

Please see the website (firstpreswc.com) for a complete list of programs and ways to connect.

Our sympathy and prayers are with his wife, Joy,
and their children Karen, John, Tim and families.

Men's Fall Study: This fall the Thursday evening men's group will take up a study of the Book of Hebrews. It is like no other letter in the New Testament, yet gives us so much understanding of the gospel and some of the deepest issues of the Christian faith, exhorting the reader to hold on by faith to the true rest found only in Christ. Our main aid in understanding the Book of Hebrews will be *Exhorting Jesus in Hebrews, A Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary* by Dr. R. Albert Mohler. This group meets on Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. on Zoom. All men are welcome! Please feel free to contact Phil Heaver at fivormor59@aol.com or 610-310-0388 with any questions you may have.

School's Off Day Camp is Back! - First Pres is excited to offer two School's Off Day Camps this fall to provide a fun, safe place for elementary aged children to go when schools are closed. This fall's camps will take place on Tuesday, September 23 and Monday, October 20 from 9 - 3:30 pm. The registration form can be found on the church's website under the Sign-up tab. Talk to Sara Pantazes with any questions.

New Sermon Series for Fall - You're invited to join us for our new fall series "What's Your Rock?" It's a 6-week series that will kick-off our fall together as we explore the enumerable ways in which Christ is present in our lives even when we don't see him or feel him, and how he offers us a foundation that will never shake.

Bibles for Third Grade Students - Every fall, First Pres gifts a Bible to the church's 3rd graders to encourage them to continue growing in their faith. If you would like a 3rd grader in your life to receive a Bible, please contact Sara Pantazes by calling the church office or emailing Sara (spantazes@firstpreswc.com) by September 30. The Bibles will be presented in worship on October 5, but children do not need to be present in worship to receive one.

Possible First Pres Travelers Trip - First Pres Travelers are considering a trip to Radio City Music Hall in New York City to see the Rockettes & The Christmas Show on Tuesday, December 9. The total cost of the trip, including show ticket, bus transportation, and lunch will be approximately \$230. Tickets will be purchased and plans finalized by the end of September. If you would like to attend, please inform Thom & Irene Clapper ASAP at psuthom@verizon.net.

First Presbyterian Church of West Chester
September 21, 2025



Order of Worship for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Please rise in body or spirit*

Prelude Allegro from Trio, Op. 87
Ludwig van Beethoven

Call to Worship*

We are called to be people of faith
in the midst of the world,
**and so we mix our worship and our work,
our faith and our life.**

We gather here as people who live in the world and yet,
we gather as people who have been called to see
the world from a different viewpoint.

God has called us together;
God has called us to be part of a community.
**God challenges us to consider questions of priority
as we engage with the world.**
**May God open our hearts, minds and eyes,
so we might see Him at work in our lives. Amen**

Hymn 315* In the Midst of New Dimensions

Welcome

Prayer of Confession
Lord, we bring before you today the fruit of our labor – the work of our hands and the work of our minds. We confess that more often than not, we take pride in our work to a fault, doing what we can to draw attention to ourselves and to our own abilities. We ask that you reorient the direction of our praise today, shifting the focus off ourselves and onto the one who has enabled us to serve you and others. Lord, take our works, both big and small, and use them for your kingdom purposes. May our labor bring you glory, and may it lead others to give you glory as well. Thank you that our labor is never in vain and for reminding us that you are at work in and through all that we do. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness
We are the hands and feet of Jesus, commissioned to serve our world for God’s glory.
By His wounds we are forgiven and set free to serve God and others. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response*
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.

Passing of the Peace*

Children’s Message
During the singing of the following response, children may join their teachers for Sunday School. Families can pick up their children after the service in their classrooms on the 2nd floor.

Response God of Great and God of Small Hymn 19

First Scripture Reading Psalm 111 OT p. 562

Anthem We Will Be a Shelter for Each Other
Allen Pote

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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Adagio from Trio, Op. 87
Ludwig van Beethoven

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication*
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Hymn 721* Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

Second Scripture Reading Colossians 3:12-17 NT p. 201
23-25

Sermon *What's Your Rock?: Week 3*
Rev. Andrew Esqueda

Hymn 36* For the Fruit of All Creation

Blessing*

Postlude Fanfare Jacques Lemmens

Assisting in worship today:
Josh Kunz and Pete Prochnau, Clarinet
Allyson Patterson, Bassoon

All are welcome in worship. We are a community of people of all ages who cry, vocalize, stim, fuss, stand, sit, and come and go as needed. The sounds of people are the joyful noise of God’s creation.

Audio amplifiers are in a basket at the back of the sanctuary. There are also screens in Fellowship Hall that stream the service if you need to step out.

The nursery is available for children ages 0-3 years. Please ask a greeter if you would like additional information about Sunday School or children’s programming.

Officer Nominating Process - The church's Nominating Committee is looking for nominations for the offices of Elder and Deacon. Elders are elected by the congregation and are the decision makers for the congregation along with our pastors. Deacons are elected by the congregation and serve to support the pastors and our church members in congregational care. If you know of a member who may feel called to serve in one of these roles, including yourself, please use the QR code below or click the "Elder and Deacon Nominations" tab across the top of the church website to submit their names. Thank you for your participation in this important process for the life of our congregation.



First Presbyterian Church Staff
Rev. Andrew Esqueda, Senior Pastor
Rev. Caroline Cupp, Senior Associate Pastor
Sándor Kádár, Director of Music
Sara Pantazes, Director of Faith Formation
Elizabeth Hess, Director of Engagement
Amanda Erno, Children’s Music Director
Ann Ellis, Choir Accompanist
Kiana Rivera, Lead Singer, Contemporary Band
Jennifer Rosenberg, Preschool Director
Greg Ondo, AV Tech
Claire Kramer, Office Administrator
Peter Galloway, Director of Operations
Sara Ford, Facilities Manager