



Worship of Almighty God

Teachings on the Kingdom of God

July 26, 2026

10:00 A.M.

WELCOME! We welcome you into this occasion for worship and celebration, as God meets us here. As you have any questions or ideas to share, please do.

Please note your presence and provide contact information in the “Ritual of Friendship” booklet. Then, return it to the first person in your row.

God’s People Gather to Worship

WE BEGIN WITH INDIVIDUAL MEDIATION AND PRAYER

“O give thanks to the Lord, call on His name, make known His deeds among the peoples.”

Psalm 105 commands us to sing praises, give thanks, and joyfully seek God and recall the miracles and judgments God has performed.

PRELUDE

“Children’s Corner”
The Little Shepherd

Debussy

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(Responsive)

Leader: We gather as people held by a love that will not let go.

All: No height, no depth, nothing in all creation can separate us from it.

Leader: God is at work in what is small, hidden, and easy to overlook.

All: We come ready to notice what we might otherwise miss.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God Whose faithfulness runs through every generation.

All: We gather in confidence, held and known.

***OPENING HYMN**

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

No. 36

***CALL TO CONFESSION** *(Lay Reader)*

**Asterisks indicate when those who are comfortable standing can rise.*

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(In Unison, then Individually)*

Merciful God, we confess that we have looked for Your kingdom in the wrong places, valuing what is large and visible over what You call precious. We have doubted that Your love holds us in every circumstance. Forgive us. Open our eyes and anchor us in Your steadfast love. Amen.

(A quiet moment for individual prayers and confessions)

***KYRIE**

“Lord, Have Mercy upon Us”

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(Lay Reader and In Unison)*

Leader: Friends, put your trust in the Good News of the Gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are fully forgiven! Thanks be to God!

***PASSING OF CHRIST’S PEACE**

Leader: God has received us, pardoned us and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ. Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share a sign of Christ's peace with one another

(All may greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please remain standing after returning to your place.)

*** “GLORY BE TO THE FATHER”**

No. 581

God’s Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *(In Unison)*

**God of wisdom, give us understanding as Your Word is read and proclaimed.
Let Your truth take root and grow in us, however small the beginning.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

SUMMER PSALM OF THE WEEK

Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC “Near to the Heart of God/Children of the Heavenly Father”arr. Adams

Rebecca Bickel, oboe

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

God’s People Respond to the Word

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from The Barmen Declaration, 8.14-8.16)

As Jesus Christ is God’s assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so, in the same way and with the same seriousness, is He also God’s mighty claim upon our whole life. Through Him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to His creatures. We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords — areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through Him. Amen.

*HYMN

“A Sower Came from Ancient Hills”

No. 171

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

INVITATIONS AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

WE MAKE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“My Faith Has Found a Resting Place”

arr. Everson

Rebecca Bickel, oboe

*“PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW”

No. 606

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Steadfast God, You strengthen us in our weakness and bind us together in love that cannot be broken. May our gifts bear witness to Your enduring promise, so that nothing can separate us from Your love in Christ Jesus. Use our lives and our offerings to bring hope to the weary, peace to the troubled, and joy to the hearts of Your people. Through Christ, Who is God-with us, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN**

“Lord, You Give the Great Commission”

No. 298

God’s People Go Forth to Worship and Serve

***A CHALLENGE AND THE BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**

“Children’s Corner”
Dr. Gradus ad Parnassum

Debussy



RADIO MINISTRY is funded today by an **Anonymous Donation**. Our service is broadcast at 10:00 a.m. Sundays on 1570 AM and 97.7 FM and talk 977.com. Donations for the Radio Ministry may be placed in the offering plate; contributions may also be mailed to the Church Office with “Radio Ministry” in the memo of the check.

THE FLOWERS ON THE CHANCEL are dedicated to the **Glory of God** and in honor of our **Pastoral Candidate Leslie Traylor** by the PNC.

THE DEACONS would like to thank all who remember the Deacons’ Cupboard while shopping. They are requesting **shampoo, toothpaste, and Kleenex** for the month of **July**. You may leave your items in the Deacons’ box in Fellowship Hall.

PASTOR’S VACATION: Pastor Greg will be on **vacation through August 4**. Whenever the pastor is away, you are encouraged to notify one of the Elders or call the Church Office for a circumstance that needs immediate attention or follow up.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The Session has called a Congregational Meeting **today**, immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Pastoral recommendation of the PNC, vote on the candidate, and approve the terms of call.

