



GOOD NEWS

First United Presbyterian Church
40 Institute Street
Wyoming, PA 18644
Worshiping in the Wyoming Presbyterian Church
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NOV. 2020

Dear Friends,

Presbyterians are known for doing this decently and in order. We have normal patterns for what we do and how we do it. Our Book of Order and our Book of Common Worship gives guidance to worship but also describes the theology that should be considered for worship.

Since we returned to worship in the building, I have tried to follow that guidance for worship. Guidance from the denomination includes: limiting movement in the service, limiting the length of time that people are in the space, not singing even with masks.¹

I wish I knew when things would feel normal. In the last few weeks, I have heard from many people their thoughts about worship and heard how they want it to go back to the way it was. I wish it was that easy. Each week, I pray about worship and how we can make it accessible to everyone and make it a worshipful experience that brings Glory to God.

One thing that I have learned in these months is that we gather to worship differently than we did before, and I am not sure we will go back to the way it was before. A group gathers in person and online on Sunday mornings, but others gather throughout the week. Whenever we gather, the time is sacred and is set apart to be a holy time to commune with the Lord.

For me, worship is focused on the presence of the risen Lord. I am humbled when we gather around the Lord's Table as a reminder of our connection with one another. Sunday should be a time when we hear the Word of Scripture and celebrate our unity.

As we begin to look to the season of Advent, which begins on November 29th, know that we will continue to adjust worship as we receive guidance from the denomination. We may create new traditions for how we worship.

Blessings,
Martha

¹ Church Music and Covid-19 A Response from the Presbyterian Association of Musicians
https://e996cc84-ef59-48d5-b476-38079374752e.filesusr.com/ugd/c5003d_6535d98b40284e5497e5c1e7564ef5d4.pdf

NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sundays:	11:00 AM in the Sanctuary and on YouTube live – Worship
Sunday, Nov 1:	All Saints’ Day Worship Service with Communion 12:30 PM via Zoom – Wyoming Congregational Meeting
Wednesday, Nov 4:	7:00 PM via Zoom – Prayer and Devotion
Sunday, Nov 8:	Deadline for Nut Roll Orders from Deacons 9:45 AM @ the Institute – Adult and Teen Sunday School will
Tuesday, Nov 10:	7:00 PM @ the Institute (upstairs) – Wyoming Session 7:00 PM @ the Institute (downstairs) – Deacons
Wednesday, Nov 11:	9:00 AM @ the Institute – Morning Circle 7:00 PM via Zoom – Prayer and Devotion
Wednesday, Nov 18:	7:00 PM via Zoom – Prayer and Devotion
Sunday, Nov 22:	1:00 – 2:00 PM @ the Sanctuary – Drive by Food Collection 3:00 – 4:00 PM @ the Institute Pledge card collection
Monday, Nov 23:	7:00 PM via Zoom – Weekly Advent Study begins
Tuesday, Nov 24:	7:00 PM @ the Institute – West Pittston Session
Wednesday, Nov 25:	7:00 PM via Zoom – Prayer and Devotion
Sunday, Nov 29:	Worship & First Sunday of Advent

NORMAL OFFICE HOURS ARE MONDAY – FRIDAY 12:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Please contact the church office by 3:00 PM Friday if you plan to worship in the sanctuary on Sunday.

John will no longer be at the office on Thursday while Dallas schools run on a hybrid schedule, but he will be checking and answering phone calls and emails. Please call before you come on Thursdays as Pastor Martha may not be at her office and the building may be locked.



November Birthdays

4	Cheryl Walsh	11	Paul Fazio	22	Meghan Walsh
	Jake Olean	12	Gavin Malampy	27	Morgan Hosier
7	Morgan Slusser		Robert Howe	28	Mike Terlesky
9	Martha Jordan	13	Nicole Moscatelli	29	Joan Tilley
		14	Mitchell Higley		

COVID-19 RULES FOR MEETINGS IN LIGHT OF THE UPCOMING WINTER SEASON:

1. **Everyone will be masked**
2. **Everyone will socially distance themselves**
3. **Food may be consumed, with momentary mask removal**

PHOTOS

The church office is looking for photos of the sanctuary decorated for Advent and Christmas. As we prepare for the future, it can be helpful to reflect on where God has been moving in the past. We would love to see your photos, whether it is from last year or 50 years ago, just include a sentence or two of an explanation. You may send the photo to the office electronically or drop it off at the church and we will return it to you.

DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER

In an effort to stay connected, Pastor Martha will be hosting a reflection on Scripture and prayer on Wednesday at 7pm. You may join via zoom. You can log in from a computer or call in on the phone.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us> Meeting ID: check weekly email for meeting ID
Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

WORSHIP INFORMATION

ALL SAINTS' DAY

We will celebrate communion on November 1st, World Communion Sunday. **If you are planning to attend please bring your own communion elements.** In a small baggie bring bread, crackers, or chips. Also bring your own drink- water, wine, juice or coffee. If you forget to bring your own, we will have some communion supplies available.

WATCH US AND SUBSCRIBE ON YOUTUBE

You can subscribe either by searching "First United Presbyterian Church" and looking for the familiar steeple, or follow the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0rXFSLgCZvfu4y-C-olPw>

Worship services will livestream on YouTube, with a direct link available to it on the website and Facebook.

SUNDAY HELP

We are looking for a few volunteers who are willing to help with worship on Sunday mornings. We need volunteers to help lead worship as liturgists. We need volunteers to be ushers and escort people to their seats. We need volunteers to work the camera so we can stream the service on the internet. We need volunteers to help with projecting the worship order on the wall of the sanctuary. If you are able to assist, please let Pastor Martha know.

WORSHIP @ HOME

Join us for worship online! Each week at 11am, the service will be livestreamed on YouTube. Worship information is emailed out each week and available on Facebook. Please contact the church office if you want to be added to the email list.

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE!

First Presbyterian has set up electronic giving through the Presbyterian Foundation, which will allow people to give online by electronic funds transfer from their bank account, or by debit or credit card. There are different ways to do this.

- **Donate via our Square account** accessed through our website presbywp.org
- **You can set up a one-time or recurring donation through our [donation page](#)** (link will also be available through our website) or
- **Download the GivePlus phone app from the App Store or Google Play** and match with First Presbyterian Church at our current address in Wyoming, PA to schedule your offering electronically with the church.

If you are unable to set up electronic giving, another way is to send a check to the church office at 40 Institute Street, Wyoming, PA 18644. The ministry and mission of our church continues, and your financial support is greatly appreciated during this time.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES

Thank you to everyone who responded to the survey. At this time, there is no interest in our children having Sunday School on Sunday morning. If there is a desire to have it at another time/day, we will do our best to provide Sunday School classes.

For teens and adults, there was a desire to have Sunday School in person on Sunday morning. We will offer a class led by Pastor Martha twice a month. This will be socially distant at the Institute on Sunday November 8th and 22nd at 9:45 am. Please bring your favorite Bible to read.

DRIVE-BY FOOD COLLECTION

The next collection by the Wyoming Presbyterian Church will be on Sunday, November 22. Members and friends are invited to drive up and drop off donations at the church.

NEWS FROM THE TUTORING TABLE

Tutoring Table Update: At the moment, we are not sure what the tutoring table will look like for this fall. As we know information, we will update the congregation. If you are interested in helping, please let Michelle Klaproth know as it will be helpful in planning to know who is able to help. Please stay tuned for updates.

DEACONS HOMEMADE NUT ROLL FUNDRAISER

to benefit The Shawn C. Malone Memorial Fund,
managed by the Luzerne Foundation

www.luzfdn.org/types-of-funds/shawn-c-Malone-memorial-fund/

Pre-order your HOMEMADE Nut Roll just in time for Thanksgiving! They freeze well for Christmas! Each nut roll is \$10.00. Orders may be placed online by following the link <https://presbywpdeacons.company.site> or by contacting any member of the board of deacons. Last day to order is Nov. 8th. Schedule a time to pick-up your order on Nov. 14th from 2pm-4pm or Nov. 15th from 12pm-1pm. Your order will help the Memorial Fund provide scholarships for youth to attend Camp Lackawanna, Goose Pond, and Camp Acahela. For information call the church office at 570-609-5410.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS SHIRTS

