

First Presbyterian Church of Grove City

10:00 am
October 25th, 2026



“To Know Christ and Make Him Known”

We Gather to Praise Our God

**Please rise in body or spirit*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be always with you,

People: And also with you!

PRELUDE

Carillon on: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (Hymn #275)

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #829

My Faith Looks Up to Thee (st. 1)

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!

Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;

O let me from this day be wholly thine!

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CALL TO WORSHIP

L: God gives us the gift of faith.

P: Thanks be to God for the gift of faith.

L: God gives us the gift of God's Word

P: Thanks be to God for the gift of God's Word.

L: God gives us the gift of grace.

P: Thanks be to God for the gift of grace.

L: God gives us the gift of community

P: Thanks be to God for the gift of community.

L: Let us worship God.

*OPENING HYMN #275

A Might Fortress Is Our God

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(unison)

Loving God, in Christ you made us one, and called us together as your community. We want to be reformed, yet too often we cling to familiar ways. We want to follow you, but we are fearful of where you will lead us. We want to be made one, but we let differences divide us. Forgive us. Change our hearts and our lives so that we might listen and follow, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

L: In the waters of baptism we are claimed by God, washed, and set free.
P: In these waters we were marked as part of God's family.

L: Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:
P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

***RESPONSE #39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness (refrain)

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me.**

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We Hear God's Word

CHILDREN'S TIME

Following Children's Time, children ages 3 & up will be met by their teachers in the back of the sanctuary for Sunday School.

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Job 23:1-12, 30:16-31, 31:3-6, 29-37

L: The word of the Lord
P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Does Everything Happen for a Reason: Job, Part 2
Rev. Wendy McCormick

We Respond in Thanksgiving and Dedication

A TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN #834

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

From "A Brief Statement of Faith" PC(USA)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

You may put a donation to the church in the offering plate.

Please take a moment to touch the plate as it is passed and recommit yourself as a disciple.

ANTHEM

Held by His Grace

Patricia Mock & Faye Lopez

Lonely and empty, sadness within,
lost in my world of wandering and sin;
crying for mercy I did not deserve,
looking for meaning, a purpose to serve.

Held by his grace, that binds up the broken,
healing the soul's deepest need.
Grace so amazing at such a great cost,
showing mercy to one who was lost,
I'm held by his grace.

Once I was blinded, now I can see;
once wrapped in bondage but now I am free.
Grace that will pardon and cleanse me within,
grace that is greater than all of my sin!

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***DOXOLOGY #606**

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.**

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***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

CALL TO PRAYER #792

There is a Balm in Gilead (refrain)

**There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.**

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PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

We Depart to Share Good News

***SENDING HYMN #39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

***CHARGE & BLESSING**

***RESPONSE #39**

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All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
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POSTLUDE

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

arr. Benjamin Culli

Leading Worship Today

Pastor:

Rev. Wendy McCormick

Liturgist

Rick Puderbaugh

Ushers:

The McIntire Family

Technology:

Rachel, Beverly, & Bethany Woran

Worship Music:

Chris Dederer, Director of Music
FPCGC Chancel Choir

Are you new here? Or new-ish?

Do we have your correct contact info?

**Please sign the green visitor card in the pew and place it in
the offering plate or scan the code:**

We would love to meet you!



News & Announcements



Harvest Celebration – AFTER CHURCH TODAY!

Join the Worship, Christian Education, and Membership committees for a Harvest celebration after church. Enjoy harvest themed activities for adults and children. We will also share a potluck lunch.



Lend a Hand: All Church Clean Up

On Saturday, November 7, the House Committee and other church leaders are organizing a fall cleaning of our church facility. Come anytime from 8:00-11:00 a.m., and offer a hand with one of these tasks. Let's make our church shine for the holiday season.



Next Sunday, November 1, is **All Saints Day**. We will celebrate the communion of saints in a special remembrance in our worship and in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We will read the names of the members of our church who have died in the past year. Please bring framed photos of your own departed loved ones you remember on All Saints Day. There will be a table in the front of the sanctuary where you can display your photos. If there is someone in your family who has died this year (non-member of FPCGC) that you would like to honor please notify the church office of their name and date of death by Thursday, October 29th.



The Offering is a special moment in our worship that has changed a lot over the years. Many of us make our financial donation to the church in other ways and at other times than in the weekly passing of the plate. However, the *meaning* of this part of our worship is still important -- it is a time to rededicate ourselves to God, to offer our lives and our gifts. As the offering plate is passed to you, take a moment to touch it and to reflect on your own dedication to discipleship



Rise Against Hunger

Join the Mission Subcommittee on **Sunday, November 8th at 3:00 pm** in the **Fellowship Center**. We will assemble meals with rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables, and a blend of 20 vitamins and minerals. The meals store well and travel quickly to people facing food insecurity.

