

# WARREN FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

## September 17, 2023

*We are glad that you are worshipping at First Methodist Church this morning. Please SIGN AND PASS the attendance pad at the end of the pew. If you are visiting with us, we would especially appreciate having your name, address, and phone number because we would like to thank you for being with us.*

### PRELUDE

(8:00 AM)

“In Christ Alone”  
“How Great is Our God”

arr. Tornquist  
arr. Tornquist

### PRELUDE

(10:00 AM)

“Chancone in F Major”  
“Boundless Mercy”  
“Pie Jesu”

Louis Couperin  
Anthony Giamoanco  
Gabriel Faure

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The grace of God

**People: was given to us in Christ Jesus**

Leader: before the beginning of time,

**People: but it has now been revealed**

Leader: through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus,

**People: who has destroyed death**

Leader: and has brought life and immortality

**People: to light through the gospel.**

Leader: It is this grace and faith

**People: we proclaim and hold on to.**

Leader: It is this God and Savior we worship.

**People: Let us praise and adore our living Lord.**

### \*HYMN No. 8

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Hymn to Joy

### WELCOME

### ANTHEM

“When the Kingdom Comes”

Greg Gilpin

### OLD TESTAMENT READING “Ezekiel 36:24 - 28”

Pew Bible Page 790

### SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Pew Hymnal Pages 724 - 729

### CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

#### THE LORD’S PRAYER (using sins)

*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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power; and the glory, forever.  
Amen.*

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

“Bring It Home”

Marty Parks

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

(10:00 AM only)

\*Doxology No. 682

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.

\*Offertory Prayer

\***HYMN No. 89**

“Love Lifted Me”

(Children are welcome to come forward for the Children’s Message during the last verse.)

**A MOMENT WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Rev. Bud Fickley

**SCRIPTURE**

“Luke 15:1-24”

Pew Bible Pages 952 - 953

**MESSAGE**

“Things I was Right About!”

Rev. Dr. Mark E. Hecht

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

(8:00 AM only)

\***HYMN No. 106**

“In Christ Alone”

**BENEDICTION**

**BEARING OF LIGHT**

(10:00 AM only)

*(Please join us in the serenity garden on 2nd Ave for a ribbon cutting and dedication.)*

**POSTLUDE**

(8:00 AM)

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Watts

**POSTLUDE**

(10:00 AM)

“O, For a Heart to Praise My God”

Robert Powell

**\* Indicates Please Stand if Able**

**BEING BAPTIZED TODAY** is Adam Levi Hecht, son of Aaron and Laura Hecht and grandson of Mark and Karen Hecht.

**MUSIC** today is provided by organist Michele Sandberg and our Chancel Choir. Cathy Peterson is the pianist at the 8:00 AM service.

**LITURGIST** today is Denny Munksgard.

**ACOLYTES** today are Charlotte Anderson and Grace Carr.

**USHERS** today are Larry Loughlin, Ila Wilson, Carla Johnson, Nick Johnson, Patti Rublee, Brian Swanson, and Lucy Nelson.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** today are given by the Dunham Family Flower Fund.

**CONCERNS FOR THIS WEEK** ~ Darla Peterson, 205 Water Street, Room 525, Warren, PA 16365. - Please consider sending her a card.

**IN SYMPATHY** ~ We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Amber Baldensperger in the passing of her father, Richard B. Rossman, on September 6, 2023.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES** ~ Confirmation classes will meet this fall from 8:45 AM - 9:45 AM on designated Sundays. A parent's meeting will be in Parlor B today, following the 10:00 AM Sunday service. The first confirmation class will be held on September 24th. This class is intended for those in 9th grade or older. For more information, please contact the church office at 814-723-4930. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board across from the office.

**NEW MEMBER CLASS** ~ New Members will be received in worship on Sunday, November 12. Classes for new members will take place from 11:15-12:30 on the following Sundays: October 8, 15, 22, and November 5. Topics include Our Wesleyan Heritage, Spiritual Gifts/Fruits of the Spirit, Grace and the Sacraments, and Life in the Local Church. Reverend Hecht and Tawni Betts will lead the classes. Please let the church office know at [byoung@firstmwarren.org](mailto:byoung@firstmwarren.org) if you will be attending.

**TUESDAY STUDY GROUP** ~ The Tuesday Study Group will join Rev. Hecht's class on Church History Tuesday mornings 9:30 a.m. We invite all members of the Study Group to join Rev. Hecht's class. When this study is completed, we will resume our usual meeting time of 12:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Covert Room.

**SHOWER FOR BABY KETZKO** ~ All women in the church are invited to join us on Sunday, October 8, at 1:00 PM in Founders Hall to shower Hannah Ketzko as she prepares for the birth of a little girl, Xyla Mae. Lunch and dessert will be served. Please RSVP to Heidi Ketzko at 814-723-4930 Ext. 3 or [hketzko@firstmwarren.org](mailto:hketzko@firstmwarren.org).

