

John McMillan Presbyterian Church

10:00 a.m. Worship

To Know, to Glorify, and to Serve God

November 8, 2026

Welcome to John McMillan Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 8, 2026 - 10:00 a.m.

We're glad you are here today. We are a community of people who are disciples of Jesus Christ, and it is our mission to provide a way for this community and the communities around us to know, glorify and serve God. It is our hope that our worship and fellowship today will allow us all to feel God's presence.
If you have any questions about the church, or if there is any way we can help you, or pray for you, please let us know.

The Service of the Lord's Day

Prelude — *I Will Arise and Go to Jesus* (Southern Folk Melody) — arr. Rachel Sawyer

We Gather for Worship

Welcome & Announcements — Pastor Matt Fricker

*Passing of the Peace

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Let us pass the peace of Christ to each other.

*Introit

*Call to Worship

Leader: Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
People: God calls us not to weakness, but to strength grounded in love.
Leader: Jesus reminds us that there are times to be gentle and times to stand against injustice.
People: Give us the courage to speak when silence would be wrong and the humility to listen when our pride gets in the way.
Leader: Come, let us worship the God who teaches us to live with compassion, courage, and grace.

People: Let us worship God with humble hearts and lives ready to follow Christ.

Hymn of Welcoming #415 *Come Ye Sinners Poor and Needy*

We Are Called to Pray

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we confess that we often struggle to control our anger. We become frustrated when things do not go our way, impatient with others, and quick to defend ourselves. We sometimes mistake pride for strength and anger for courage. We remain silent when we should speak and speak harshly when we should show compassion. Forgive us for the times our words and actions have caused hurt rather than healing. Teach us the difference between meekness and weakness, between righteous conviction and selfish anger. Give us the courage to stand for what is right, the humility to admit when we are wrong, and the grace to treat others with the love of Christ. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession *(A time of silence for personal confession)*

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news: Jesus Christ came not to condemn us, but to redeem us. Even when our anger overwhelms us, when our pride gets in the way, and when we fall short of God's calling, God's grace remains greater than our failures.

People: Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and given another opportunity to live with humility, courage, and love. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Gloria Patri #581 *(Please stand.)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Time With the Children Stephanie Castlen

Choir Anthem Not One Falls by Heather Sorenson

Not one sparrow falls, not one child calls that the Father does not know. Not one voice is silenced, not one act of violence without heaven bowing low. And not one falls, and not one calls, big or small without a name. Not one lonely outcast, the one who's chosen last, without worth beyond the stars. Not one scarred survivor, young innocent, now wiser, who isn't held in Jesus' arms. And not one falls, and not one calls, big or small without a name. Broken prayers can still be heard. Hope can spread with just one word. Heaven is not careless with our grief. Grace is running out to those in need. Every soul forgotten, every life unwanted, all cradled in the hands of God. Not one falls….

We Hear the Word

Scripture Mark 5: 1-5 and Matthew 21: 12-13

Sermon Pastor Matt Fricker

***Hymn of Reflection #852** *When the Lord Redeems the Very Least*

We Respond in Faith

Call to Offering

Offertory

***Doxology #609**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People 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.

We Are Sent in God's Name

***Hymn of Discipleship #172** *Blest Are They*

***Charge and Benediction**

Benediction Response The Blessing Song (words on screens)

***Postlude** *God of Our Fathers* arr. Gilbert Martin

* *Please stand if you are able.*

JMPC Prayer Concerns

As of Thursday, November 5, 2026
Please contact the Church Office with any Joys & Concerns

Prayer Requests

Prayers for everyone affected by the tragedy in Mt. Lebanon, especially the Lynch family: Patrick, Anna and their children Caroline and James.

Prayers for Jessica Braden-Rogers's friend, Christina Ohlfest, who recently had a bilateral mastectomy for breast cancer and is waiting on her treatment options.

Previous Prayer Requests

Prayers for Darrell Knopp during his recent illness.

Prayers for strength and healing for our awesome AV Tech, Jackie Druga, as she goes through chemotherapy

This week, please pray for:

Phil, Meagan, Evan and Cole Dillon
Pamela and Mike Dobos
Harold and Bonnie Dodd
Dave and Bonnie Dowdell
Jackie Druga



Announcements

Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God in honor of Stephanie Castlen's upcoming ordination service.