How to sign up: Add your name to the **sign up & waiver sheet in the narthex**.

Questions. See **Diana Mock**.



Election Day Volunteers and Bakers Needed

Help First Presbyterian Church welcome voters with treats and friendly faces on Tuesday, November 3! We need volunteers to serve refreshments in two-hour shifts beginning at 6:00 a.m., with help needed through 7:30 p.m. We also welcome donations of homemade cookies, breakfast bars, assorted chips, and bottled water.

Please sign up in the Narthex to volunteer, bake, or donate. Bring cookie donations to the church kitchen, packaged two small cookies or one very large cookie per bag. Leave a note identifying the cookie type and whether it contains nuts; individual bags do not need labels.

Thank you for helping us share our church's hospitality with our community!



Remember our neighbors who live with food insecurity.

Help fill the grocery cart in the narthex. In particular need at the Grove City Food Pantry right now are: beans, canned pasta, lentils, canned meat, jelly & spaghetti sauce. Thanks to all who donate and to Deacon **Pat Dugan** who delivers our donations to the pantry.



From the Deacons:

Thank You!

Thank you for your generous support of the Van Buren Center. Last week, the deacons delivered **80** costumes and over **1,000** diapers. They were very thankful for the donations!



Annual Coat Drive

Beginning **November 1st through November 15th** we will be doing our annual coat drive, in support of Central Community House. We're collecting new and gently used coats for all ages — with a special focus on children.

A box will be in the narthex to collect donations!



Lunch Together

Join other church members and friends for lunch on Wednesdays at 12pm. No RSVP required. See to the right for each week's location. Questions? Call Ken Simeral (cell 740-317-9476).

October 28th: Bob Evans (Georgesville)
 November 4th: IHOP
 November 11th: Sunny Street Café
 November 18th: Planks
 November 25th: Olive Garden
 December 2nd: Fiesta Mariachi (Georgesville)
 December 9th: 3 Brothers

Additional News & Announcements



From the Music Director:

Handbells Resuming

Handbells will resume at 9AM on **Sunday, November 1st**. Now is a great time to join handbells as we begin preparations for our Advent/Christmas season. See Chris Dederer after the service if interested in bells, choir, or any aspects of our music ministry.

Choir Date Change

Choir will meet on **Wednesday, October 28th** at 6:30PM to avoid Beggar's Night on October 29th.



Live Streaming Reminder

We're thrilled to continue to offer online worship for those who cannot join us in person. As we continue to improve our technology, we encourage you to utilize YouTube to view our service. Compared to Facebook, YouTube is a more stable and accessible platform, and we are finding there are fewer issues with viewing the stream there. Please check the app, website, or the link here: <https://www.youtube.com/@FPC-GC-Ohio/live>



Help Us Make Christ Known Online

Follow FPCGC on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube to stay connected with sermons, church events, announcements, and reflections. Liking, commenting on, and sharing our posts helps us reach more people as we continue "To Know Christ and Make Him Known."

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fpcgc>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/firstpresbyterianofgc/>

Tiktok: <https://www.tiktok.com/@fpcgc1858>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/@FPC-GC-Ohio>



Your Mission Committee thoughtfully and prayerfully allocates our congregation's mission money to organizations and ministries in this community and around the world that share our values of proclaiming the good news, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and binding up the brokenhearted. Through the generosity of our congregation, we have funds budgeted for this sharing in each annual church budget. This important ad hoc committee in our congregation is looking for a few new members. The committee meets a few times each year to prayerfully consider the needs of the community and the world and how best to connect our congregation with those needs. If you'd like to know more, speak with Ken Simeral or the church office. Or just come to the next meeting on **November 10th** at 7 pm to find out what we're about

From the Office

Social Media Update

As John Noss begins his new role as Director of Communications and Operations Ministries, he will continue to expand our online and social media outreach, sharing photos and videos more regularly. We respect your wishes if you prefer not to be featured. A Social Media Opt-Out Form is available from the church office and under the TV in the narthex. Please complete a form if you wish to be excluded.

E-Mail Reminder

The e-mail to communicate with John Noss in the office changed over the summer. Please use the following e-mails when contacting the office: j.nossii@fpcgc.org OR office.administrator@fpcgc.org.

Please no longer use the Gmail (Google) account, as it is no longer monitored and your e-mail will be missed. Thank you!

