

First Presbyterian Church



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 29, 2023 – 4th Sunday after Epiphany

You are invited to stand if able

Items in **bold** are congregational response

Personal Prayer of Preparation:

God of mercy and grace, you call us blessed, but we often don't understand what it means to be blessed. Help us, during this time of worship and learning, to consider your call to faith and to service, to examine our purpose and our commitment, and to once again commit ourselves to justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you.

– ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME –

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

JOYS AND SORROWS

Pastor

PRELUDE AND PRAYER OF PREPARATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Leader: People of God, who do you come to worship?

People: We come to worship the one true God.

Leader: How will you worship?

People: Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.

Leader: Come, you who belong to God. Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

People: We come to abide in God's tent and in God's heart, now and forever.

OPENING PRAYER:

Liturgist

Loving God, we come this morning seeking to abide in your presence. Open our minds to your spirit of wisdom, that we may know how to live as your people. Open our hearts to your spirit of truth, that we may love all your people with a love that speaks of justice, kindness, and radical grace. May this time of worship be authentic and pleasing to you. We're here, ready to listen, open to change, expecting to be blessed by our time together. Amen.

HYMN:

"Here In this Place"

Insert

CALL TO CONFESSION

Far too often, we desire to look wise in the eyes of the world and wander in ways that are not those where God is leading. We look on ourselves and on others with the eyes of the world rather than the eyes of God. Let us draw near in this gentle moment to bring our hearts and minds to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Far too often, O God, we desire to look wise in the eyes of the world. We have not spoken truth with our hearts. We have said and done hurtful things. We have forgotten what true discipleship is. Forgive us and help us live into becoming the people you have created and called us to be: people of justice and love and truth and humility, and yes, even foolishness. May we be fools for Christ, embracing our true identity, even in the face of the world's scorn and derision.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (Micah 6, Matthew 5)

God has called us and blesses us when we live in God's ways and not the world's. God's love embraces us even when we fall short. Know that the God of blessing loves and forgives us with a fierce tenderness. And in so knowing, may our lives and souls be transformed.

People: In mercy we are forgiven and assured of God's power to redeem and transform. Alleluia! 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 and hope of Christmas be with you all.

And also with you.

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

– PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD –

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Led by Liturgist

Lord of our hearts, we ask today, as we hear the words of challenge and blessing from your Holy Word, that your Spirit of wisdom might move in our midst, drawing us closer to your side, further into the image of your dear Son, and making us one in Christ our Savior. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Micah 6:1-3, 6-8

Led by Liturgist

Leader: Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

People: Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth,

Leader: for the Lord has a case against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

**People: “O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!**

Leader: “With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself
before God on high?

**People: Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?**

Leader: Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

**People: Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”**

Leader: He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the Lord require of you

**People: but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?**

New Testament: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Liturgist

Special Music: “Greater Miracles” Renee Bonari
(By: Hilary Weeks & Doug Pincock)

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12 Pastor

Sermon: “What Blessing Follows” Pastor

HYMN: “In Heavenly Love Abiding” Red 489

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: APOSTLES CREED

**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 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, now and forever. Amen

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**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 (Micah 6, Matthew 5) Liturgist
We have been called to lives of justice, love, and truth. We have been blessed to be a blessing. Let us generously offer all that we are and all that we have to further this beloved community of love, justice, truth, and blessing.

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:

Joe Balogh

*** DOXOLOGY:**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God, above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen***

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Micah 6, Matthew 5)

O God, you bless us in so many areas of our lives—in places we often fail to recognize as blessing. Help us have eyes to see and hearts to understand the depth of your love and blessing. Today, we give out of that blessedness, dedicating ourselves to lives of justice and love, giving all that we are and all that we have to bring about your beloved community, here and now. Amen.

HYMN”

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

Blue 383

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Leader: Those who live lives pleasing to God shall not be moved.

People: **We go now to embrace the kingdom values of love, justice, and truth.**

Leader: Go now with God’s blessing,

People: **We go to live those values through the power of our challenging, faithful, loving, and empowering God.**

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE:

“Amen, Amen”

– GO OUT TO SHARE THE WORD OF GOD –

Liturgy pieces from Ministry Matters

ATTENTION: Several people have asked for copies of last week’s service. If you want an audio CD or a DVD, please notify the church office.

Those Serving Among Us Today

Liturgist today is Bobbi Jo Huebner.

Greeter today was Maxine Brownlee.

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

| | |
|---|--|
| Feb. 2- Jennifer Metikosh Feb. 3- June Kefover | Feb. 6- Tara Callaway Feb. 9- Don Brick |
| Feb. 10- Ray & Dorothy Helster | |

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN:

TODAY: Worship at 10 am; 2 cents a meal

TUESDAY: Bible Study at 2 pm; Christian Ed / VBS Meeting at 6 pm

WEDNESDAY: Plarn Workgroup, 9 am – 12 pm

SATURDAY: Deacon's meeting at 11 am

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 10 am; Communion

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 58:1-9a

Psalm 112:1-9

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Matthew 5:13-20



To make a onetime gift or to sign up for our online giving program, scan this QR code with your mobile device. All donations are processed through the Presbyterian Foundation and VANCO Giving Services and is secure and protected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTIAN ED / VBS MEETING: There will be a meeting this Tuesday, the 31st, at 6 pm. All are welcome to attend!

