

# *First Presbyterian Church*

## **Rostraver Township, PA**



### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

We live and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship, service, and witness. As a Christ-centered church empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek God's plan for each of us and all of us. We welcome everyone to journey with us as we strive to grow in love, faith, trust, and discipleship. (Adopted October 10, 1998; revised February 2, 2013)

# First Presbyterian Church

January 2, 2022- Second Sunday after Christmas

\*You are invited to stand if able\*

Personal Prayer of Preparation:

*Ruler of all worlds, whose love draws us into community and whose judgment separates us according to our empathy and stewardship, draw near to us now in those persons and events through which you long to speak to us. Keep us from missing your presence or neglecting to show hospitality. Help us to experience eternal life in the events of the here and now. Amen.*

## – ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME –

WELCOME

Pastor

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH, ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Pastor

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader A new year has dawned; the old is past and gone.  
This is a time for beginnings, a time to encounter God.

**People: O God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**  
**You are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.**

Leader: Look to the heavens and wonder at the magnitude of space.  
Look around you at the amazing variety of creation.

**People: You have made everything suitable for its time.**  
**You have made us and crowned us with glory and honor.**

Leader: Let us ponder the meaning of our days in the face of eternity.  
Let us consider again what God has called us to do and to be.

**People: You have given us dominion over the works of your hands. You have called us to minister to the least of your children.**

**INVOCATION**

Liturgist

God of creation and newness, we bring to you our past, that it may teach us. We bring our future, that it may be blessed with vision and hope. We bring this present moment, that you may fill it with your transforming presence. We want to be part of your new heaven and new earth. We seek to enjoy your creation without destroying it, to take pleasure in our toil while making of it a ministry, to learn to live together in peace, reaching out to assure that all are benefiting from your good gifts. Feed us, clothe us, welcome us, that we may do the same for others. Amen.

**HYMN      “Great God, We Sing That Mighty Hand”      #265 BLUE**

**CALL TO CONFESSION:**

Pastor

Jesus promised a time of judgment when our faithfulness to God and one another would be tested. How easily we put this off as a distant future event rather than a present reality! Yet, every deed shapes our character, and every neglect dulls our compassion. Let us seek forgiveness.

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Heavenly Father, forgive us when we try to go our own way and end up running from you. Forgive us when we shy away from the work that you want to do in our lives and through us in the lives of others. Help us to be willing to go through your crafting and cutting, and to look at the new year as an opportunity to bear fruit for you. Guide us with your Holy Spirit to this purpose, and hear our prayers as we continue our confession in silence...**

*Silence is kept*

\*SILENT CONFESSION

\*KYRIE: *Lord have mercy upon us;  
Christ have mercy upon us;  
Lord have mercy upon us.*

\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

God is making all things new. Our past does not prescribe our future. God will dwell with us to make us a new people, responsive to God's eternal design. God will open our eyes and our hearts to the sufferer and the stranger. In them, we can find and serve our God. In our service, we will discover a new way of being. We will find life and happiness.

**We are thankful for this new morning, this new day of God's mercy. In Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI:

*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*

\*SHARING THE PEACE: (Social Distancing)

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us show one another a sign of God's peace.

**– PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD –**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Liturgist

**God, whom we know through the scriptures and creation, speak to us in this hour. Show us the wisdom and joy of your ways that we may know what is good and do what is right, through Jesus Christ your Word. Amen.**

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Psalm 8 Led by Liturgist

Leader: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

**People: Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.**

Leader: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

**People: Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.**

Leader: You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet . . . .

**People: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

NEW TESTAMENT: Revelation 21:1-6a Liturgist

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46 Pastor

SERMON: "All Things New" Pastor

**\*HYMN "Here, O Our Lord, We See You" Blue # 520  
(Verses 1, 2, 3, 5) (Morecambe)**

\*APOSTLES CREED (Ecumenical Version) Blue p.14

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose**

**again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER** Pastor  
**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.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** Liturgist  
**Day by day, dear Lord, of Thee three things we pray:  
to see Thee more clearly, love Thee more dearly,  
follow Thee more nearly, day by day.**

**INVITATION TO STEWARDSHIP** Liturgist  
As God wipes away tears and reframes our suffering into opportunities for growth, we are challenged to participate in God's concern for those who are suffering in our own community and in other lands. We are called to see and listen and give, that the worth and dignity of all may be affirmed and that this congregation may continue to do God's work. Let us offer to God a portion of the time, talent, and treasure with which God has entrusted us.