FPC'S ANNUAL PICNIC will be **Saturday, August 1**, at Marty and Susan Nadenichek's home, 2185 Brittany Oaks Dr. NE. Church Life will provide chicken, and guests are asked to bring a dish to share. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall if you plan to attend.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY? That's right. The Church Life Team and the Deacons are celebrating Christmas in July with a toy collection for Warren Family Mission. Please bring in new, unwrapped toys to help stock the Christmas Toy Room at WFM for Christmas 2026. Look for the Christmas Tree and place your donation in the WFM barrel in Fellowship Hall.

SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY, AUGUST 30. Two changes are happening this summer for our annual "Rally Day" event. The launch of our program year has moved to *before* Labor Day to align us with the patterns of the lives of people whose schedule revolves around the school year. After worship, join us for a "Back to School Carnival!"

TODAY'S COMPOSER: Claude Debussy is often called the first impressionist composer, although he didn't care much for that title. He wrote during a time when French impressionism was rising and the arts were very tightly connected through art, literature, and politics. He is among the most influential composers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. *Children's Corner* was written between 1906 and 1908 for Debussy's daughter, Chou-Chou. *The Little Shepherd* depicts a shepherd with his flute. One hears the call of the shepherd followed by a response. In *Dr. Gradus ad Parnassum*, Debussy gives a nod to sets of piano exercises of that name by Carl Czerny – a staple in any pianist's technical development. The listener hears the exercise begin strictly and in time and follows it as it devolves into the imagination of the player before being reminded of what they are supposed to be practicing. The ending alludes to the player's inability to stay strict and disciplined!

AFTER WORSHIP PROGRAM: Find out about the recent General Assembly of the PC(USA). Elder Mary Ann Bromley was chosen by Eastminster Presbytery as a commissioner to our national biennial meeting. This short program and Q&A session will be in Fellowship Hall starting about **11:10 a.m. on Sunday, August 2.**

PARKING LOT RESURFACING: During the week of **August 3 – 9**, the Church parking lots will be resurfaced. It should take one week, weather permitting. During that time, members, visitors, and staff will need to park in the former YMCA lot. The entrance is off Harmon Ave. next to the Trumbull County Administration building.

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL 2026-27.... Let’s continue our efforts to help our community children, many of whom will lack the basic supplies needed for school. Don’t forget **School Supplies** the next time you are out and about. Look for those “early bird” specials! Please be aware that Ohio’s sales tax holiday weekend will be in effect from August 7 – 9. You can drop off your donations at the Church Office.

MIRIAM ESTHER CIRCLE is a group of women at FPC who meet for **Bible Study** on the first Thursday of the month beginning in September at 11:00. We gather afterwards with our bag lunches and a dessert is provided. The Presbyterian Women’s book this year is “United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other” based on Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians. The Corinthian church was in conflict, and Paul was calling them to loving unity rooted in the reality that Jesus Christ had been crucified and resurrected for *everyone*. The Christian Education Committee will provide the books. If you want to **join us**, we would love to have you. **Please tell Mary Kilpatrick, Sue Dennis, or the church office so we can order a book for you. Deadline: Sunday, August 8.**

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sun, July 26	- Worship..... 10:00 am - Congregational Meeting 11:15 am
Mon, July 27	- OA, P 10:00 am - Girl Scouts, FH 5:30 pm - AA, MC 7:00 pm
Tues, July 28	- Al-Anon, P 9:30 am - NA, MC 7:00 pm
Wed, July 29	- AA, MC 6:30 pm - No Session Meeting
Fri, July 31	- Church Office Closed
Sat, Aug. 1	- AA, MC 11:00 am - Church Picnic, Nadenicheks’ home..... 12:00 pm - Concert Parking 4:30 pm
Sun, Aug. 2	- Communion/2 Cents-a-Meal - Worship..... 10:00 am

GUEST PASTOR:

Rev. Dr. Leslie Traylor

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY:

Melanie Vlad

DIRECTOR OF FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY:

Marissa Welke

WORSHIP LEADER:

Mary Kilpatrick

RADIO, LIGHTS AND SOUND SYSTEM:

Alexis Musgrove

VIDEO PROJECTION:

Rich Coupland and Gracie Lipscomb