A new Community Connections shirt has been created for our churches! It is available in all sizes and colors, short sleeve and long, and the proceeds will help to pay for giveaway shirts for kids at our Back-to-School Fair. Get yours today at: presbyterian-church-2020.itemorder.com/sale

SYNOD & PRESBYTERY NEWS

BELOVED COMMUNITY DISCUSSIONS

All discussions are Sunday at 7 p.m. Eastern Time

November 8th – Technology by Rev. Bruce Reyes Chow

November 15th - Racism and White Privilege by Ralph B. Lowe Jr. & Brian Wallace

Mandatory signups for one or more of these discussions is available [here](#) and also linked from the synod website.



Joys to Celebrate & Burdens to Share

We fulfill scriptural instruction when we pray for those we know and those who are known to others who ask us to lift their concerns to God in prayer. Please let us know when it is time to remove a name thanks to answered prayer, the crisis passed, or entry into "the heavenly host."

Irene Amato, Bernice Ashford, Raymond & Bonnie Banaszek, Jennifer Beard, David Binger, Judy Black, Nance Browdie, Judy Burke, Val Burke, Bill and Susan Butcher, Shirley Butler, Rev. Carol Coleman, Claude Collins, Ian Conover, Florence & John Coolbaugh, Jim Coolbaugh, Dennis Dalrymple, Liza DeBlis, Duane Dicker, Maurice Dionne, Darren Michael Eaton, Ruth Eaton, Julia & Claire Emmert, Victoria Everett, Barb & David Fairbrother, Guy Fasciana, Robert Fellows, Joan & Jack Finn, Cathy Fleming, Sean Fleming, Mary Claire Gallagher, Gloria Green, Amy Gromel, Ron Hagenbaugh, Jennifer Helfrich, Linda Houck, Bonnie Houpt, Barry and Grace Hosier, Di Jolley, Edie Kanaske, Thad Kanaske, Bill Kendall, Michelle Klaproth, Sandy Knouse, Barbara Krohmer, Maureen Krokos, Andy Kuffa, Bill Lawler, Casen Lear, Kyle & Corey Loftus, Florence Lombardo, Jessica Malone-Ciechoski, Rev. John Markarian, Dolores Martini, Cassidy Palamieri, Rhonda Proctor, Fulvio Ranalli, Kelly Wynder Rodgers, Matt Ross, Lisa Rugh, the Rugh family, Dorothy Rugh, Donna Salerno, Maverick Schwartzburg, Cheryl Scott, Dakota Segeda, Alberta Simonson, Douglas Skene, William Sommerville, Teresa Stacchiotti, Joan Tilley, Nora Terran, Patricia & Rich Tolladay, Henrietta Timinski, Mark and Sharon Weber, Shirley Weber, Amy Wiggins, Jennifer Williams, Jim Williams, Mark & Ann Williams, Mary Williams, Aiden Williamson, April Williamson, Anita Yurek, Adelaide, Brenda, Dennis, Frank, John Jr., Kennedy, Marlene, Sally, Zack.

Let Us Also Pray for our servicemen and women, for peace in the Middle East, for victims of the storms, for the worldwide church, and members and friends of our church in need of our prayers and concern.

We learn to pray by praying the prayers others have written. These prayers are from *The Book of Common Worship*, published by the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 2018:

For Stewardship in the Church

*Righteous God,
you have taught us that the poor
shall have your kingdom,
and that the gentle-minded
shall inherit the earth.
Keep the church poor enough
to preach to poor people,
and humble enough
to walk with the despised.
Never weigh us down
with property or accumulated funds.
Save your church from vain display
or lavish comforts,
so that we may travel light
and move through the world
showing your generous love
made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Remembrance of Those Who Have Died