*The offering plates are located at the front of the Chancel, or you can drop your offerings and tithes in the mail slot of the Parish House door. Thank you for your support of the mission of First Presbyterian Church.*

**OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY:**

*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*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Led by Liturgist

**Generous and loving God, receive our gifts; receive our lives made new by your blessing. May we plant seeds, heal wounds, and build up your world. May we love and seek and embrace your children. We dedicate these offerings and ourselves toward the realization of your realm in our midst. Multiply and prosper our ministries in Christ's name. Amen.**

**FEASTING AT THE LORD'S TABLE**

**COMMUNION ANTHEM: “Feast Upon the Memory” (1/8/17)**

Pastor May the God of new beginnings be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: People of God, lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the One who makes all things, including us, new.**

Leader: Children of God, sing praises to the One who gives you new life.

**People: We praise the One who continues to surprise us with hope and grace.**

Pastor: Before there was time, . . . So we join with the saints in heaven, and our sisters and brothers on earth, who sing of Your glory:

**All: Holy, holy, holy, God of every time and space.  
All creation sings of Your majesty and glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who gives us the water of life.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

Pastor: Holy are You, ... mystery which is our faith:

**ALL: Christ died, so sin would have no more power over us;  
Christ rose, destroying death's grip on us;  
when the new heaven and new earth come,  
Christ will make all things, including us, new.**

Pastor: In these moments, Lord, send Your Spirit . . . One God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE FEAST

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in  
the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to  
all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

**“God of Our Life”**

**#275 BLUE**

**\*RESPONSIVE COMMISSION AND BLESSING**

Leader: Face this new day, this new year, recreated and empowered.  
You have inherited God's own realm; here God dwells with  
us.

**People: We have been fed and clothed and welcomed.  
We have been visited and comforted and blessed.**

Leader: This is the season for discerning God's activity;  
this is the time to toil with God for the sake of humanity.

**People: We will give thanks for the gifts we receive;  
We will give gifts and opportunity to those who are in  
need.**

Leader: As we serve among the least of God's children, we are blessed. As we humble ourselves before God, we are glorified.

**People: Thanks be to God for dwelling with us!  
Thanks be to God for equipping us to serve! Amen.**

Communion Liturgy adapted from Lectionary Liturgies, © 2015 Thom M. Shuman  
<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com>

\*BENEDICTION

Pastor

\*POSTLUDE

**– GO OUT TO SHARE THE WORD OF GOD –**

**This Week's Birthdays**

Jan. 1	Marguerite Patterson
Jan. 2	Terry Lape Jennifer Orr
Jan. 4	Jim Barak Tori Callaway
Jan. 5	Tom Bair
Jan. 7	Joe Kennedy

**Those Serving Among Us Today**

Liturgist today is Fred Exley  
Greeter today was Carol Tragesser.

## PRAYER LIST

Please remember the following people in your thoughts and prayers. Please call the office with prayer needs, updates, and questions or e-mail the church at [office@fpresbv.org](mailto:office@fpresbv.org).

✠ John & Marlene Amoroso ✠ Susan Aten ✠  
Kaiden Bane ✠ Nuncio Battista ✠ Bill Behrens ✠ Michele Betz ✠ ✠ Garret  
Brigs ✠ Frank Britton ✠ Angel Burnsworth ✠ Joe Burnsworth ✠ Sally  
Callaway ✠ Sally Campbell ✠ Frank Caristo ✠ Milana (Berish) Cerniga ✠ Ann  
Cochran ✠ Michael Colla ✠ Lou Comadina ✠ Glenn Crownover ✠ Lois Dewar  
✠ Sandy Elder ✠ MaryAnn Faulk ✠ Norm Floyd ✠ Ed Friedenberger ✠ Carol  
Gillon ✠ Patti Huyck ✠ Jeff ✠ Diane Johnston ✠ Zoey Johnson ✠ Earlene  
Kalakewich ✠ Janet ✠ June Kefover ✠ Robert Korff ✠ Howard & Sally  
Forsyth ✠ Ed Friedenberger ✠ Irene Leyda ✠ Mike Lemley ✠ Joyce  
Livingstone ✠ Taylor McGee ✠ Bruce Merritt ✠ Dean Migliori ✠ Mrs. Munsen  
✠ Tim and Melissa Nagelreiter ✠ Mary Caroline Nicholas ✠ Bob Palfrey ✠  
June Palfrey ✠ Nora Pelezar ✠ Helen Raicos ✠ Colleen Ray ✠ Dorothy  
Rogers ✠ Gordon Rutherford ✠ Noah Schwartz ✠ Alina Shaw ✠ Chris Sicora  
✠ Toi Smith ✠ Gianna Smoyer ✠ Laura Stopka ✠ Patty Strychalski ✠ Joseph  
Waywood ✠ Yauger Family ✠ Kim Zunic