H.O.A will meet this Thursday, February 2nd, at 12:30 in the Fellowship Hall. All women are invited to join us for a delicious lunch, a brief meeting, and wonderful fellowship.

DEACONS MEETING: There will be a Deacons meeting this Saturday, February 4th, at 11 am in the FH.

COMMUNION OFFERING: Next week's communion offering goes to a local BVA sophomore who was recently diagnosed with leukemia.

REDSTONE PRESBYTERY ENRICHMENT DAY for Presbyterian leaders and members: Is at Westmont Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, on Saturday, February 11, 2023. The day begins at 11:15 with registration and refreshments and ends at 4 pm. The cost is free. Each person should bring a Bible, and each church should send a food item for refreshments. We need to pre-register, so if you are interested in attending, contact the church office. Church leaders are encouraged to attend at least the training session and the conflict training session.

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your faithful support of the church and its ministries. The offering plates are located on the windowsills at the front.

HOAGIES: Emma Burkley is taking orders each month for fresh hoagies for the high school band. The order form is at the front of the church.

FIRST FRUITS: First Fruits are given annually to support the Presbytery, the Synod, and the PCUSA. The amount this year is \$43.50 per member of our church.

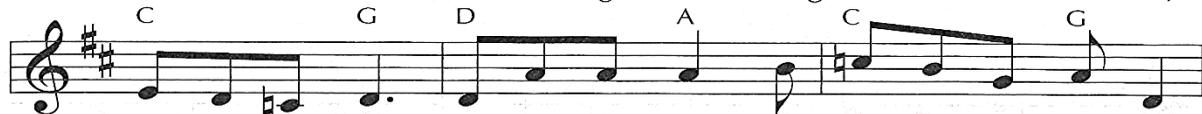
Here in This Place

Gather Us In

401



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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.

† John Amoroso † Kaiden Bane † Nuncio Battista † Bill Behrens
† Joann Bellora † Mary Lou Berish † Nadine Brewer † Garret Brigs †
Frank Britton † Angel Burnsworth † Joe Burnsworth † Colin † Sally
Callaway † Sally Campbell † Jim Caristo † Milana (Berish) Cerniga †
Rev. Ian Chikoti † Michael Colla † Lou Comadina † Nancy Craig †
Glenn Crownover † Marge Denitti † Dorothy Dodroskey † Dale
Dominic † Carol Driver † Sandy Elder † MaryAnn Falk † Norm Floyd
† Howard Forsyth † Ed Friedenberger † Wyatt Fitzgibbons † Brittany
Heckathorn † Tekla Herilla † Patti Huyck † Diane Johnston † Zoey
Johnson † Earlene Kalakewich † Janet † June Kefover † Donna
Kearns † Cameron Kennedy † Robert Korff † Irene Leyda † Mike
Lemley † J.T. Mateka † Taylor McGee † Bruce Merritt † Dean Migliori
† Stephen Minetta † Bob Mohn † Phil & Lea Morrow † Mrs. Munsen †
Lynette Murray † Tim and Melissa Nagelreiter † Betsy Neel † Mary
Caroline Nicholas † Bob Palfrey † June Palfrey † Nora Pelezar †
Darlene Perrotta † Helen Pulgino † Kathie Putorti † Dennis Raymer †
Dorothy Rogers † Clare Sartori † Sandy Seeley † Alina Shaw † Linda
Shuler † Chris Sicora † Toi Smith † Walter Smith † Gianna Smoyer
† Nathan S. † Loretta Sterner † Laura Stopka † Patty Strychalski †
Sandy Walters † Joseph Waywood † Yauger Family † Kim Zunic †

Pray for the safety and protection of First Responders (police, fire, EMTS), Military Personnel, Medical Personnel, and those affected by senseless violence and war.

*(If you have a prayer concern or to update the list,
please call the office at 724-929-7616 or fill out a prayer card and place in the
offering plate)*



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 and Fellowship Hall Phone: 724-929-0209

Pastor's Cell Phone: 724-243-2871

Web: www.fpresbv.org **e-mail:** office@fpresbv.org

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------|
| Pastor: | Mary Kay Glunt | 243-2871 |
| Clerk of Session: | Sharon Zunic | 929-4463 |
| Church Secretary: | Natalie Brewer | 929-7616 |
| Organist: | Joe Balogh | |
| Chairman of Deacons: | Susan Aten | 929-6406 |
| Head Usher: | Bill Callaway | 929-5176 |
| Custodian: | Patty Gillon | 929-7616 |
| H. O. A.: | Linda Aten | 929-6406 |

E L D E R S

Class of 2023
Sharon Zunic
Jane Bonari
Mary Beth Burkley
Bill Kunca

Class of 2024
BJ Thomas
Lori Lamberski
Carol Tragesser
David Burdis

Class of 2025

D E A C O N S

Class of 2023
Marguerite Patterson
Dennis Peters
Patty Gillon
Eileen Kunca

Class of 2024
Jessica Phillabaum
Dave Neel

Class of 2025
Susan Aten
Fred Exley
June Exley
Barb Moskala

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)