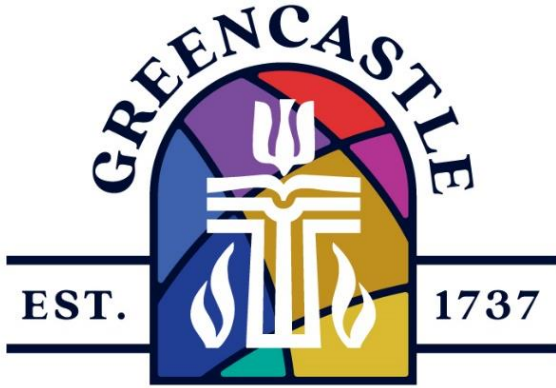


In response to God's love and grace, through Jesus Christ,  
we commit to learning, proclaiming, and living the love of God.



**PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**  
[visitGPCpa.org](http://visitGPCpa.org)

**ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER 5, 2025**

10:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

**World Communion Sunday**

**SERVING THE CHURCH**

Preaching.....	Rev. Dr. Robert Cook
Liturgist.....	Colleen Seidel
Musicians.....	Dr. J. Frederick Davison, Brenda Slick
GPC Bell Choir.....	Mary Ann Ackerman, Terry Davis Brian Keck, Kelly Kerstetter, Berry Kline, Danielle Kline Barry Leap, Kaylynn Leap, Liam Papa, Dee Patton
Acolyte.....	Aubrey Smith
Communion Servers.....	Becky Fic, Anne Larew Debbie Wine, Ed Wine
Audio Video Tech.....	Jim Papa
Closer.....	Paul Sauder

\* *Please stand as able*

## **Centering Thought**

*One day, the One Lord shall unite all people in the love  
of God's great embrace of peace. This is our hope!*

Welcome and Brief Announcements

The Prelude

*All Things Bright and Beautiful*

arr. Sondra K. Tucker

GPC Bell Choir

\*The Call to Worship

Leader: The whole world is in God's hands.

**People: Everything that lives and breathes.  
Everything that simply is. Everything!**

Leader: From the farthest spaces, to the inmost places!

**People: God is with us and we are with God. Alleluia!**

Leader: As people of Christ, gathered at table, with our  
siblings around the world, to remember whose we are, we  
praise —

**All: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

Leader: How shall we pray?

**People: With all that we have, with all that we are, we  
worship you, God-of-all-Being.**

Leader: Bless this day. Bless this time. Bless this gathering.  
Bless this world, with your overflowing love. Alleluia!

**All: Alleluia! Amen!**

\*Hymn #405 *Praise God for This Holy Ground*

\*The Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Across the barriers that divide race from race:  
reconcile us, O Christ.**

**Across the barriers that divide rich from poor:  
reconcile us, O Christ.**

**Across the barriers that divide people of different  
cultures: reconcile us, O Christ.**

**Across the barriers that divide Christians:  
reconcile us, O Christ.**

**Across the barriers that divide men and women,  
young and old: reconcile us, O Christ.**

**Confront us, O Christ, with the hidden prejudices and  
fears that deny and betray our prayers. Enable us to  
see the causes of strife, remove from us all senses of  
superiority. Teach us to grow in unity with all God's  
children. Now hear us, O Lord, as we confess to you in  
silence ... (silent prayer)**

Leader: God in Christ forgives and reconciles us in love. Since  
God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The  
peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also, with you.**

\*The Gloria Patri #581

The Children's Time with Their Pastor

\*The Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

**Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the  
Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in  
our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in  
our living. Amen.**

The First Scripture Reading

Lamentations 3:22-33

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

The Message

\*Response to the Word (unison)

**We are a cloth of diverse colors made from many gifts and graces.**

**We are the people flowing forth from Creator God, surprising ourselves with the things that can be done.**

**We are raw material for rewarding relationships as our lives interweave, contributing one to the other, holding each other firm when one is weak or breaking.**

**We are each worthy of being respected and cared for essential to the pattern, skilled in our appointed tasks, sources of laughter and sharers of tears.**

**We commit ourselves to work together, that one day, this world may be a place where all people live in justice, freedom and peace.**

\*Hymn #452 *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

Prayer Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer

\*The Doxology

\*The Dedication of Our Tithes and Our Lives

The Communion Anthem *We Remember* Joseph M. Martin

## The Service of Holy Communion

Pastor: This table is for all of us, near and far, high and low, east and west and north and south. This table is for all of us, but it is not our table. It's not a Presbyterian table. It's not an American table. It's God's table, for all of us, and it's a table of grace. So come and take your place at the table.

You are welcome, you are invited, you are called to share this holy meal together and so, the Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

Even when we were dust, when our story begins in dust, you were there, your word was there, your breath into the lifeless void. And upon your word all creation sprang into life. When we were in the wilderness, terrified, timid, you were there, your word was there, with manna just enough for today, with water even from the driest rock, with the abundant grace upon which our story always rests.

