

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

March 5, 2023 – 2nd Sunday in Lent

You are invited to stand if able

Items in **bold** are congregational response

Personal Prayer of Preparation:

Gracious and glorious Lord, we come, as did Nicodemus, with questions on our hearts and in our lives. We come hoping someone can help us find answers and healing. But we are also hardened with doubts about self, others, and even you. Grant us healing and openness to your Spirit that we may be better servants of your word, your will, and your way. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

– ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME –

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

MINUTE FOR MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing

JOYS AND SORROWS

Pastor

PRELUDE AND PRAYER OF PREPARATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (Genesis 12, Psalm 121, John 3)

Led by Liturgist

Leader: Come, all who need help!

People: Our help comes from God, the One who made heaven and earth.

Leader: Come, all who desire blessing!

People: Our blessing comes from God, the God of Abraham, the God of the ages.

Leader: Come, all who long for salvation!

People: Our salvation comes from Jesus Christ, the one sent by God to save the world.

OPENING PRAYER

Liturgist

God of the ages, we come into this holy space asking for your blessing, only to find that the abundance of your love is already around us. Open our eyes to see the blessing of your creation in the beauty all around us. Open our ears to hear the blessing of your word as it is proclaimed in story and song this day. Open our hearts to experience the blessing of faith through the gentle touch of a friend or the supportive smile of a stranger. And open our doors, that we may become vessels of your blessing to a world still in need of salvation. All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMN

“To God Be the Glory”

Red 363

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Pastor

When we least expect it, even when we are not ready, God comes to us, calling us to trust, calling us to follow, calling us to set aside our foolish lives for the lives full of grace that are offered to us. Let us confess how often we choose not to follow, as we pray together saying,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are all too human, Faithful God, and so we think we have nothing to learn from you. We look for answers online, convinced that we can trust whatever we find. We close tight the shutters of our souls, so the Spirit can only rattle us, but not get in to transform our lives. Yet you continue to keep watch of us, Promise Giver, whether in the sunshine of our lives or in those shadowed moments of uncertainty in the night. You do not stumble as you continue to come to us, to lead us into your kingdom and to transform us into the image of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Forgive us and change us, we pray.

*SILENT CONFESSION

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God did not send Jesus into the world to condemn it, but that the world might be saved through him. Through the saving love of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and blessed!

People: Thanks be to God in Jesus Christ, Our Savior.

***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

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 121

Led by Liturgist

**Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?**

**People: My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

People: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Leader: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your
right hand.

**People: The sun shall not strike you by day nor the moon by
night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep
your life.**

Leader: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.

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

Old Testament: Genesis 12:1-5a Liturgist

Gospel: John 3:1-17 Pastor

Sermon: "When You Cannot See" Pastor

**HYMN: "Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners"
(verses 1-4) Red 244**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: APOSTLES CREED

INVITATION TO STEWARDSHIP (Genesis 12, John 3) Liturgist

We acknowledge that God has blessed us abundantly and that we
are to be a blessing to the world. In the very act of giving, in every act
of bestowing blessings on another, we find that we are blessed yet
again. I encourage you now to enter fully into this amazing cycle of
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

Generous God, you shower us with gifts, including the greatest gift of all, your own Son, Jesus Christ. In thanksgiving and praise, we offer you our time, our money, our very selves. In these actions, we proclaim our intention to be a blessing in your world. Amen.

Special Music

“The Old Rugged Cross”

Bobbi Jo Huebner

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Leader: May the God of great adventures be with you!

People: And also with you!

Leader: Lift your hearts to the God who keeps us.

People: We will offer our hearts to God our Keeper.

Leader: Trust in the promises even when you cannot see.

People: We lift our songs to the One who is always with us.

God of Light, . . . we lift our thanksgivings to you:

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God who neither slumbers nor sleeps.
All creation blesses your glorious name.**

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in Your name.

Hosanna in the highest!

Holy One, you are the God of blessings, . . . mystery we call faith:

**Christ died, faithful to the end;
Christ was raised, so all creation might be saved;
Christ will come, to bring us to that home he will show us.**

Because of your promises . . . in the words our Savior taught us:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

What are we to say . . . God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND FEASTING AT THE TABLE

Sharing the body of Christ

Sharing the blood of Christ

♪ **Every time we eat this bread, every time we drink this cup, we
proclaim the death of the Lord, until he comes. Until He comes.**
♪

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this
sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the
heavenly banquet in your eternal realm. Send us out in the
power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for
the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN: "We Are God's People" Red 546

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Leader: Now go with the Spirit, from the comfort of this place,

People: We go to bring hope to the world.

Leader: Now carry the Light of Christ with you,

People: we will go into the shadows with this gift.

Leader: Now trust in God who is always with you,

People: we will follow that life called discipleship.

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE:

Threefold Amen

Blue 586

Liturgy adapted from
Thom Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies, and Ministry Matters

– GO OUT TO SHARE THE WORD OF GOD –

Liturgy and Lunch Schedule 12-1 pm

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

***REMINDER:** Next Sunday is daylight savings time! Don't forget to change your clocks forward an hour!

Those Serving Among Us Today

Liturgist today is Bobbi Jo Huebner.

Greeter today was Maxine Brownlee.

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

March 6 – Nicole Barak	March 11 – Natalie Brewer
March 7 – Nan Jones	March 13- Jane Bonari
March 10 – Karen Strenske	

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm 95

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN:

TODAY: Worship at 10 am with Communion
Coffee Hour Fellowship following

TUESDAY: Bible Study at 2 pm

WEDNESDAY: Plarn Workgroup, 9 am – 12 pm;

Liturgy & Lunch from 12-1 pm at First United
Methodist BV

FRIDAY: Chicken Pie Making; Pick up from 3-5 pm

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 10 am; Recovery Service at 3 pm

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: Today is the last day to order. All flowers are \$10 each.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER: On Wednesdays, 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.

RECOVERY SERVICE: The Recovery Service is 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.

A WONDERFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD: Will be on Sunday March 19th, and we will host a special worship service, with a gathering to celebrate our church and introduce FPC to our neighborhood.

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 † Sandy Davis † 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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