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THE LORD'S DAY – STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

October 18, 2026 – 10:45 AM

Greeters

Pastor

Liturgist

Director of Music Ministries.

Nursery

Children's Message

Jr. Church

Deacon of the Day

Deacon of the Month

Larry & Carole Lentz

The Reverend Dr. Janet Hufford

Tim Eckhardt

Randall Curtis

Becky Bray & Nancy Hoffacker

Becky Bray

Molly Davis

Terri Clark

Tom Mentch

WELCOME.....Pastor Janet

*(Please fill out the friendship book on the side of the pew and pass it down.
Newcomers also please fill out a welcome card from the pew and put in the offering plate,
so that we know your name and have your contact information.)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Tim Eckhardt

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

**Congregation stands as able.
(Amen not sung at the end of hymns.)*

PRELUDE - Prelude on "Windsor" Raymond Haan

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP – Psalm 90:1-2.....Tim Eckhardt

One: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

**All: Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the
Whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

*(Please have children come to the front pulpit-side pew
by the start of the last verse of the response below.)*

*OPENING HYMN - "For the Beauty of the Earth".....#1

CONVERSATION WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH.....Becky Bray

*(Infant-2 yrs return with the attendants to the nursery downstairs)
(Preschool thru 4th grade attend Jr. Church in the chapel)*

CHOIR ANTHEM.....Chancel Choir
"In Christ Alone".....arr. Llyod Larson

CALL TO CONFESSION.....Pastor Janet

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Jesus, no time that we spend should be more important than time with
you. All else is idle. All else is waste. All else robs you of your glory. All
else is sin. Forgive us we pray and transform our hearts, minds, and
actions for us to be good stewards of all the time you give as our good
and gracious king of the highest heaven. Nothing is higher than you.
Amen. *(silent confession)***

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION.....Tim Eckhardt

EPISTLE – Ephesians 3:14-21 (Pew Bible pg. 1666)

GOSPEL – Matthew 20:1-16 (Pew Bible pg. 1404)

HOLY SCRIPTURES The Holy Bible, NIV Copyright 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. NIV

SERMON TEXT

EPISTLE – Ephesians 4:1-16.....Pastor Janet

4:¹ As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. ⁷ But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. ⁸ This is why it says: “When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.” ⁹ (What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? ¹⁰ He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) ¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

One: The word of the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God

SERMON - "Offering Time of Life as Stewards of Christ's Gifts"...Pastor Janet

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER with 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE - "A Mighty Fortress is Our God".....#118

*UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Tim Eckhardt

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven & earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SECONDS FOR STEWARDSHIP of Talents.....Kelly Jones, Treasure

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING Tithes & Offerings.....Kelly Jones, Treasure

OFFERTORY – "Allegretto".....M. Clementi

*DOXOLOGY - "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION.....Pastor Janet

SENT TO SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST

*SENDING HYMN – “As with Gladness Men of Old”.....#202

*Responsive BENEDICTION.....Tim Eckhardt & Pastor Janet

**All: Seek First God’s Light, Grow as Followers of Christ,
 and Share His Good News in Love**

Pastor: in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen!

*POSTLUDE – “Andante”.....T. Frieese

VALUES of FPC:

Christ Centered Worship

Healthy Communications

Authority of the Word

Multigenerational Discipleship

Power of Prayer

Sense of Belonging

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

Please take the opportunity to let Pastor Janet know how much she means to us and how thankful we are for the ways she is leading us during our transition. Card baskets will be placed near the front and rear entrances to the church for you to share your notes and cards of appreciation for Pastor Janet. We are grateful for the spiritual ministry and love and care she gives to all!

HARVEST & HISTORY TOUR – rescheduled for Sunday, October 25, 2026

After worship on Sunday, October 25, join us for a harvest and history tour of Phil Oswald's farm - 6031 Atlantic Lake Road, Hartstown, PA, 16131. RAIN or SHINE! Lunch foods will be provided – just BRING A PORTABLE /FOLDABLE CHAIR for your comfort.