And when we fell short, slaves to power and greed, you were there, your word was there, on the lips of prophets, and in the hearts of servants, in stories of revolution and revelation and liberation, calling us even now to acts of courage and witness and peace.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**All: 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!**

Pastor: Blessed are you, O Christ, our Lord, for risking yourself among us, vulnerable and rejected; for teaching among us, teaching the radical hope of God; teaching grace to a world bent on vengeance, teaching love to a world bent on destruction, teaching peace to a world bent on tearing itself apart. You were there; your word was there, even to the point of death itself. Even faced with terror and hatred and the brokenness of the world, you rose again, to new life, to new creation, to resurrection, that we might know something other than the dust, that we might expect something other than the end, that we might work for something other than ourselves. And so you speak to us again, with these abundant gifts of bread and wine, with which we joyfully celebrate your dying and rising, as we await the table of the Kingdom yet to come, and as we dedicate ourselves again to you, thankful, and transformed, as living and holy sacrifices, that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen. For, great is the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break together, and the cup we share together, may retell our common stories together and reshape our common bonds together, and remember our common grace together, in the communion of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ, the one in whose life and death you have torn down our divisions. And so may we be one with all who share this feast, on this day, of all days, with all your children at every corner of your table. May we share this abundant cup with all those who thirst for your justice.

**People: May we share this abundant bread with all those who hunger for your righteousness. May we be united with every corner of your story, united in hope, united in vision, united in purpose, united in ministry in every place.**

Pastor: As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us from this table to be the body of Christ in all the world. Send us with a spirit of courage, a spirit of power and love, that we may be witnesses in all creation to the unending story of your word breathing life into the dust. Keep us faithful, and fruitful, and hopeful, and peaceful, until we come at last to the one table of your Kingdom, to feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm, with you and with your Word, through Christ and in Christ, the one who came for us, died for us, and rose for us, the one who prays even for us, the one who first taught us to pray, praying:

**The Lord's Prayer** (unison)

Breaking the Bread and Sharing the Cup

A Prayer After Holy Communion (Unison)

**Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal realm. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Hymn: #318 *In Christ There Is No East or West*

\*The Blessing

The Postlude *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* arr. Lloyd Larson  
Brenda Slick, piano

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

*Hosted by Deacon's Care Cell #2. All Are Welcome!*

## PRAYER CONCERNS

June Marshall	Kenny Reed
Patti Sechrist	Todd Smith
Alan Shope	John Stanton
Tim Walck	Tom Clopper
Mary Lou Riddle	Leslie Moose
Mindy Grosh	Donna Bingaman
Michael Paylor	Jason Kinzer
Bill & Kathy Kendall	Emmie White
Rev. Bill Beck	Stephanie & Mike and Alaina Klingensmith
Dan Patton	Joseph Hams
Bethany Yeager	Terri Brust
Penny Mohler	Helen Taulbee
Cathy Thomas	Doc Greenawalt
Sue Lum	David Pickart
Frank & Tracey Toston	Greg Harmon
Sally Snyder	Bonnie Speaks
Chelsea White	Cindy Widder
Tim Reed	Donna & Sarah Stillwagon
Lynne Leap	Carla Vickers
Gail Guyton	Kevin Taulbee
Marvin & Nancy Rice	Brandon Fisher
David Myers	Jan Eppleman
Frank Marconi	Courtney Lampton

*Good and gracious God, we surrender all worries and concerns to you, knowing that we are your beloved children. Our faith requires we rest in your infinite mercies.*

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### **Sunday, October 5**    **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

8:45 am    Fall Bible Study

10:00 am    **Worship** with Communion

Coffee Fellowship / First Sunday Food Drive / Blessing of the Pets

5:30 pm    Youth Group

6:45 pm    Movie Night – *Chariots of Fire*

Light snacks provided / Bring a chair or blanket  
(*movie begins at 7 pm, we'll move indoors if necessary*)

