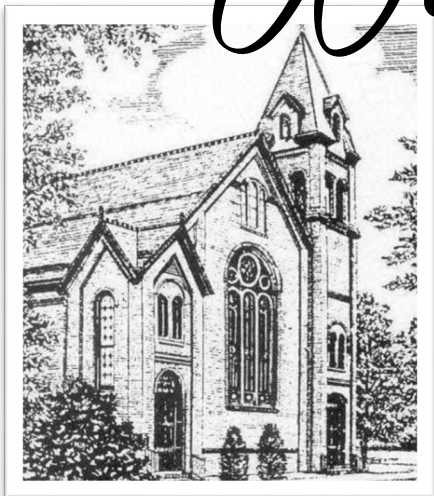


In response to God's love and grace, through Jesus Christ, we commit to learning, proclaiming, and living the love of God.

# 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 October 29, 2023**

#### **SERVING THE CHURCH TODAY**

- Preaching..... Rev. Dr. Robert Cook
- Liturgist..... Brian Keck
- Musicians.....Dr. J. Frederick Davison, Brenda Slick
- Acolyte.....
- Sunday School Teachers.....Mindy Barnhart
- Video / Audio Tech.....
- Closer..... Paul Sauder

*Please join us for coffee, refreshments, and fellowship in the Social Room after Worship. Everyone is welcome!*

*Hosted by Dottie Davison.*

\* Please stand as able

## CENTERING THOUGHT

*The early Christians not only believed that God had chosen them – had called them for a purpose – something greater than themselves – greater than the years of their lives – they lived for something greater than the ordinary concerns that fill our days.*

Welcome and Brief Announcements

The Prelude *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* arr. M. Hayes  
Brenda Slick, piano

\*The Call to Worship

Leader: Home is not a building or a place we meet.

**People: Home is not just where we came from.**

Leader: Home is more than people and memories.

**People: Home is more than sentimentality or traditions.**

Leader: Home is toys on the floor.

**People: Home is a mess in the kitchen.**

Leader: Home is a welcome at the door.

**People: Home is a hug of acceptance.**

Leader: Home is the laughter around the table.

**People: Home is remembering promises made in water and spirit. Home is seeing where God is leading us and going there together.**

Leader: Welcome home to Greencastle Presbyterian, where we welcome all God's children, care for each other, and learn how to love.

***All: Welcome home, where we are better together.  
Amen.***

\*Hymn: #316 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

\*The Prayer of Confession

Leader: God's mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea, and God's grace is wider than the whole of the earth. Trusting in that mercy and that grace, let us make our confession before God and each other.

**All: Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day and offer the truth of our lives: the fear that stifles us, the prejudice that blinds us, and the ignorance that hobbles us, the doubt that plagues us. Help us, we pray, that we will find courage in unlikely places, see the world with new and gracious eyes, move to those places where love is needed, and have faith that you are with us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

(Silent prayer)

\*The Assurance of Pardon and Peace

Leader: Friends! Hear the Good News! By the mercy of God in Christ, we are forgiven!

**All: Thanks Be to God!**

\*The Gloria Patri #582

*Glory to God, Whose Mercy Shines on Me*

The Children's Time with Their Pastor

The Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

**Calm us now, O Lord, into a quietness that heals and listens. Open wounded hearts to the balm of your Word. Speak to us in clear tones so that we might feel our spirits leap for joy and skip with hope as your resurrection witnesses. Amen.**

The First Scripture Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:4-9

The Anthem *In the Shadow of His Wings*

Lloyd Larson

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:34-40

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

The Message:

***The Burden of the Spiritual Life*** -Pastor Robert Cook

\*Response to the Word:

**The Apostles' Creed** Page 35

Hymn #63 *The Lord Is God*

Prayer Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

\*The Doxology #606

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*The Dedication of Our Offerings

\*Hymn #756 *O God of Every Nation*

\*The Blessing

Postlude *Shout to the North*

M. Smith, arr. B. Wolaver

Brenda Slick, *piano*

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**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)