**Pray for the safety and protection of  
First Responders (police, fire, EMTS), military, and Medical Personnel**

*(If you have a prayer concern or to update the list,  
please call the office at 724-929-7616)*

### **THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN:**

TODAY: Worship at 10 am; Communion; Youth group at 6:30 pm

TUESDAY: Bible study at 2 pm (last chapter of Because of Bethlehem)

WEDNESDAY: Homeless Bag Project 9 am to 1 pm. All are welcome!

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 10 am; Installation of Officers and Recognition of Donna Santoro;  
Youth group 6:30 pm

**COVID SAFETY GUIDELINES:** We are still observing social distancing guidelines. **For the safety of us all, everyone, vaccinated or not, must wear a mask to enter and exit the facility.** Thank you for helping us all stay safe. Session will review these guidelines in an ongoing manner.

**WORSHIP ONLINE:** Our worship streams live at Facebook.com/FirstPresBV and on YouTube.com, First Presbyterian Belle Vernon. We are on Zoom, too! Please, if you have a Facebook account, why not “check in” to let us and others know you were here or online with us?

**OFFERINGS:** To keep from spreading illness, we are not passing the offering plate, but we still need your support. The offering plates are located on the windowsills at the front. Thank you for your faithfulness.

**NEED A BOOK?** Beginning next Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, our Tuesday Bible study (2 pm in person, 6 pm Zoom) will be studying *Twelve Women Of The Bible: Life Changing Stories For Women Today*. The study guide is \$8.99. You can order on Amazon.com or Christianbook.com. If you want the office to order your copy, please let us know as soon as possible so we can get them in time for the first session. See Pastor Mary Kay for more information. All are invited.

**CHICKEN PIES:** We will be making our chicken pies on Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. Please fill out an order form and place it in the offering plate or you may call the office at 724-929-7616. **Cost is \$5 per pie.** Chicken pies can be picked up between 4-6 pm on Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. We are taking only a limited number of pies per person.

**ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION:** Next Sunday, during worship, we will ordain and install elders and deacons for the Class of 2024.



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

501 Fayette Avenue, Rostraver Twp., PA 15012

**Church Offices:** 511 Fayette Avenue

**Office Hours:** M - F: 9:00 to 1:00

**Church Phone:** 724- 929-7616     **Fax:** 724-929-0209

**Pastor's Cell Phone:** 724-243-2871

**Web:** [www.fpresbv.org](http://www.fpresbv.org) **e-mail:** [office@fpresbv.org](mailto:office@fpresbv.org)

<b>Pastor:</b>	Mary Kay Glunt	243-2871
<b>Clerk of Session:</b>	Sharon Zunic	929-4463
<b>Church Secretary:</b>	Natalie Brewer	929-7616
<b>Chairman of Deacons:</b>	Susan Aten	929-6406
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Bill Callaway	929-5176
<b>Organist/Choir Director:</b>	Donna Santoro	929-9401
<b>Custodian:</b>	Patty Gillon	929-7616
<b>H. O. A:</b>	Linda Aten	929-6406

## E L D E R S

### **Class of 2022**

Natalie Brewer  
Dee Hepple  
Mike Moravec  
Bobbi Jo Huebner

### **Class of 2023**

Sharon Zunic  
Jane Bonari  
Mary Beth Burkley

### **Class of 2024**

BJ Thomas  
Lori Lamberski  
Judy Latchem  
Carol Tragesser

## D E A C O N S

### **Class of 2022**

Susan Aten  
Anne McCorkle  
Kerry McCorkle  
Barb Peters

### **Class of 2023**

Marguerite Patterson  
Dennis Peters  
Patty Gillon

### **Class of 2024**

Jessica Phillabaum  
Dave Neel