We will celebrate God's harvest of plenty with a hot lunch, guest speakers (Phil Oswald & Pastor Janet), and a farm history tour including hayride. This event supports our vision and values and is in celebration of our transitional pastor Janet Ann Hufford as we celebrate her during Pastor Appreciation month in October.

So we may plan accordingly, PLEASE SIGN UP @ top of stairs - rear parking lot exit.

Sponsor Team: Congregational Care. Call 724-456-1989 with any questions.

Root International is conducting a fundraising event on October 24th. The event is a brisket dinner to be served from noon to 4:00 pm at the Presbyterian Unity Church between Mercer and West Middlesex. The meal features 3 menu options with different prices and is being done with the assistance of Mercer Boy Scout Troop 38. If interested, contact Dan Wilson for ticket information at 724-376-7346.

FYI: The Outreach Team will be the overseer of the FPC opportunity to prepare Good Shepherd meals on May 15 and October 4, 2027. If you have interest to spear-head these meals kindly contact the Outreach Team leader or the church office.

Matthew 25:40 "And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.'

NEW DAILY DEVOTIONALS "Our Daily Bread" is now available at each end of the sanctuary please help yourself.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY is underway. Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. Tim Eckhardt is leading the study of Joshua "The Power of God's Promises" all men are welcome!

CHAPEL DOOR will remain locked on Sundays; you will be able to exit but not enter. All other doors will be locked 10 minutes after the service starts. If you are running late, ring the bell by the glass doors and a Deacon/Usher will kindly let you in.

FREE SKIN CANCER SCREENING is available to the community October 24 but space is limited. Information is on the bulletin boards at each end of the sanctuary.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

It's all about Jesus! It's shoebox time! It's time to start gathering items for your Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Shoeboxes will be due back at the church by Sunday, November 15th. Shoeboxes can be picked up at a table in the parking lot entry way and the narthex.



GOOD SHEPHERD THANKSGIVING REQUEST

The Good Shepherd provides holiday meals for 300 households. FirstPres has been asked to provide just 75 boxed brownies to support the Thanksgiving distribution. Please lend a helping hand for the needs of our neighbors.

Multi-Generational Evening for youth in grade 6 through adults

Every 1st & 3rd Sunday

5:00 p.m. All Worship in Chapel

@5:30 p.m. Small Groups

6:00 p.m. Activity

6:30-7:00 p.m. All Gather for a Closing Meal/Calvin Hall

939 - PRAYER SUGGESTIONS

For their hope in Christ

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS: M-F 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Pastor Janet is out of the office at an ECO pastor's retreat
 Mon.-Tues. 10/19-20

THIS WEEK

Sun., 10/18	9:30-10:30 a.m..	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.-noon	Worship/Sanctuary
	5:00-7:00 p.m.	Multi-Gen. gathering/Chapel
Mon., 10/19	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Kids of the Kingdom
	6:00-7:00 p.m.	Congregational Care Team Conf. Rm.
Tues., 10/20	1:00-2:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study/Conference Rm.
	2:00 -3:00 p.m.	PWCT Mtg.
	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study/Conference Rm.
Wed., 10/21	8:30 a.m.	Staff Mtg./Conference Rm.
	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Kids of the Kingdom
	6:00-7:30 p.m.	KOK Open House
	6:30-8:00 p.m.	3-F Ladies
Thurs., 10/22	9:30-11:30 a.m.	Discovery Science
	10:00-11:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study/Conference Rm.
	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary
Fri., 10/23	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Kids of the Kingdom
Sun., 10/25	8:30-9:30 a.m.	Outreach Team Mtg.
	9:30-10:30 a.m..	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.-noon	Worship/Sanctuary
	Noon	Trip to Oswald Farms
	2:00 p.m.	Kadima Worship