

WORSHIP
THE LORD
YOUR GOD
AND SERVE
ONLY HIM

*First
Presbyterian
Church*



First Presbyterian Church

July 30, 2023 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

You are invited to stand if able
Items in **bold** are congregational responses

– ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME–

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

JOYS AND SORROWS

Pastor

PRELUDE AND PREPARATION

Loving God, who gives wisdom to those who are wise enough to ask for nothing more, we gather in Your presence seeking to discern what You would do through us in the Kingdom's cause. As a new week opens may we take from this service small seeds of insight to plant them in the world so that in those places where our feet pass there may be signs of the Kingdom's growth. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name;

People: make known his deeds among the peoples.

Leader: Sing to him, sing praises to him;

People: tell of all his wonderful works.

Leader: Glory in his holy name;

People: let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

OPENING PRAYER

Liturgist

O God, Jesus taught that where our treasure is, there will our hearts be also. In this hour, we come bringing our treasures—all that we have and all that we are. We come seeking your treasure—Treasure that does not fade, decay, or disappoint. Share with us the treasure of heaven, that we may boldly share it with others. Amen.

INVITATION TO RECONCILIATION

We spend so much time accusing ourselves, judging ourselves, punishing ourselves for what we have done, or not done. But God would draw us closer to the Heart of forgiveness, that we might be filled with healing and grace. Join me, as we pray together,

HYMN: **“Since Jesus Came into My Heart”** **Red 639**

CHORUS **“Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh”**

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Led by Pastor

Diligent Lord, who watches over us at all times, be with us all these days. We confess that we have allowed a host of worries and frustrations to crowd out your word for us. We struggle to trust you, while we so easily listen to the promises of those who would pull us away from you. As you give us peace and your transforming love, also forgive all those times when we have been less than faithful disciples. Gently visit us again with your healing powers. Restore our hope and courage and joy for all the times ahead. We ask this in the name of the Master Healer, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

*SILENT CONFESSION

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

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Pastor

Hear the good news: the One who could accuse us, saves us from sin and death. The One who could condemn us, cradles us in grace. The One who could punish us, prays for us.

Now we know, there is nothing, not a thing, that can separate us from God. Thanks be to the One who forgives us. 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 of God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name and love of Christ.

– PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD –

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Led by Liturgist

Eternal God, you have made us in your image. Let our hearts, minds and spirits be turned to you in this time so that the Holy Spirit may bring us closer to the Word. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Led by Liturgist

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.

People: **Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.**

Leader: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.

People: Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he has uttered,

Leader: O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones. He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

People: He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded for a thousand generations,

Leader: the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac,

People: which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, saying,

Leader: "To you I will give the land of Canaan as your portion for an inheritance."

People: Praise the Lord!

NEW TESTAMENT: Romans 8:26-39 Liturgist

SPECIAL MUSIC: "The Old Rugged Cross"

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 Pastor

SERMON: "What Value is Christ to You?" Pastor

HYMN: "My Jesus, I Love Thee" Red 456

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

CHORUS "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

RESPONSE: God of mercy and grace, We rely on your promise.

INVITATION TO STEWARDSHIP

Liturgist

God gives us the opportunity to share from our bounty for the ministries of our church that Christ's redeeming love may be known to all people. Let us joyfully bring our morning offering.

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

Led by Liturgist

Lord, receive our gifts and our lives. Cause all of these blessings to work for you in this world which you have loaned to us for safekeeping. In Christ's Name, we pray. AMEN.

HYMN:

"And Can It Be"

Red 260

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

Leader: Go forth to proclaim God's constant love.

People: We will live out that love for everyone we meet.

Leader: Go forth to unfold God's Word to the world.

**People: We will gather up the tears of those around us,
as we offer the healing grace of Jesus.**

Leader: Go forth to tell stories of hope and peace.

People: We will spread the Spirit of life all around us.

Leader: May the love of the Lord Jesus . . .

RESPONSE: Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen!

– GO OUT TO SHARE THE WORD OF GOD –

Those Serving Among Us Today

Liturgist today is Jane Bonari.

Greeter today was Carol Tragesser.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN:

TODAY: Worship at 10 am; 2 cents a meal offering

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 10 am; Communion

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Aug. 4- Jacob Phillabaum Ian Pallotta	Aug. 11- Donna Sichi Scott Jupin
Aug. 6- Jaxon Zeli	Aug. 12- John Rapchak
Aug. 7- Sally Callaway Breslin Trubiani	Aug. 14- Emma Burkley
Aug. 5- Bill & Sally Callaway Aug. 7- Bill & Chemen Callaway Aug. 12- John & Kay Conger	



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of Belle Vernon

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

ELDER S

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

Class of 2024
Lori Lamberski
Carol Tragesser
David Burdis

Class of 2025

DEACONS

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)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your faithful support of the church and its ministries. Plates are on the windowsills, as well. You may still drop off your offerings in the mail slot of the Parish House.

PEACH FESTIVAL: Our annual Peach Festival will be on Saturday, August 12th. Mark your calendars for the 11th to help us peel peaches and make pies! Also, prepare your ideas for the bake sale.

COMMUNION OFFERING: Next week's communion offering goes to our local fire department.

ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE: The Anniversary Committee will be having a meeting on August 23rd at 6:00pm. Anyone interested in working on the anniversary celebration please plan to attend!

MON VALLEY NIGHT OUT: Is this Tuesday, August 1st from 6 pm- 9 pm at the John Divirgilio Sports Complex. This is sponsored by the Mon Valley Opioid Coalition and the Rostraver Twp Police Department.

Come out and see Mon Valley police, firefighters, and EMTs. Our local businesses and organizations will be present to share information about the community and there will be kids prizes and activities. Ministerium could use help setting up and tearing down. See Pastor Mary Kay for information.

CRAFT SHOW: Thank you to everyone who made this weekend's craft show a success.

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 † Carl Boone † Garret Brigs † Frank Britton † Cameron Burnardza † Angel Burnsworth † Joe Burnsworth † Colin † Sally Callaway † Sally Campbell † Carol Carcella † Milana (Berish) Cerniga † Rev. Ian Chikoti † Michael Colla † Lou Comadina † Nancy Craig † Glenn Crownover † Darla † Rich & Kathy Davies † Sandy Davis † Carol Driver † Sandy Elder † MaryAnn Falk † Norm Floyd † Howard Forsyth † Sarah Hepple † Brittany Heckathorn † Wayne Helster † Patti Huyck † Diane Johnston † Zoey Johnson † Janet † June Kefover † Donna Kearns † Cameron Kennedy † Lisa Korff † Robert Korff † Gordon & Teresa Lucas Family † Irene Leyda † Mike Lemley † Gordon Lucas † Ronnie Lynn † J.T. Mateka † Taylor McGee † Bruce Merritt † Dean Migliori † Phil Morrow † Lynette Murray † Tim and Melissa Nagelreiter † Betsy Neel † Duane Nelson † Mary Caroline Nicholas † Bob Palfrey † June Palfrey † Scott Palfrey † Marge Pawlaski † Nora Pelezar † Helen Pulgino † Dennis Raymer † Pat Robon † Dorothy Rogers † Alina Shaw † Linda Shuler † Chris Sicora † Toi Smith † Walter Smith † Gianna Smoyer † 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, Caregivers who deplete themselves caring for others, 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)