

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

February 26, 2023 – 1st Sunday in Lent

You are invited to stand if able

Items in **bold** are congregational response

Personal Prayer of Preparation:

Almighty and everlasting God, you love all that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who look to You. Create in us a pure heart, that we may receive mercy from You, as we lament all that we have done that has diminished Your love in the world. Forgive us through Jesus Christ the perfect one, who is alive and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one Perfect Community of Love, now and always. Amen

– ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME –

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

JOYS AND SORROWS

Pastor

PRELUDE AND PRAYER OF PREPARATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Leader: Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.

People: Happy are those whose sins are cast away.

Leader Rejoice in the Lord! Be glad!

People: Sing out! Shout for joy!

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord!

People: We rejoice in the Lord our God! Amen!

OPENING PRAYER

Liturgist

Radiant God, we come to you on the mountaintop to experience your glory. You come to us in the valleys. We meet you in gladness in a place where heaven and earth collide. May our worship of you encourage us on the journey and make us aspire to reflect your kingdom in the world. Transform us and keep us near to you. Amen.

HYMN

“Shepherd, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Blue 387

CALL TO CONFESSION:

Pastor

Like a parent, God seeks to set boundaries for the children of God. And, like children, we are stubborn enough to want to do things our own way. So, we become easy prey for the evil one. But Jesus, our Sibling, shows us how to find the will, the strength, to resist and to know the mercy of God. Together, let us confess our sins, so God might fill us with hope and joy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all grace, Lent can be hard for us. In a culture that emphasizes success, you call us to sacrifice ourselves for others. In a world that promotes power, you invite us to deny ourselves. In a society that tells us to 'feel good,' you point us to the struggles and the burdens others bear. By your mercy, forgive us, Lord. Remind us that as we journey with Jesus, we learn the steps of discipleship. As we listen to his call to obedience, may we learn how to say 'no' to all that tempts us. As we see his suffering, may we live out the good news that has come to us through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

*SILENT CONFESSION

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God has given us the free gift of grace, and so we are set free to live as Christ's disciples. This is the gift that brings us hope; this is the gift that brings us joy; this is the gift that brings us life.

People: Thanks be to God, 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 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 –

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord of all, you have met us here in the prayers and in the music. Now we ask that as we hear your Word, read and explained, that you would teach our hearts so your light might shine through our lives. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 32

Led by Liturgist

Leader: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

**People: Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

Leader: While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

People: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Leader: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

People: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

Leader: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

People: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

New Testament: Romans 5:12-19 Liturgist

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11 Pastor

Anthem: "On Eagle's Wings"

Sermon: "Lead Us Not"

HYMN: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" Red 253

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: APOSTLES CREED

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Liturgist

In the hour of his temptation, when Jesus hungered, he knew from where his sustenance came: "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Let us consider God's gifts to us and our priorities and use of them.

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

Lord, from the abundance of your grace, you have provided all that we need. All that we have is yours. Receive the offering of our hands and the gratitude of our hearts. In the name of our Savior, we pray. Amen.

HYMN: "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" Blue 81

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Leader: God sends us out into the world
to be a people who choose Your way of love.

**People: Whether we go into a garden or into the wilderness,
we go with God.**

Leader: May we discern what will help and what will harm,
empowered to nurture and not neglect.

**People: We will seek to live as God's people,
choosing to turn toward love each and every day.**

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

– GO OUT TO SHARE THE WORD OF GOD –

Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of
Susan Aten's birthday given by Fred & Linda.

Flowers on the piano are given to the Glory of God and in memory of
Joanne Davis Friday, sister of BJ Thomas.

Those Serving Among Us Today

Liturgist today is Dave Neel.

Greeter today was Susan Aten.

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Feb.26 – Susan Aten	March 7 – Nan Jones
Feb.27 – Nancy Komlos	March 10 – Karen Strenske
Rosemary Strenske	March 11 – Natalie Brewer
March 6 – Nicole Barak	

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4:1-5,13-17

John 3:1-17

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN:

TODAY: 1st Sunday in Lent; Worship at 10 am;
2 cents a meal

TUESDAY: Bible Study at 2 pm

WEDNESDAY: Plarn Workgroup, 9 am – 12 pm;

Liturgy & Lunch from 12-1 pm at Fells UMC

THURSDAY: HOA Luncheon, Szak's Place 12:30 pm

SATURDAY: Deacons' meeting at 11 am, Fellowship Hall

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 10 am with Communion
Coffee Hour Fellowship following

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

EASTER FLOWERS: Are now available to order. Orders forms are available on the windowsill and in the church office. You may pick from Easter Lilies, Mums, Tulips, and Hyacinths. The last day to order is next Sunday, March 5th. All flowers are \$10 each.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER: Beginning this Wednesday, join Pastor Mary Kay at the Parish House for a guided prayer and meditation service as we learn about prayer and pray for our needs, those on our prayer list, our congregation, and our world.

HOA LUNCHEON: All women are invited to join our Helping One Another group for their monthly meeting, Thursday, March 2nd, at 12:30 pm at Szak's Place, 1305 Axton St., Belle Vernon (near the Washington Township Fire Hall). If you are planning to attend, please let Linda Aten know so we can be sure we have enough seats available.

RECOVERY SERVICE: Mark your calendar for the Recovery Service scheduled for 3 pm on Sunday, March 12th. This service, co-sponsored by Belle Vernon Area Ministerium and the Mon Valley Opioid Coalition, will celebrate those who have entered into recovery and offer hope to those who are still on the journey. Reach out to family members and friends who may need help or have someone in their family who needs help and hope.

LENTEN PRAYER GUIDE: Pick up your Lenten prayer guide, which includes a prayer for each day in Lent. These prayers were reproduced with permission from Creighton University's online ministries.

Liturgy and Lunch Schedule 12-1 pm

March 1	Fells United Methodist Church
March 8	First United Methodist BV
March 15	First Presbyterian (here)
March 22	Rehoboth Presbyterian Church
March 29	TBD



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 † Dolores Beatty
† Bill Behrens † Joann Bellora † Mary Lou Berish †
Bob & Carol 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 † Mary Dembski †
Dorothy Dodroskey † Dale Dominic † Carol Driver † Sandy Elder †
MaryAnn Falk † Norm Floyd † Howard Forsyth † Ed Friedenberger †
Brittany Heckathorn † Patti Huyck † Diane Johnston † Zoey Johnson
† Janet † June Kefover † Donna Kearns † Cameron Kennedy †
Lisa Korff † Robert Korff † Irene Leyda † Mike Lemley † J.T. Mateka
† Taylor McGee † Bruce Merritt † Dean Migliori † Stephen Minetta †
Roland Mori † 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 † Dennis Raymer † Dorothy Rogers † Ron Santoro †
Clare Sartori † Sandy Seeley † Alina Shaw † Linda Shuler †
Chris Sicora † Toi Smith † Walter Smith † Gianna Smoyer †
Grace Snyder † 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)*



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

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