Blood Drive

It's Blood Drive time again. On Sunday, November 15th, JMPC will be hosting a blood drive in Fellowship Hall from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Please consider donating blood before or after service that day. You can schedule an appointment by going to www.vitalant.org. Choose "Donate Now". At the "Make a New Appointment" screen, click on the "blood drive code" button and enter group code UG0010091 to schedule your donation or you can search by JMPC's zip code (15102). Or you can call 1-877-25VITAL. Or just show up on Sunday, November 15th! (However, appointments are preferred.) Please let's join together on Sunday, November 15th to support this important cause. Any questions - please see Jessica Scott. Thank you for your support!

Jingle Bell Pen Pals: Sharing Christmas Joy Across Generations



Due to the wonderful response last year, we're excited to once again run our Jingle Bell Pen Pal class! We invite you to become an adopted "grandparent" and participate in a meaningful exchange of holiday letters with one of our students. Each week, a mailbox in the Narthex will contain a letter from your "penpal", along with a page for you to complete and return. As students share favorite holiday traditions, memories, and Christmas activities, they'll enjoy learning about yours as well. Additional notes, letters, and holiday memories are always welcome. Together, you'll build connections, celebrate cherished traditions, and create lasting memories during this special season. Our program begins on Nov. 4th and ends on December 16th with a festive meet-and-greet and refreshments. If you would like to participate, please complete a form from the table in the Narthex and place it in the Pen Pal Mailbox.
Thank you,
The Preschool Staff

Christmas Wreath Fundraiser



Our youth are having a new fundraiser this year as they prepare to head to Logan County, WV, for their annual mission trip! We will be selling Christmas wreaths from Lenik Greenhouse for $25 each. You can reserve your wreaths at the Narthex table until Wednesday, November 18th. Please make checks payable to John McMillan Presbyterian Church with "Youth Mission Trip" in the memo line. Wreaths will be available for pick up on Sunday, December 6th. Have any questions? Please contact Stephanie Castlen at stephanie@johnmcmillanpc.org.

Have extra Halloween Candy?

Consider donating it for the stocking for soldiers program along with any of the items listed on the flyer found in the Interface Newsletter. This is the first year our church and preschool are participating in this program and our goal is to fill 100 stockings! If everyone does their part, we should be able to make this goal a reality.

Stuff the Stockings

We will be stuffing our "Stockings for Soldiers" on Wednesday, November 18 at 6:00. Volunteers are needed to help stuff and to help sew the stockings shut before shipping.

Preschool Fundraiser

The Preschool is selling pies from The Pie Place for the holidays from October 21- November 5, 2026. There will be pies, cinnamon rolls, pepperoni rolls and more. You can order online with the QR code or on the order sheet in the Narthex. Please make checks payable to: *John McMillan Preschool*. **All order are due by Nov. 5** and items will be delivered on Nov. 17. Thank you in advance for your support!

Adult Mission Trip: Save the Date!

We will be going to New Bern, North Carolina to serve in disaster relief. The dates are April 25th – May 1st. The cost will be $250. We will have more information coming up.

New Member Class

We will be holding a new member class soon. If you are interested in joining the church, please reach out to Pastor Matt or the office. We will base the class dates on people's availability.

Volunteers Needed for Youth Group & Kids Club!

Join us Wednesday nights from 5-7pm for dinner, fun games, crafts, creative and insightful bible stories, and fellowship. We invite you to get to know our children and youth in a fun and laid-back setting so they can get to know more of our John McMillan family! Can't commit every week? Join in the fun as you can! Interested? Please reach out to Stephanie Castlen at stephanie@johnmcmillanpc.org for more information.



Stephanie Castlen's Ordination Service

Please join us on Saturday, November 14th at 4pm for Stephanie Castlen's ordination service followed by a reception. Please RSVP at the narthex table so we can ensure there is plenty of food and goodies everyone can enjoy. Have questions about the service? Contact Stephanie Castlen at stephanie@johnmcmillanpc.org. For reception questions, please reach out to Suzie Burland, Joe Smith, or Jessica Scott.

