We welcome you as we gather in the name of Christ! [Please switch your mobile devices to silent mode.]

Regular Print: Leader **Bold: Congregation** **Asterisk: Please stand if able*

"You will never know the fullness of Christ until you know the emptiness of everything else but Christ." — *Charles H. Spurgeon*

✢ WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD ✢

Welcome and Announcements

This is the day that the Lord has made! **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Introit: *O Have You Not Heard of That Beautiful Stream* *Sabbath School Gems,* 1864

Call to Worship:

Come, all who are hungry for the goodness of God,
and come with glad hearts to the table of his grace.
We come to worship the God who provides, who welcomes us,
and who gives us more than we could provide for ourselves.
Come, you who are weary, you who have wandered, and you who know your need for mercy.
We come to Jesus Christ, who welcomes sinners, forgives his people,
and gives us a new beginning.
We praise the God who fed his people in the wilderness, who worked through his prophets,
and who has sent his Son, greater than Moses and greater than every earthly ruler.
Jesus Christ is our true King, and in him there is grace enough,
mercy enough, and bread enough for all.
We have come not because we have everything together,
but because Christ has called us to follow him.
With thankful hearts and renewed faith, let us worship the Lord!

Prayer of Adoration

***Opening Hymn:** #529 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether UNION SEMINARY

***Prayer of Confession:**

Merciful God, we confess that we often live as though there will never be enough, and so we hold tightly to what we have instead of trusting you. We become consumed with getting more, keeping more, and protecting ourselves, while the needs of others can fade into the background. We are quick to notice what is missing from our lives and slow to notice the gifts already in our hands. We forget that you can take what seems small and make it enough, and that your grace is never measured by our resources. Forgive us for our fear, our selfishness, our lack of generosity, and the ways we have made ourselves and our comforts more important than loving you and our neighbors. Teach us again to trust the King who feeds his people, and to place what we have into the hands of Christ. We thank you that our hope does not rest on our goodness, but on your mercy, your grace, and the love you have poured out for sinners through Jesus Christ.

***Silent Confession**

In the quiet now, we offer you our silent confessions from the depths of our hearts…
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon** (from Ephesians 2)

God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us even when we were dead in our sins, made us alive together in Christ.
Friends, believe the good news of the gospels:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***The Gloria Patri** tune: STUTTGART

✢ WE LISTEN AS THE SCRIPTURES ARE PROCLAIMED ✢

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: 2 Kings 4:42–44 *Pew Bible p.416*

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Message for Young Disciples *Pastor Ben*

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:1–21 *Pew Bible p.19*

Sermon: 'Two Kings and Two Meals' *The Rev. Benjamin Black*

✢ WE RESPOND IN FAITH AND GRATITUDE ✢

***The Apostles' Creed** *Presbyterian Hymnal p.35 (front section)*

Offertory Anthem: *Rushing Wind, Dancing Flame* Matthew H. Corl (United States, b.1965)

(You may, if you wish, write prayer requests on the blue prayer cards and place them in the offering plate.)

