

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

April 2, 2023 – Palm Sunday

You are invited to stand if able

Items in **bold** are congregational response

Personal Prayer of Preparation:

Be gracious to me, O God, in these moments in your presence. Be with me as I rejoice in the day you have made. My times are in your hands, both when I mourn and when I celebrate. Guide my thoughts and actions that I may appreciate the possibilities in this time of worship and in every day. I trust in you, O God. Let your face shine on your servant. Amen.

– ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME –

WELCOME

Pastor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

MINUTE FOR MISSION: One Great Hour of Sharing

JOYS AND SORROWS

Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 118)

Led by Liturgist

Leader: Let those who fear the Lord and those call on God’s name say:

People: His steadfast love endures forever!

Leader: God has opened the gates of righteousness

People: We will enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

People: We bless you, O Lord, and give you thanks for your steadfast love endures forever.

OPENING PRAYER

Liturgist

Holy God, whose steadfast love offers direction and purpose to our lives, help us to be faithful in the small things you ask of us day by day, that we may see all that you reveal to us, give thanks in all circumstances, and grow toward the mind of Christ. In obedient trust, we enter this holy week, eager to participate in a world transformed by love. Amen.

VIDEO: **Triumphant Palm Sunday**

HYMN: **“Hosanna, Loud Hosannas”** **Blue 89**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Pastor

We gather to praise the Lord, but when the opportunity to truly chime in arrives, we stand back, afraid to step out, hesitating to add our voices to the throng, to be a part of the parade. Let us come to God with our doubts and our fears, and, confessing our sins, find release.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we stand at the gate, hesitant and uncertain; we are reluctant to answer your invitation; we are slow to embark on the journey toward your reign. Forgive us, we pray. Grant us the help we need to be your people—the courage to join you in the procession; the selflessness to lay our cloaks before you; the freedom to lift our palms to your glory; and the knowledge that by your grace we are forgiven. Amen.

*SILENT CONFESSION

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear this good news! The procession is ever moving forward. We can join at any moment. The invitation still stands! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: Forgiven and freed, we give thanks and praise: Glory to God! 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:

May the peace be with you.

And also with you.

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

– PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD –

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of Courage, give us wisdom, that we may sustain the weary with your words. As your words of life are proclaimed, help us to listen with open hearts and respond. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 118:1-2,19-29 Liturgist

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-11 Pastor

ANTHEM: "A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd"
Bobbi Jo Huebner

SERMON: "The Loudest Praise" Pastor

HYMN: "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

Blue 8

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

We have come here to see Jesus, to hear what God has done and is doing among us. We have received from God, so let us also hear the Spirit's call to give of ourselves, as Christ gave for us. Let us examine our hearts that we might discern what we might lay down before our Lord in praise.

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

Name above all names, as you emptied yourself for others, we offer ourselves and these gifts as a sign of our hope in your reign. Where there is death, bring life. Where there is sorrow, bring joy. Where there is injustice, bring courage for change. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Leader: May the God of glory 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.

It is right, and a good . . . join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, . . . in the words our Savior taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Through his teaching . . . in remembrance of me."

**♪ 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.**

♪

And so, in remembrance . . . proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us . . . now and forever. Amen.

SHARING AT THE TABLE

The chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God for Palm Sunday by Eileen & Bill Kunca.

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

April 2- Mike Metikosh	April 14- June Exley Bill Kunca
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THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN:

TODAY: Palm Sunday; Worship at 10 am;
Communion & Coffee Hour; Communion offering goes to Pine Springs Camp

TUESDAY: Bible Study at 2 pm

WEDNESDAY: Plarn Workgroup from 9 am – 12 pm;

THURSDAY: Maundy Thursday; Soup Dinner at 6 pm;
Service at 7 pm

NEXT SUNDAY: Sunrise service at 7:30 am with breakfast following;
Worship at 10 am

Upcoming Resurrection Services

Thursday, April 6 th	Maundy Thursday: Soup Dinner at 6 pm Service at 7 pm
Friday, April 7 th	Church will be open for prayer from 12-3 pm
Sunday, April 9 th	Sunrise Service at 7:30 am with breakfast following; Worship at 10 am

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.

ANNUAL PLANT SALE FORMS AVAILABLE: We are now taking orders for our annual plant sale, to be held on May 20, 2023. Pick up a form and place your order today! Forms will be available on the website, as well.

PAINT AND DIP: Will be on Sunday, May 7 at 1:00 in FH. The cost is \$40 per person which includes the canvas, paint, instruction, and plenty to eat! Please join us for a fun afternoon of fellowship and painting! You do not need to be an artist. Casey Clark, owner of Off The Wall Arts will take you through everything step by step. Please call the office to preregister. If you would be able to donate any dips, chips, or crackers for the event, please call the church office or Mary Beth Burkley at 724-433-3071.

WELCOME SUMMER VBS DAY: The Christian Education Committee is holding a "Welcome Summer" event on June 24. We are looking for your support. We need donations of hot dogs, buns, baked goods, chips, and drinks. Most importantly, we need people to work and supervise the various fun activities that are being planned.

Next Week's Lectionary Readings:

Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4 or
Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 28:1-10

Spring Tea UPDATE

Our second annual spring tea will be held April 22nd, from 1-4 pm, at the Monessen FD Social Hall #1. Tickets are available and are \$15 each. Please spread the word to your friends and families and get your tickets now.

The tables this year will seat eight people, so if you want to reserve a table (or more), contact the church office. B.J. Thomas is chairing the committee and would appreciate help. We need volunteers to bake; prepare tea sandwiches and Jello salads; solicit donations for the auction, set up and cleanup. Please contact B.J. or Pastor Mary Kay, or call the church office, to help. A SIGN-UP SHEET IS ON THE TABLE AT THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH.

MEN: *Please* consider helping with this event. We need help setting up, cleaning up, and—ESPECIALLY—filling teapots and serving the tables. While it may not what you are used to, we need your help to show our guests that the men of the church support us. Who knows, they might come to church and bring their husbands with them! WE NEED YOU!

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 † Wesley Beam †
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 † Carol Carcella † Jim Caristo † Milana (Berish)
Cerniga † Rev. Ian Chikoti † Michael Colla † Lou Comadina † Nancy
Craig † Glenn Crownover † Sandy Davis † 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 Morrow † Mrs. Munsen † Lynette Murray † Tim and
Melissa Nagelreiter † Betsy Neel † Mary Caroline Nicholas † Bob
Palfrey † June Palfrey † Nora Pelezar † Helen Pulgino † Dennis
Raymer † Pat Robon † Dorothy Rogers † Ron Santoro † 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	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Sharon Zunic	BJ Thomas	
Jane Bonari	Lori Lamberski	
Mary Beth Burkley	Carol Tragesser	
Bill Kunca	David Burdis	

D E A C O N S

Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Marguerite Patterson	Jessica Phillabaum	Susan Aten
Dennis Peters	Dave Neel	Fred Exley
Patty Gillon		June Exley
Eileen Kunca		Barb Moskala

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