

Connect and Serve

Please see the website (firstpreswc.com) for a complete list of programs and ways to connect.

In Memoriam

Paul Becker

Member of First Presbyterian Church since 12/20/2021

Our sympathy and prayers are with his family and all those who knew and loved him.

Summer Office Hours – Just a friendly reminder that we have transitioned to Summer Office hours. The church office will be open from 9am-4pm on Monday-Thursday and will be **closed** on Fridays.

Summer Spanish - Are you interested in learning some conversational Spanish? A local teacher is hoping to start a class for beginners that would meet once a week over lunch at First Pres. For more information, please contact Pastor Caroline.

VBS & Music Adventure Camp – Register Now - We are excited to offer a week of summer fun to the kids of First Pres and our community! Join us for the week of July 20-24 for VBS in the morning and Music Adventure Camp in the afternoon. Kids can sign up to attend either or both. It will be a great week of faith-filled fun, playing, friends, and, of course, music! For more information and to register, click on "VBS/Music Adventure Camp" on the Sign-up tab of the church's website or talk to Director of Faith Formation Sara Pantazes or Children's Music Director Laura Moreschi.

VBS & Music Adventure Camp Items Needed - Plans are well underway for this summer's week of VBS and Music Adventure Camp! Please continue to bring in your cleaned, empty 1 gallon water or milk jugs. Music Camp is also looking for donations of individual sized soda bottles (roughly 16 oz), including their tops. Both items can be left in bins on the stage in Fellowship Hall. In addition, we are looking for some items to borrow as decorations, including white Christmas lights, skis and sleds, and white sheets or towels. Check out the Sign-Up Genius on the church website for more information about these items we hope to borrow.

Presbyterian Paddles - Do you play pickleball?

First Pres players will be meeting up this summer for this popular activity! We'll meet on Wednesday mornings for four weeks (July 1-22) from 7:30-9am at Lambert Park (1145 Pottstown Pike, WC – next to Wawa). This group activity is best suited for intermediate and advanced players who have playing experience. Sign up online and join the fun!

VBS Decoration Party - Help us transform First Pres into a winter wonderland in preparation for Vacation Bible School! All hands are invited to gather in the Chapel from 9 - 11am on Wednesday, July 8. We will create and distribute decorations throughout the stairwells, hallways, and classrooms of the church. The more hands the merrier! Let Sara Pantazes know if you have any questions.

First Pres Travelers – First Pres Travelers is planning to attend the Uptown Knauer Performing Arts Center, 226 North High Street, West Chester for a performance of "White Christmas" on Sunday afternoon on Dec. 13th at 3:30pm. The management permitted us to reserve 30 seats at a greatly reduced price of \$28.00 (including fees). Our 30 seats are now sold out. If you would like to be on the waiting list, please send your information to Thom Clapper at psuthom@verizon.net.

First Presbyterian Church of West Chester

June 14, 2026



Order of Worship for the Third Sunday after Pentecost

**Please rise in body or spirit*

Prelude God Will Take Care of You
arr. Peter Hilliard

Call to Worship*
Let everyone in the world revere the Lord,
and let everyone stand in awe of him.

Our souls are waiting for God.
Only God is our help and our shield.

In Him, our hearts rejoice,
for we trust in God's holy name.

May your unfailing love surround us, O God,
for our hope is in you alone.

Hymn 15* All Creatures of Our God and King

Welcome

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that too often we have not been open to the rhythms of life you offer us. We march to the beat of our own drums and allow ourselves to wander from yours. Too often the melodies of the world consume us and lead us and others to paths that are in discord with your love and direction. (cont'd)

Help us pay attention to your guidance and make our living faithful. Help us take the risks that are part of letting you lead. Clean our hearts, purify our hands, and steady our feet that we might know and share your blessings. Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness

How kind our God is to us— full of grace and compassion!
Christ alone rescues our souls from the grip of death, so be at peace: your sins are forgiven!

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Response*

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Passing the Peace*

Children's Message

During the singing of the following response, children may join their teachers for Sunday School. Families can pick up their children after the service downstairs in Social Hall.

Response God of Great and God of Small Hymn 19

First Scripture Reading Psalm 116:12-19 OT p. 564

Special Music In the Garden/What a Friend
arr. Brant Adams

Prayers of the People and 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 and the power and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Breath of the Almighty
arr. James Southbridge

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Hymn 529* Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Second Scripture Reading Matthew 10:24-39 NT p. 10

Sermon *Rethinking Fear*
Rev. Andrew Esqueda

Hymn 697* Take My Life

Benediction*

Postlude Rejoice, the Lord is King
(with Bach Invention No. 8)
Arr. Marilyn Reimer

Assisting in worship today:

Tracy Burke, Flute
Julie Claeys, Piano

All are welcome in worship. We are a community of people of all ages who cry, vocalize, stomp, fuss, stand, sit, and come and go as needed.

The sounds of people are the joyful noise of God's creation.

Audio amplifiers are in a basket at the back of the sanctuary. There are also screens in Fellowship Hall that stream the service if you need to step out.

The nursery is available for children ages 0-3 years. Please ask a greeter if you would like additional information about Sunday School or children's programming.

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Andrew Esqueda, Senior Pastor
Rev. Caroline Cupp, Senior Associate Pastor
Sándor Kádár, Director of Music
Sara Pantazes, Director of Faith Formation
Nathan Preuhs, Director of Youth Ministry
Elizabeth Hess, Director of Engagement
Karin Khan, Ministry Administrator
Claire Kramer, Finance Manager
Peter Galloway, Director of Operations
Sara Ford, Facilities Manager
Laura Moreschi, Children's Music Director
Ann Ellis, Choir Accompanist
Kiana Rivera, Worship Band Leader
Jennifer Rosenberg, Preschool Director
Greg Ondo, AV Tech
Haley Phares, Music & AV Associate

Emails at firstpreswc.com/staff