***Hymn of Thanksgiving:** #714 (v.1–2) God of the Fertile Fields ITALIAN HYMN

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

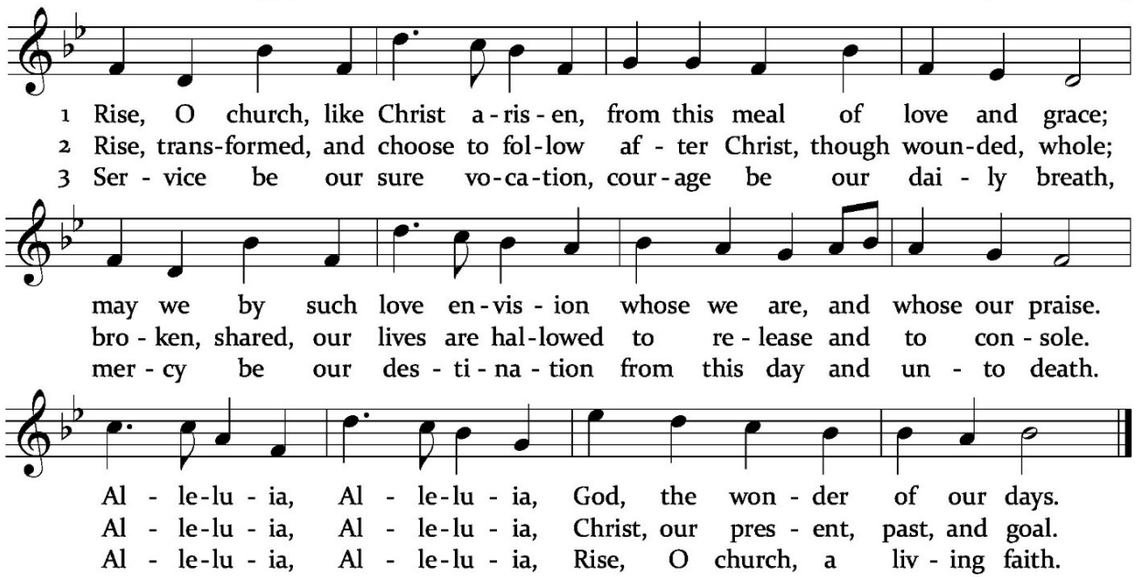
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

✢ WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD ✢

***Closing Hymn:** Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen REGENT SQUARE

Susan Palo Cherwein, 1997 **Henry Smart, 1867**



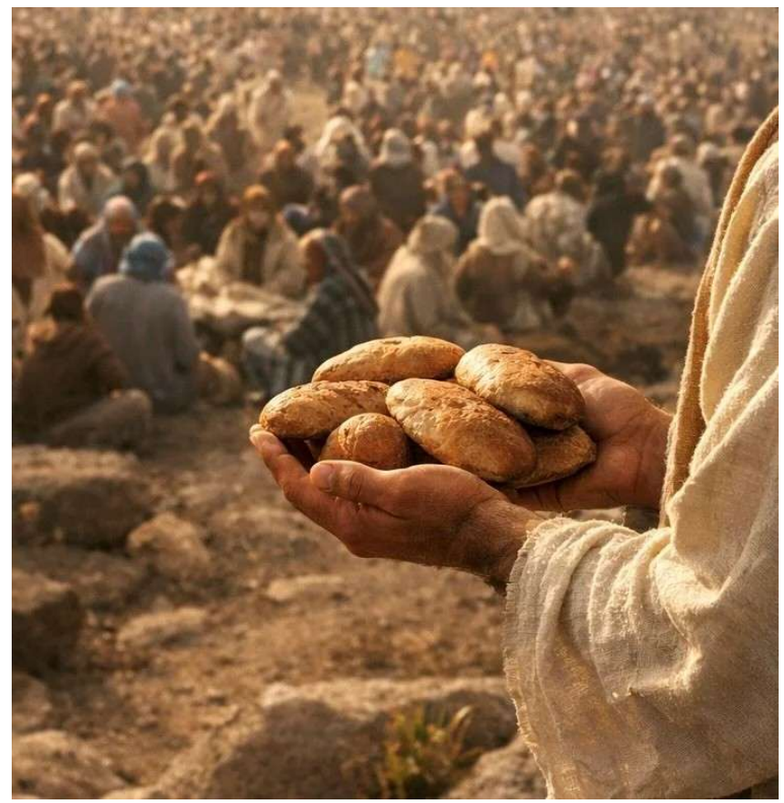
Benediction

Postlude: *Fugue in E flat*, BWV 552 ('St Anne Fugue') J.S. Bach (Germany, 1685–1750)

First Presbyterian Church

World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 4, 2026 ▪ 10:00 AM



The First Presbyterian Church of Meadville, Pennsylvania ▪ *founded 1800*
www.meadvillefpc.org ▪ 814–333–2161

The Rev. Benjamin Black • *Senior Pastor*
Mary Zahora • *Administrative Assistant*
Kevin Dill • *Director of Music*
Chris Wade • *Custodian*