMENT

UMH 139

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

†DISMISSAL with BLESSING

†THE POSTLUDE

“In Peace and Joy I Now Depart” ~arr. Healey Willan

†GOING FORTH to SERVE

Liturgist: **Jim Swank**
Tech Team: **Conner Grant, Cheyanne Miller**
Acolyte: **Lillian Baker**

Sunday ~ January 26 ~ Colossians 1:15-23

- 8:30 am Coffee Fellowship (*Sanctuary Hall*)
- 8:45 am Chime Choir rehearsal (*Chapel*)
- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School (*Library*)
- 10:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary*)

Monday ~ January 27 ~ Colossians 1:24-29

- 5:30 pm Girl Scouts (*Fellowship Hall*)

Tuesday ~ January 28 ~ Colossians 2:1-19

- 9:30 am Adult Bible Study (*Lounge*)

Wednesday ~ January 29 ~ Colossians 2:20-3:4

Thursday ~ January 30 ~ Colossians 3:5-17

- 8:30 am Circuit Rider Assembly Team (*Church Office*)
- 10 am-1 pm 12-Step (*Library*)
- 10:30 am Centering Prayer (*Prayer Room*)
- 6:00 pm Chancel Chanters rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)
- 6:30 pm Bonnie Ross Ringers Bell Choir rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)
- 6:30-8:30pm Evening Women's 12-Step (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal (*Choir Room*)

Friday ~ January 31 ~ Colossians 4:2-18

- 12 noon Staff Lunch (*off site*)

Saturday ~ February 1 ~ Colossians John 13:1-20

*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.*

Prayer Requests:

- Bob B. / Dave B. / Doug B. / Isie B. /
- Nancy B. / Becky / Dave Berlin / Paul Carnes / Christy & Emily / Janet Craig / Darlene / Denny Doran / Doreen / Frank /
- Pastor Kevin & Amy Haley / Alexis Hawk / Eugene Humenay / Diane K. / Eric K. / Ginny K. / Melonie K. / Shirley Kahler / Kathi / Kubas family / Lee & family / Dave Lewis / Debbie M. / Dorothy M. / John M. / Olive Marin / Ron McCutcheon / Lynn McGill / Paul / Kelly Ross / Ruth / Stan / Cindy Twigg / our Church Staff & Church Family in this season of change / families of Andrea Ackerman, Bill Montz, Scott Shank

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*)

TODAY

- **Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship** begins every Sunday at 8:30 am, in Sanctuary Hall.
- **Chime Choir** rehearsal begins at 8:45 am in the Chapel on Sanctuary level.
- **Adult Sunday School** begins at 9:00 am in the Library on the lower level.
- **Join us for Sunday Morning Worship** at 10:00 am in our Sanctuary.

THIS WEEK

- **Adult Bible Study** concludes on Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 9:30 am in the Church Lounge. We will finish our study of the book of Philippians with “Peace & Generosity.”
- **Circuit Rider Assembly Team** will meet on Thursday, Jan. 30, at 8:30 am in the Church Office, to prepare our February monthly newsletter for mailing.
- **Centering Prayer** continues meeting on Thursday mornings, at 10:30 am, in the Prayer Room.
- **Adult Music Ministries** continue rehearsals. See calendar page, under Thursday, Jan. 30, for choirs, times, & locations. Want to join this weekly time of fellowship? Call the Church Office.

LOOKING AHEAD & THINGS TO KNOW

- **Food Pantry “Truck of the Month”** sponsorship board now in Sanctuary Hall. **Only 3 left.**
- **2024 Contribution Statements** will be mailed out on Thursday, Jan. 30. Thank you for your patience, as we close out our 2024 records and files.

The White Carnations

are placed to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of,
Andrea Ackerman (1/16/25),
Bill Montz (1/20/25),
and Scott Shank (1/20/25).

Pastor Kevin's email address is changing. At the end of January, his church email (pastorkevin@greensburgfirst.org) will be eliminated. Please begin to use his personal email (gorevkev@outlook.com) from this point forward. Thank you!

Until the newly-appointed pastor will begin at GFUMC, the District Superintendent and SPRC have agreed that three retired part-time clergy will serve the congregation:

Rev. Richard D. Markle (724) 344-2895 rdmarkle@zoominternet.net

Rev. Aimée W. Twigg (412) 554-6101 aimeewt@aol.com

Rev. August B. Twigg (724) 454-5992 augiebt@aol.com

They will oversee worship, administration and pastoral care, sharing preaching as determined. In addition, Rev. Markle will have office hours regularly on Wednesday mornings from 9:00-12:00. To communicate with them or in the event of an emergency, please use the above contact information.

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).

It's the SOUPER BOWL Drive!!!

Canned-Soup collection for our Food Pantry



During these cold months, we would like to continue to provide canned soup for our 65 clients/families. Therefore, our collection will continue through Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 9, just in time for our next Food Pantry distribution day on Feb. 14!

Please help us to help others.

Let's be safe...Please consult the three local news networks for Greensburg FUMC, or check our church Facebook page at First United Methodist Church-Greensburg to check for cancellations of any of our services due to weather.

Weekday office hours & activity cancellations...If Greensburg Salem school district ever cancels school because of snow or ice, the church office hours and all activities would also be cancelled.

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	Senior Pastor	pastorkevin@greensburgfirst.org
Peaches Clark	Secretary	churchsecretary@greensburgfirst.org
Fred Pershing	Director of Music	tumusic@comcast.net
Jim Caffrey, Jr.	Associate Director of Music	
Terry Lasut	Director of Youth	alasuterry@gmail.com
Ruth K. Hughes	Organist	ruthkhughes@gmail.com
Bob Coder	Church Treasurer	
Outdoor Maintenance	Boulder Blossoms	
Custodians	Simply Spotless Cleaning LLC	