**SPRC MEETING** ~ There will be an SPRC meeting on September 21st.

**CORE** ~ (Choosing Openness Regarding Experiences) is a non-profit organization that provides mental health awareness and suicide prevention education to Warren County. Today, CORE and First Methodist Church together celebrate the completion of the reflection area for people who have lost loved ones to suicide and/or substance abuse. This new "Serenity Garden" can be found on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave side of the building near our elevator entrance. We invite anyone who would like to participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony and prayer of dedication, to join us at the garden immediately following the service. Please consider making a donation to CORE to help with the cost of this reflection area and for the other services that CORE provides to Warren County. Donations can be sent to the church office. Thank you for your consideration. Kari Swanson—Founder of CORE

**DIVORCE CARE** ~ The DivorceCare program will begin a new session on November 2nd, from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM in the Covert Room. DivorceCare offers support, answers, and practical tools to help you manage the many stresses of separation and divorce and find healing. Flyers are available on the bulletin board across from the office.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEERS** ~ We are in need of volunteers for Children's Church. If you are interested in this ministry, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from the office.

**FALL FEST** ~ We will be having a Fall Fest with food, games and crafts on the side yard, following the 10:00 AM worship on October 29th. If you would like to help with this event, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from the office.

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF**  
**September 17, 2023 – September 23, 2023**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>8:00 AM Service of Word and Sacrament; Crary Chapel</b> <b>8:45 AM Fellowship; Covert Room</b> <b>8:45 AM Class Meeting; Parlor A</b> <b>9:45 AM Prayer; Crary Chapel</b> <b>10:00 AM Worship Service; Sanctuary</b> <b>11:00 AM Confirmation Parent's Meeting; Parlor B</b> <b>11:00 AM Private Event; Founder's Hall</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>6:45 AM Christian Men's Accountability; Covert Room</b> <b>8:30 AM—12:00 PM Office Hours</b> <b>6:00 PM Trustees Meeting; Covert Room</b> <b>6:00 PM Incarceration Support Group; Founder's Hall</b> <b>6:30 PM Silver Winds; Sanctuary</b> <b>7:00 PM The Truth Project Study; Covert Room</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours</b> <b>8:20 AM - 11:15 AM 3 Year Old Preschool</b> <b>8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Pre K Class</b> <b>9:30 AM Protestant Church History; Covert Room</b> <b>1:00 PM Nominating Committee Meeting; Covert Room</b> <b>1:45 PM Peals of Praise; Sanctuary</b> <b>3:30 PM Youth Music Program; Music Room &amp; Sanctuary</b> <b>5:15 PM Madrigals; Sanctuary</b> <b>6:00 PM Protestant Church History, Covert Room</b> <b>6:30 PM Epworth Bells; Sanctuary</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>8:30 AM - 4:00 PM Office Hours</b> <b>8:20 AM - 11:15 AM 3 Year Old Preschool</b> <b>8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Pre K Class</b> <b>1:00 PM Worship Staff Meeting; Mark's Office</b> <b>3:10 PM LOGOS; Founder's Hall</b> <b>5:15 PM Finance Meeting; Parlor A</b> <b>6:30 PM Chancel Choir; Music Room</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Office Hours</b> <b>8:20 AM - 11:15 AM 3 Year Old Preschool</b> <b>8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Pre K Class</b> <b>1:00 PM Covenant Discipleship Group; Covert Room</b> <b>SPRC Committee Meeting</b> <b>7:00 PM Music Concert; Sanctuary</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Office Hours</b> <b>12:00 PM Senior Lunch; Founder's Hall</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>7:30 AM Streaming Youth Leader Training; Covert Room</b> <b>2:30 PM Peterson - Wheeler Wedding; Sanctuary</b>

ASTRALIS  
CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

BAROQUE LEGENDS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 7:00 PM  
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH  
200 MARKET STREET, WARREN, PA 16365



ANGELA MASSEY  
FLUTE



LAURA USISKIN  
CELLO



ALEXANDRA DUNBAR  
HARPSICHORD



PAOLO DARA  
VIOLIN

The award-winning musicians of the Astralis Chamber Ensemble; Angela Massey (flute), Paolo Dara (violin), Laura Usiskin (cello), and Alexandra Dunbar (harpsichord); will present "Baroque Legends." The concert will include works by legendary composers from the Baroque period, including J.S. Bach, Telemann, Corelli, Scarlatti, Couperin, and Vivaldi. Join us for an unforgettable evening of music with the Astralis Chamber Ensemble.

## Just in time for your Advent/Christmas planning!!

Do you remember:

- Setting up the Lionel train under the Christmas tree?
- Writing letters to Santa?
- Memorizing your lines for the annual Christmas pageant?
- Anxiously awaiting the one-time-only TV broadcast of the Christmas specials?



Rev. Mark Hecht (Presiding Elder) and Rev. Janet Lord (AWAC Conference Secretary) have collaborated on a book of 25 stories and songs designed to help you not only remember those cherished times, but also to help you focus on creating new traditions for the next generation. Each chapter includes a Scripture passage, a story, and a link to a piano arrangement of a Christmas carol that Janet has recorded over the past few years. It is useful for individual devotional time, sermon illustrations or even small group discussion groups.

*"Three of the things that combine to make Advent/Christmas a significant season in my life are: the narrative of Scripture that reminds me of the time when God came near, personal stories which spark powerful memories, and music that stirs the soul and warms the heart. "Unpacking a Traditional Christmas" combines these elements in an Advent devotional which will help the reader enter into the season with anticipation and awe. I look forward to using it to help my heart to be ready for the celebration of the birth of Jesus once again."*

*Rev. Dr. Jeffrey E. Greenway; Lead Pastor of Reynoldsburg Community Church*

Both this Devotional and Rev. Hecht's first book "Family, Friends and Faith" are available in the church office or you can order your copy today by scanning the code or through this link:

<https://form.jotform.com/231697548226163>

