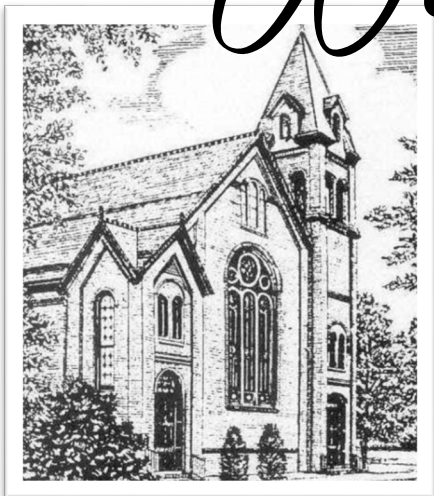


In response to God's love and grace, through Jesus Christ, we commit to learning, proclaiming, and living the love of God.

Welcome



*We are glad you have chosen to worship with us today!
We are a community of faith committed to Christian discipleship.*

Greencastle Presbyterian Church

10:00 am Worship Service

The Order of Worship for August 13, 2023

Centering Thought

God's commandment to Abraham was very specific, and Abraham understood it very precisely: Isaac was to be "raised up as an offering", and God would use the opportunity to teach humankind, once and for all, that human sacrifice, child sacrifice, is not acceptable.

SERVING THE CHURCH TODAY

Preaching.....	Rev. Dr. Robert Cook
Liturgist.....	Jan Eppleman
Musicians.....	Dr. J. Fredrick Davison, Ken Shockey Brian Keck, Barry Leap
Audio/Video Technician	Ben Herrmann
Opener.....	Gabe Gates
Closer.....	Paul Sauder

* *Please stand as able*

Welcome and Brief Announcements

The Prelude *O Jesus, Thou Art Standing* Robert W. Thygerson
Ken Shockey, organ

*The Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord is my saving light;

People: Whom should I fear?

Leader: God is my fortress;

People: What should I dread?

Leader: One thing I ask the Lord, one thing I seek;

People: To live in the house of God every day of my life and to behold the beauty of God. (Psalm 27:1-4)

*Hymn #275 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

*The Prayer of Confession (Unison)

O God: Guard my tongue from doing harm, and my lips from lies and deceit. Before those who speak ill against me, may silence be my practice. Before all human beings, let humility be my stance. Open my heart to your teachings, that I may follow their sacred path. Save me from the malicious plans of those who would do me harm. Act, and help me to act, for the sake of your name; for the sake of your holiness; for the sake of your teaching. For the sake of those who love you — our rock and our redeemer — let your presence be the answer to my prayer.

(A time of silence for personal confession)

*The Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**

*The Gloria Patri #581

The Children's Time

The Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

Eternal God, your Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and enlightens us to hear your Word fresh each day. Help us to rely always on your promises in Scripture. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The First Scripture Reading

Genesis 22:1-19

Duet

Lord, Listen to Your Children Ken Medema, arr. Lloyd Larson
Brian Keck, baritone horn Barry Leap, trombone
Ken Shockey, piano

*The Gospel Reading

Matthew 10:34-42

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

The Message

-Pastor Robert Cook

Postcards from the Edge: The Binding of Isaac

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The reconciling act of God in Jesus Christ exposes the evil in people as sin in the sight of God. In sin, people claim mastery of their own lives, turn against God and each other, and become exploiters and despoilers of the world. They lose their humanity in futile striving and are left in rebellion, despair, and isolation. But God's love never changes. God's love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love. Amen

*Hymn #703 *Jesus, Thy Bounteous Love to Me*

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

*The Doxology #606

*The Dedication of Our Offerings

*Hymn #846 *Fight the Good Fight*

*The Blessing

Postlude *Praise Him! Praise Him!* Chester Allen arr. Lloyd Larson
Brian Keck, baritone horn Barry Leap, trombone
Ken Shockey, piano

PRAYER CONCERNS

Marna Yingling	Linda Pittman	Rachel Dayhoff
Becky Hess	Rachael, Christopher & Anna Lee Massieu	Rev. Bill Beck
June Marshall	Mary Buhl	Leslie Torres
Nancy McIntyre	Kim Hay	Caroline Robinson
Noah McCampbell	Cullen Gaston	Dian Bishop
Herb Layton	Laura Tantillo York	Dan Patton
Bernice Walck	Barry Thomas	Vasilija Milanovic
Patti Sechrist	Bob & Sandy Seidel	Celia Kuhlmann
Alan Shope	The Gagne family	Sheila Gates
Tim Walck	Bill & Kathy Kendall	Tracey Hammond and family
Neta Todd	Dan Amato	Bethany Yeager
Mary Lou Riddle	Aaron Frick	Penny Mohler
Steven Bishop	Ray Spitz	Andi Hess Wingert
Mindy Grosh	Sue Angle	Dot Wilson

Pray for those serving our U. S. Department of State
Remember in prayer the family of **Joe Grumling** who passed away.
May our Lord Jesus give them peace in their time of sorrow.