Poinsettia Orders

Can you believe we're already thinking about Christmas? Poinsettia orders will be accepted October 25–November 22! Please order through the FPCGC app whenever possible—it saves paper and helps us get your dedication names just right. Paper forms are also available in the Narthex; return completed forms to the folder labeled “Poinsettia” in the FPCGC office mailbox. Poinsettias will arrive the week of Christmas. Be sure to indicate whether you plan to take yours home on Christmas Eve!



Use your camera on your phone to scan here and order today!



This Week's Scripture Reading

Job 23:1-12, 30:16-31, 31:3-6, 29-37

23 Then Job answered:

- ²“Today also my complaint is bitter;
his hand is heavy despite my groaning.
³Oh, that I knew where I might find him,
that I might come even to his dwelling!
⁴I would lay my case before him
and fill my mouth with arguments.
⁵I would learn what he would answer me
and understand what he would say to me.
⁶Would he contend with me in the greatness of
his power?
No, but he would give heed to me.
⁷There the upright could reason with him,
and I should be acquitted forever by my
judge.
⁸“If I go forward, he is not there;
or backward, I cannot perceive him;
⁹on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him;
I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.
¹⁰But he knows the way that I take;
when he has tested me, I shall come out like
gold.
¹¹My foot has held fast to his steps;
I have kept his way and have not turned
aside.
¹²I have not departed from the commandment
of his lips;
I have treasured his words in my bosom.
¹⁶“And now my soul is poured out within me;
days of affliction have taken hold of me.
¹⁷The night racks my bones,
and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest.

- ¹⁸With violence he seizes my garment;
he grasps me by the collar of my tunic.
¹⁹He has cast me into the mire,
and I have become like dust and ashes.
²⁰I cry to you, and you do not answer me;
I stand, and you merely look at me.
²¹You have turned cruel to me;
with the might of your hand you persecute
me.
²²You lift me up on the wind, you make
me ride on it,
and you toss me about in the roar of the
storm.
²³I know that you will bring me to death,
to the house appointed for all living.
²⁴“Surely one does not turn against the needy
when in disaster they cry for help.
²⁵Did I not weep for those whose day was
hard?
Was not my soul grieved for the poor?
²⁶But when I looked for good, evil came,
and when I waited for light, darkness came.
²⁷My inward parts are in turmoil and are never
still;
days of affliction come to meet me.
²⁸I go about in sunless gloom;
I stand up in the assembly and cry for help.
²⁹I am a brother of jackals
and a companion of ostriches.

³⁰ My skin turns black and falls from me,
and my bones burn with heat.

³¹ My lyre is turned to mourning
and my pipe to the voice of those who
weep.

³ Does not calamity befall the unrighteous
and disaster the workers of iniquity?

⁴ Does he not see my ways
and number all my steps?

⁵ “If I have walked with falsehood,
and my foot has hurried to deceit—

⁶ let me be weighed in a just balance,
and let God know my integrity!—

²⁹ “If I have rejoiced at the ruin of those who
hated me
or exulted when evil overtook them—

³⁰ I have not let my mouth sin
by asking for their lives with a curse—

³¹ if those of my tent ever said,
‘O that we might be sated with his flesh!’—

³² the stranger has not lodged in the street;
I have opened my doors to the traveler—

³³ if I have concealed my transgressions as
others do,

by hiding my iniquity in my bosom,
³⁴ because I stood in great fear of the
multitude,
and the contempt of families terrified me,
so that I kept silence and did not go out of
doors—

³⁵ O that I had one to hear me!

(Here is my signature! Let the Almighty
answer me!)

O that I had the indictment written by my
adversary!

³⁶ Surely I would carry it on my shoulder;
I would bind it on me like a crown;

³⁷ I would give him an account of all my
steps;

like a prince I would approach him.



First Presbyterian Church of Grove City

“To Know Christ and Make Him Known”

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Director of Music: Chris Dederer E-Mail: c.dederer@fpcgc.org	Clerk of Session: Barbara Mogren E-Mail: b.mogren@fpcgc.org
Treasurer: Steve Nelson E-Mail: s.nelson@fpcgc.org	4227 Broadway Grove City, OH 43123 Office Hours: M-F 8:30AM – 4:00PM

Cover art: This week’s cover depicts the Holy Righteous Job, known for his faith and patience amid suffering. His crown reflects the ancient Greek biblical tradition identifying him with Jobab, a king of Edom. The icon is attributed to Northern Russia in the late seventeenth century and is painted in tempera on wood.