

The First Presbyterian Church

# Abundant Grace



Matthew 18:21-35

Berwick, PA

The Order of Worship Sunday September 17th, 2023

Worship Participants:  
Jim Ross, Speaker  
Jennifer White, Organist  
Eugeniu Grigorescu, Technical Director  
Heather Botto, Greeter

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Berwick! We are glad that you are worshipping with us today. If you are visiting for the first time today, we invite you to sign the guest book in the back of the sanctuary or scan the QR code to fill it out digitally. Throughout the service, the People make the responses in **bold** print.



“I give you a new commandment,  
that you love one another as I have loved you.”

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE There Is a Fountain

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Holy God, out of creation

**P: You call us to love;**

L: Out of concern for creation

**P: You call us to serve;**

L: Out of life's sorrows and abundance

**P: You call us to joy;**

L: Out of your revelation to us

**P: You call us to worship. Hear the thoughts and prayers of our hearts as we present them to you this day.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, you call your church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you. Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #145 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart! *vs. 1, 2*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

God's love is so amazing that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us approach God with faith and confidence.

Bob Feick Family  
Pastor Steve Engelhardt  
Paul Moskaluk  
Nancy Raber  
Loretta Vaughn  
Matt Gabel  
Martha Yost  
Lauren Sadock  
Joann Magners  
Wilhelmina Hoover  
Amanda Carroll  
Chris and Hannah Bucklin

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty and merciful God,  
we have erred and strayed from your ways  
like lost sheep,  
we have followed too much  
the devices and desires of our own hearts.  
We have offended against your holy laws.  
We have left undone those things which  
we ought to have done; and we have done  
those things which we ought not to have done.**

**O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Spare those who confess their faults.  
Restore those who are penitent,  
according to your promises declared to the world  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
And grant, O merciful God, for his sake,  
that we may live a holy, just, and humble life  
to the glory of your holy name.**  
(Time for silent personal prayer for forgiveness ...)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, the judge of all creation is the same One who made us,  
died for us, and is our advocate against all evil and accusations.  
We are forgiven. Amen.

\*GLORIA PATRI

ANTHEM *Glory Land Hallelu arr. by Ruth Elaine Schram*

SCRIPTURE READINGS Ex. 14:19-31; Rom. 14:1-12;  
Matt. 18:21-35

SERMON Sing, Eat, Laugh

\*HYMN #466 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed, ecumenical version

PASTORAL AND LORD'S PRAYER

\*CLOSING HYMN #150 (Red Hymnal) Out of the Ivory Palaces,  
*vs. 1, 2*

## BLESSING

Now go in joy, peace, and love, knowing your creator, judge, and advocate is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

\*MUSICAL BENEDICTION #150 (Red Hymnal)  
Out of the Ivory Palaces, Refrain

\*Please stand if you are able

### **Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!**

1 Rejoice ye pure in heart!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!  
Your festal banner wave on high,  
The cross of Christ your King.

Refrain:  
Rejoice! rejoice!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

2 Yes, on through life's long path,  
Still chanting as ye go;  
From youth to age, by night and day,  
In gladness and in woe. (Refrain)

### **O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My dear Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of God's grace!

2 Jesus, the name that charms our fears,  
That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'Tis life, and health, and peace.

3 Christ breaks the power of reigning sin,  
And sets the prisoner free;  
Christ's blood can make the sinful clean,  
Christ's blood availed for me.

4 My gracious Master and my God,

## CALLING ALL BLUE AND WHITE FANS

PSU VS MICH Nov 10-12th

Camp Krislund would like to share an awesome opportunity with you! We are opening up our Cabins for you to utilize when you come watch the Michigan VS Penn State football game on November 11th! Stay Friday night and Saturday night in one of our Red Pine Cabins that have two full beds, private bathroom, and WIFI access. Each cabin also has A/C and Heat. On top of that we will also serve you a hot breakfast on both Saturday and Sunday morning in our dining hall! Call the office at 814-422-8878 for rate and reservations.

### **BIRTHDAYS**

Eugeniu Grigorescu  
Celebrates his birthday today!

Nancy Raber  
Dave Force  
Celebrate their birthday this week!

Happy Birthday!

### **COMMUNION DATES**

October 1  
October 29  
November 26  
December 24

### **IN THE PULPIT**

**September 17** Jim Ross  
**September 24** John Polhill

### **PRAYER LIST**

Clio Strausser  
Tom & Barb Huntington  
Alison Powlus  
Jason Seltzer  
Kathleen Knouse  
Jeff Knouse  
Jackie Brown

The Peacemaking Offering will continue through World Communion Sunday, October 1st. Thank you in advance for your support to this mission!

### **OH DEER?**

We have a new addition to our church grounds. Two deer and a bench have taken up residence in the front bank side of the grass. We have partnered with the Berwick Art's Association in placing a bench and sculpture that is being adorned in mosaic over the next few weeks. Please email Connie Donlin at [connie@berwickartsassociation.com](mailto:connie@berwickartsassociation.com) if you are interested in joining the artists Dave and Deb Stabley in learning the art of mosaic.

### **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Don't forget, men's breakfast is held **EVERY Wednesday** at 7:30am downstairs in the kitchen. All men are welcome to attend, fill up on hot cooked grub, join in fellowship and do whatever it is that men do.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

**Sunday, October 15th | 1-5PM**

Join us to support and celebrate the Berwick Arts Association! Admission includes a complimentary glass of wine, Project Pizza food truck, music by Mike Cagigas, pumpkin painting and other kids' activities, guest bartenders and art raffles. This is a **FAMILY-FRIENDLY** event, so bring the kids along for a beautiful day of Wine, Art, and Music at Freas Farm Winery! To reserve your ticket now, connect with a Board Member or send us a message on Facebook or Instagram!

**Sunday, October 15th | 3-5PM**

Last year First Columbia Bank hosted the photo show here at the church and was such a success that they will be hosting once again! We hope you will stop by enjoy the fellowship, music and see some great work on display!

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

A benefit to support the family of a young local boy who died in an ATV accident will be held at the Beach Haven carnival grounds **Friday October 20th and October 21st**. The YG will be participating by providing a free activity to any kids in attendance. We could use a few volunteers to help out. If you are interested in lending a hand please contact Heather Botto.

Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad  
The honors of Thy name.

### **Out of the Ivory Palaces**

1 My Lord has garments so wondrous fine,  
And myrrh their texture fills;  
Its fragrance reached to this heart of mine,  
With joy my being thrills.

Refrain:

Out of the ivory palaces,  
Into a world of woe,  
Only His great, eternal love  
Made my Savior go.

2 His life had also its sorrows sore,  
For aloe had a part;  
And when I think of the cross He bore,  
My eyes with teardrops start. (Refrain)

## **Announcements**

### **THANK YOU!**

This morning we welcome our very own Jim Ross back to the pulpit! Thank you Jim!

### **PEACEMAKING OFFERING**

The Peace & Global Witness Offering draws us together by providing education and exposure to those who show us how to do peacemaking well. It allows us to create resources for dealing with conflict and provide nurturing reconciliation, and stand in support of our global siblings, because the peace of Christ belongs to people everywhere.

**25% of the Offering stays with local congregations, and 25% with mid councils to unite congregations to support peacemaking in their regions. 50% of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.**