IF YOU ARE NEW HERE — We are glad you joined us for worship today! Please take a moment to sign the visitor card located in your pew and place it in the offering basket in the front of the sanctuary or hand to an usher. Print your name, address, phone number, and email address so we can follow up with you. If you want to learn more about our church, a good place to start is our Facebook page at [facebook.com/Greencastle Presbyterian Church](https://www.facebook.com/GreencastlePresbyterianChurch). We have some copies of our newsletters in the Narthex. Past services can be viewed on our [YouTube.com Greencastle Presbyterian Church Livestreams](https://www.youtube.com/GreencastlePresbyterianChurchLivestreams)

GPC MUSIC MINISTRY

The GPC Chancel Choir and Bell Choir will begin rehearsals for the fall season on **Wednesday, September 6**. We need more ringers and singers! The Bell Choir meets Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 pm and typically performs in worship every 4-6 weeks. No previous experience is required. The Chancel Choir meets on Wednesdays 7:00-8:15 pm and performs in worship on most Sundays. There are also many opportunities available for instrumentalist to participate.

If you have an interest in being a part of the music ministry please contact Fred Davison (jfdavison50@gmail.com) or leave a message at the church office at your earliest convenience. I hope you will consider joining us for music making and fellowship.

– Dr. J. Frederick Davison, Director of Music Ministries



LAUREL MISSION TRIP

For many years now we have partnered with the Prince Street Church of the Brethren in Shippensburg to do a week-long missionary trip at the Laurel Ministries Center in Laurel, Kentucky. We will again head there the week of **September 16 to 23**.

Our team brings along good used clothing and shoes to give away. We also need people to do construction, home repair, and to cook.

God just might be calling you to go this year. There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule or you may contact Brian Rice blrbkr@comcast.net, who has been volunteering for many years, or GPC Mission Committee Chair, Candace Rutherford dreamscapefarm@comcast.net for more information. Donations may be dropped off at the church.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday 8/13 10:00 am Worship / Coffee and Fellowship
Prayers for Sr. James Presbyterian, Mechanicsburg

Wednesday 8/16 9:00 am Greencastle-Antrim Food Pantry
9:00 am Wednesday Prayer Circle
7:00 pm Ladies AA Meeting

Thursday 8/17 7:00 pm Deacons Meeting

Sunday 8/20 10:00 am Worship / Blessing of the Backpacks
Prayers for Upper West Conococheague Presbyterian, Mercersburg
2:00 pm Dementia Caregivers Meeting

Wednesday 8/23 9:00 am Wednesday Prayer Circle
7:00 pm Ladies AA Meeting

**GPC will have Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday,
August 20, 2023 during the 10 am Worship Service**

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Backpack blessings offer hopes of encouragement, that the bag and the bearer know that this congregation is holding them in prayer.



We share in blessing students, teachers, aides, instructors, administration, etc. as the new school year begins. Open their minds to the lessons learned both in and outside the classroom.

Together, we ask Jesus for a happy, peace-filled, and successful school year!

New GPC Website
COMING SOON
Watch for a September Launch



GPC ANNUAL FAMILY
CHURCH

PICNIC

SEPTEMBER 10th

Save-The-Date

GPC will celebrate Rally Day on Sunday, August 17

“Rally Day” Sunday marks the chance to celebrate what is also the beginning of Christian education programming for the year.

Many congregations still commission their faith formation leaders and teachers for the year, which often include blessing rituals to mark the beginning of the Sunday school year. Some host mission and ministry fairs to introduce their ministries for the year. Others offer outreach activities and intergenerational service opportunities.

“Rally Day is a way to remind ourselves of the importance of both Christian education and formation in the life of a faith community, and to seek out ways to nurture our faith and remember our baptismal promise to nurture and pass on the faith to next generation.”

excerpts from [Presbyterian News Service](#) Published: September 6, 2019

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Robert Cook Interim Pastor
Dr. J. Frederick Davison..... Director of Music Ministry
Keri Papa Director of Christian Education
Susan Miller..... Office Manager
Bonnie Speaks..... Finance Manager
Sue Bell Parish Nurse
Barbara Grane Food Pantry Coordinator
Ryan Hock..... Custodian
Debbie Hock..... Custodian
Bryan Larew..... Groundskeeper

SESSION MEMBERS

Class of 2024

Mindy Barnhart
Brian Keck
Jim Papa

Class of 2025

Anne Larew
David Lindecamp
Ed Wine

Class of 2026

Racheal Marconi
Scott Peterson
Jenn Robertson

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2024

Mary Ann Ackerman
Kelsey Marshall
Diane Mills

Class of 2025

Evelyn Lindecamp
Brian Rice
Deb Shank

Class of 2026

Ben Herrmann
Louise Kemper
Candace Rutherford



GREENCASTLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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