This Week at JMPC

Sunday, November 8

10:00 am	Worship
10:00 am	Sunday School
1:00 pm	Russian Baptist (Sheyko)
1:00 pm	Terry Young Baton Twirl
7:00 pm	Reflections Group

Monday, November 9

1:00 pm	Pickleball
6:30 pm	Yee Twirlers

Tuesday, November 10

9:00 am	Ladies Pickleball
11:00 am	Staff Meeting
12:00 pm	Bible Study
3:00 pm	Passion Twirl & Poms

Wednesday, November 11 Veterans Day

4:30 pm	South Hill Flute Studio
5:00 pm	Kids Club/Youth Group

Thursday, November 12

1:00 pm	Pickleball
4:30 pm	South Hills Flute Studio
4:45 pm	The Yee Twirlers
6:15 pm	Girl Scout Troop 36133
7:00 pm	Line Dancing

Friday, November 13

4:30 pm	South Hills Flute Studio

Saturday, November 14

8:00 am	Passion Twirl & Poms
8:00 am	South Hills Flute Studio
9:00 am	Pittsburgh Youth Band
12:00 pm	Mon Valley Express

Sunday, November 15

6:30 am	Blood Drive
10:00 am	Worship
10:00 am	Sunday School
1:00 pm	Russian Baptist (Sheyko)
1:00 pm	Terry Young Baton Twirl
7:00 pm	Reflections Group

This Week's Birthdays



November 8	Caitlin Smith
	Marissa Oakley
	Evan Oakley
	Zachary Smith
November 9	Julia Graves
	Rick Brow
	Emiliee Little
November 10	Jessica Necheff
November 11	Lincoln Rockwell
November 12	Owen Johnson
	Marielle Brown
November 13	John Robert
	Jack Wettstein

If we've missed your birthday, please contact the church office as we may not have it on file. Thank you.

Welcome Visitors

We are grateful to have you join us in worship this morning and ask you to please register your name in the **Friendship Pads.**

Our **Nursery** is available during worship for children up to 3 years old in Room 7.

Sunday School (Children's Church) A class for age 3 through 5th grade will meet in Room 5.

On Wednesday Nights 5pm – 7pm (September through May), we gather for **Kids Club** (ages 6-12, 1st- 6th grade) and **Youth Group** (ages 12-18, 7th-12th). We learn about God, have dinner, and join in fellowship. Bring $3 for dinner and friends are always welcome!

JMPC Staff

Ministers: All People of JMPC
Music Director: Carolyn Brow
Organist: Elisabeth Jeffries
Office Manager: Sarah Cribbs
Pastor: Rev. Matt Fricker
Director of Spiritual Dev.: Stephanie Castlen
Tech/AV: Jackie Druga
Preschool Director: Kim Doughty

JMPC Session - Clerk: Cindy Fast

Spiritual Development: Suzie Burland, Jessica Scott, Joe Smith
Outreach: Caitlin Smith, Cheryl Davies, Steve Lucia
Resources: Jim Hinerman, Sam Page, Chris Todd

JMPC Deacons

Class of 2027: Scott Nowak, Zach Smith, Paul Zandhuis, Elizabeth Todd
Class of 2028: Sandy Nowak, Susan Baux, Mary Jo White
Class of 2029: Melanie Czadankiewicz, Donna Kovell, Emilee Little

Our Partners In Ministry

The staff of Pittsburgh Presbytery; Congregations in the South Branch of Pittsburgh Presbytery; First Presbyterian Church of Duquesne and Pastors Judi Slater and Caroline Baker;
The Chigumula Church in Malawi Africa; South Hills Interfaith Movement; World Vision; Hebron USA, Chiapas Partners

In the Event of an Emergency

October Deacon of the Month: Mary Jo White
Mary Jo can be reached at 412-719-0268
Pastor Matt Fricker -412-498-6761 – matt@johnmcmillanpc.org
Stephanie Castlen – 631-413-2996 - stephanie@johnmcmillanpc.org
You can also call the church at 412-833-4704.