*With reverence and affection
we remember before you,
O everlasting God,
all our departed friends and relatives.
Keep us in union with them here,
through faith and love toward you,
that hereafter we may enter
into your presence
and be numbered
with those who serve you
and look upon your face
in glory everlasting;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS for OCT 2020

from The Book of Common Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Sunday, Nov 1:	Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37	Joshua 3:7-17	1 Thess. 2:9-13	Matthew 23:1-12
All Saints Day, Nov 1:	Psalm 34:1-10, 22	Revelation 7:9-17	1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12
Monday, Nov 2:	Psalm 128	Joshua 4:1-24	1 Thessalonians 2:13-20	
Tuesday, Nov 3:	Psalm 5:1-6	Joshua 5:10-12	Acts 13:1-12	
Wednesday, Nov 4:	Psalm 5:7-12	Joshua 6:1-16, 20		Matthew 15:1-9
Thursday, Nov 5:	Psalm 78:1-7	Joshua 8:30-35	Revelation 8:6-9:12	
Friday, Nov. 6:	Psalm 70:1-11	Joshua 10:12-14	Revelation 9:13-21	
Saturday, Nov. 7:	Psalm 70:12-24	Joshua 20:1-9		Matthew 24:1-14
Sunday, Nov. 8:	Psalm 78:1-7	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25	1 Thess. 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
Monday, Nov. 9:	Psalm 63	Joshua 24:25-33	1 Corinthians 14:20-25	
Tuesday, Nov. 10:	Psalm 78:7-55	Nehemiah 8:1-12	1 Thessalonians 3:6-13	
Wednesday, Nov. 11:	Psalm 78:56-72	Jeremiah 31:31-34		Matthew 24:29-35
Thursday, Nov. 12:	Psalm 123	Judges 2:6-15	Revelation 16:1-7	
Friday, Nov. 13:	Psalm 123	Judges 2:16-23	Revelation 16:8-21	
Saturday, Nov. 14:	Psalm 90:1-8	Judges 5:1-12		Matthew 12:43-45
Sunday, Nov. 15, :	Psalm 90:9-12	Judges 4:1-7	1 Thess. 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
Monday, Nov. 16:	Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10	Judges 4:8-24	Romans 2:1-11	
Tuesday, Nov. 17:	Psalm 83:17-18	Exodus 2:1-10	1 Thessalonians 5:12-18	
Wednesday, Nov. 18:	Psalm 9:1-14	Esther 7:1-10		Matthew 24:45-51
Thursday, Nov. 19:	Psalm 100	Genesis 48:15-22	Revelation 14:1-11	
Friday, Nov. 20:	Psalm 100	Isaiah 40:1-11	Revelation 22:1-9	
Saturday, Nov. 21:	Psalm 100	Ezekiel 34:25-31		Matthew 12:46-50
Sunday, Nov. 22, :	Psalm 95:1-7a	Ezkl. 34:11-16, 20-24	Eph. 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46
Monday, Nov. 23:	Psalm 7:1-5	Esther 2:1-18	2 Timothy 2:8-13	
Tuesday, Nov. 24:	Psalm 7:8-17	Esther 8:3-17	Revelation 19:1-9	
Wednesday, Nov. 25:	Psalm 28	Ezekiel 33:7-20		John 5:19-40
Thursday, Nov. 26:	Psalm 80:1-7	Zechariah 13:1-9	Revelation 14:6-13	
Friday, Nov. 27:	Psalm 80:17-19	Zechariah 14:1-9	1 Thessalonians 4:1-18	
Saturday, Nov. 28:	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	Micah 2:1-13		Matthew 24:15-31
Sunday, Nov. 29:	Psalm 65	Deuteronomy 8:7-18	2 Corinthians 9:6-15	Luke 17:11-19
Monday, Nov. 30:	Psalm 79	Micah 4:1-5	Revelation 15:1-8	
Tuesday, Dec. 1:	Psalm 79:1-9	Micah 4:6-13	Revelation 18:1-10	
Wednesday, Dec. 2:	Psalm 79:10-13	Micah 5:1-5a		Luke 21:34-38
Thursday, Dec. 3:	Psalm 85:1-2	Hosea 6:1-6	1 Thess. 1:2-10	
Friday, Dec. 4:	Psalm 85: 8-13	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Acts 11:19-26	
Saturday, Dec. 5:	Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13	Ezekiel 36:24-28		Mark 11:27-33

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CURRENT RESIDENT OR