### **Tuesday, October 7**

6:30 pm    Christian Education Committee Meeting

6:30 pm    Worship Committee Meeting

### **Wednesday, October 8**

9:00 am    Greencastle-Antrim Food Pantry

9:00 am    Wednesday Prayer Circle

6:00 pm    Bell Choir

7:00 pm    Chancel Choir

7:00 pm    Ladies AA Meeting

### **Thursday, October 9**

1:00 pm    Presbyterian Women Meeting

6:30 pm    Session Meeting

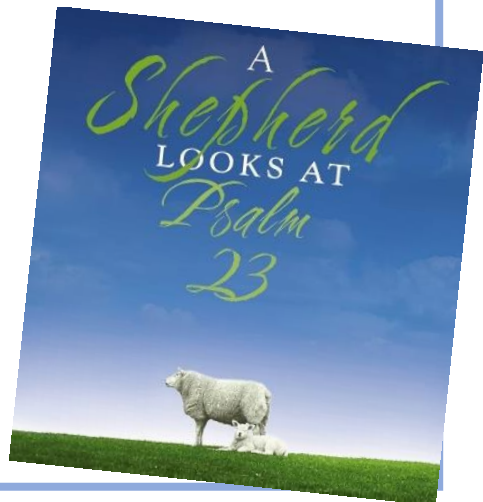
### **Saturday, October 11**

2:00 pm    Hymn Festival – American Guild of Organists

### **FALL BIBLE STUDY**

Please join Erin Herrmann and Jim Papa to examine Psalm 23 using the book by Phillip Keller entitled "*A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23*"

Held on Sundays at 8:45 am in the Edwards Room from September 28 thru December 14.



## **PHOTOS OF YOUTH GROUPS PAST**

Colleen Seidel is looking for photos of Youth Groups of yesteryear to create a collage in the Youth room. If you have any physical or digital photos you'd like to share, please contact her at [gpc.youth17225@gmail.com](mailto:gpc.youth17225@gmail.com).

## **BECOMING A MEMBER AT GPC**

Church member is an act of faith, a public witness of your trust in Christ and a way of living out your faith in service within the congregation and out in the larger community. The only pre-requisite for joining *any* PC(U.S.A.) congregation is confessing your faith in Jesus Christ. Our goals for the Membership Class are to increase our awareness and understanding of:

- **The central beliefs of the Christian faith in the Reformed tradition**
- **The Vision of the Greencastle Presbyterian Church**
- **How the Presbyterian Church is a democratically organized Church**



The class provides opportunities for:

- **Making or deepening your commitment to Jesus Christ**
- **Making friends within the class and within the congregation**
- **Making commitment to specific connections with the church where your spiritual gifts can make a difference.**

We invite you to be part of the Greencastle Presbyterian Church! As you become a member of this fellowship, we trust that God has brought us together, and that we are a help and a benefit to each other as we seek to follow Jesus Christ. There are three ways to become a member:

1. Make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, and, if you have not been previously baptized, be baptized.
2. Join by a transfer of your church membership from a church where you are currently a member.
3. Reaffirm your faith, if you have been previously baptized and have made a public profession of faith.

## New Member Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates to Remember (Birthdays, Anniversaries):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Baptized?  Yes  No \*When & where? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a member of another church?  Yes  No

\*If so, where? We will take care of transferring your membership.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you have children at home, what are their names and birthdays?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are your children baptized? \*If so, when & where?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything else you would like for us to know?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*\*Specific information is helpful but not required*

## **WHAT IS WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY?**

World Communion Sunday is on the first Sunday of October each year. First adopted as a denominational practice in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.) in 1936, churches in other denominations were later invited to join. It wasn't until 1940, when the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches (a predecessor of the National Council of Churches) extended the celebration to several churches around the world, that the practice became widespread.

The idea originated with Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr, pastor at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1933. Kerr first conceived the notion of World Communion Sunday during his year as moderator of the General Assembly in 1930. But this nascent idea came to fruition through the work of the Stewardship Committee at Shadyside. They dreamed of bringing churches together in a service of Christian unity to lift up the global Church and to remember that by virtue of our baptism, we are connected to a worldwide community. One congregation is connected to every other congregation, united in "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Ephesians 4:5).

The vision gradually caught on in the denomination and with our ecumenical partners. Ecumenism only emerged after the First World War as churches struggled to respond to the devastating humanitarian and theological crisis brought on by the war. Dr. Kerr's son, the Rev. Dr. Donald Craig Kerr (who was a pastor emeritus of the Roland Park Presbyterian Church in Baltimore), shares that "the concept spread very slowly at the start. People did not give it a whole lot of thought. It was during the Second World War that the Spirit caught hold because we were trying to hold the world together. World Wide Communion Sunday symbolized the effort to hold things together in a spiritual sense. It emphasized that we are one in the Spirit and the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Today, organized by the National Council of Churches, World Communion Sunday is celebrated worldwide, demonstrating that the church founded on Jesus Christ peacefully shares God-given goods in a world increasingly destabilized by global market economies based on greed. It is fitting that on this Sunday, we will receive one of the Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Peace and Global Witness Offering encourages congregations to address the anxiety and discord prevalent in a broken and fearful world. Twenty-five percent of what we receive remains with our congregation for local efforts. Together, we make a difference. Let us gather around the Lord's table and entrust our lives to the one who holds the world together, giving generously to the work and witness of Christ through the life of the Church.

*Ken Kovacs and reprinted from the September 2023 edition of The Messenger.*