



H E I S
R I S E N

C E L E B R A T E T H E S A V I O R



*First
Presbyterian
Church*



First Presbyterian Church

March 31, 2024

* = You are invited to stand, if able

Items in **bold** are congregational responses

– ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME–

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

JOYS AND SORROWS

PRAYER OF PREPARATION AND PRELUDE (Silent Prayer)

O God of all our days, we come this morning with eager

anticipation. We seek to know you, to see you, to touch you.

Open our hearts, that we might experience you anew. Open our

lives, that we may be faithful witnesses to your resurrection.

*May we, with shouts of joy, proclaim your steadfast, liberating
love to all people, everywhere. Amen.*

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 118:1-2,19-24)

Led by Liturgist

Leader: Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

People: Hosanna! Hosanna!

Leader: Celebrate this day of days!

People: Hosanna! Hosanna!

Leader: Let all creation be amazed!

People: Hosanna! Hosanna! Christ is Risen!

OPENING PRAYER

Liturgist

Creator God, you make all things new. On this Easter morn we remember that your steadfast love endures forever, through life and death. There is nothing that can hold us back from Your love. On this morning, may our hearts be broken open to hear the message of Your love for us, through Jesus Christ, the one who gave himself up on the cross so that death would not have a hold on us. The love of Jesus leads us to eternal life, a new life that begins now, and today, we celebrate, give thanks, and praise Your name. Amen!

*HYMN:

“Christ Is Alive”

Blue 108

*INVITATION TO RECONCILIATION

Pastor

The joy of this Easter Sunday reminds us of God’s resurrecting power. Let us confess all that turns us toward death, so we can know the grace of new life through Christ.

*CHORUS:

“Spirit of the Living God”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Savior God, forgive our life-alienating ways, our exclusion and judgment of others; the way we evaluate and compare. Forgive our death-dealing sins, our habits that demean and degrade, our addiction to violent and destructive behavior. Redeem us. Restore us. Resurrect us for life in Christ. Amen.

*SILENT CONFESSION

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

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“Jesus Christ is risen today. But the pains which he endured, our salvation have procured.” In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Alleluia. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI (Glory Be to the Father . . .)**

***SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE**

***GREETING OUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS**

RE-GATHERING CHORUS “The Family of God”

Screen

– PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD –

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Led by Liturgist

Divine Redeemer, bearer of life, open us to the wisdom of your Word today and enlighten us with your truth. Liberate us from all that distracts us and turns us from your path. Guide us and ground us in Christ’s everlasting hope. Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC

NEW TESTAMENT:

Acts 10:34-43

Liturgist

GOSPEL:

Mark 16:1-8

Liturgist

MINUTE FOR YOUTH

SERMON:

“What Did They Expect?”

Pastor

***HYMN:**

“I Danced in the Morning”

Blue 302

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from Book of Common Worship)

**This is the good news which we have received,
in which we stand,**

and by which we are saved,

if we hold it fast:

**that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures,
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day,
and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter,
and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.**

We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

Jesus Christ is the first and the last,

the beginning and the end;

he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Liturgist

Give thanks to God for God is good. Let us gratefully give of our offerings to the glory of God and in praise of Christ's resurrecting ministry.

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

***DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS**

God of the empty tomb, your grace astounds us, your generosity fills us to overflowing. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless our work on Christ's behalf. May we love as Christ loved. May we serve as Christ served. Call us forth into your world, guided by Christ's spirit. Amen.

***HYMN:**

“Thine Is the Glory”

Blue 122

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Celebrate this day of days! Rejoice in God, your Savior! Know the new life gifted through Jesus Christ! Shout your Alleluias for all to hear! May the grace, hope, peace and love of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with us all, now and forever. Amen.

***RESPONSE “Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen!”**

– GO OUT TO SHARE THE WORD OF GOD –

Liturgy from Matthew A. Rich, Presbyterian Outlook
CCLI licenses 20664520 and 20664537, CVLI License

THOSE SERVING AMONG US TODAY

The Liturgist today is Dawn Kapolka.

Greeter today was Carol Tragesser.

Last Sunday’s Attendance: 40

Last Sunday’s Offering: \$ 1,247

Thank you for your faithfulness in service and in giving.



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 is secure and protected.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

TODAY: Worship at 10 am; Easter Sunday,

NEXT SUNDAY: Sunday School at 9 am
Worship at 9:55 am;
Communion; Coffee hour

Next Week's Readings

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133;
1 John 1:1 - 2:2; John 20:19-31

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS
April 2 - Mike Metikosh
April 14 -June Exley LaVerne Kennedy
April 16 -Glenn Hart

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: Please be generous today as we take the OGHS offering. Funds raised through this program help those in need around the world, including here at home.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: Join us each Sunday morning at 9 am for a time of study and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall. We will be studying the Engage Discipleship curriculum.

APOLOGETICS LECTURE/DISCUSSION GROUP at Harmony Presbyterian Church beginning April 4th at 7 pm. This is a 24-session study and discussion group.

PRAYER LIST: Please take a look at the prayer list, many of the names have been on there for a few years. Please let the office know if we can take any names off if prayer is no longer needed. Also, if you want to add someone to the list, please call or email the church office.

150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: We are getting closer to our 150th celebration. On Saturday, April 27th, we will have a catered meal at 4:30 pm with a concert following by Westward Road. The cost of the meal is \$20. The concert is free. Please plan to join us on the 27th for a wonderful evening of food and fellowship. The deadline to order tickets for Saturday's meal is April 15th. Please see Bobbi Jo for tickets for the dinner.

The committee has invited other congregations to join us for the concert. We have also invited former pastors and others who have helped with our church.

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.

**Anita † Lisa Aten † Kaiden Bane † Dolores Beatty † Bill Behrens
† Joann Bellora † Mary Lou Berish † Bob & Carol Berish † Carl
Boone † Frank Britton † Cameron Burnardza † Joe Burnsworth †
Colin † Sally Callaway † Sally Campbell † Carol Carcella † Milana
(Berish) Cerniga † Chloe Chachaula † Rev. Ian Chikoti † Nancy Craig
† Glenn Crownover † Tena Crutcher † Sue Currie † Rich & Kathy
Davies † Carol Driver † Sandy Elder † MaryAnn Falk † Norm Floyd †
Howard Forsyth † Janis Garofalo † Louise Gerber † Gillingham twin
preemies † Jim Gross † Glenn Hart † Brittany Heckathorn † Wayne
Helster † Frieda Hilman † Patti Huyck † Diane Johnston † Zoey
Johnson † Janet † Donna Kearns † Irene Leyda † Mike Lemley †
Lisa † Gordon Lucas † Ronnie Lynn † Laura Martin † J.T. Mateka †
Taylor McGee † Bruce Merritt † Dean Migliori † Phil Morrow †
Lynette Murray † Betsy Neel † Jim Palfrey † Scott Palfrey † Marge
Pawlaski † Kim Pierce † David Plasman † Helen Pulgino † Kaylee
Rabon † Lucille Rapchak † Dennis Raymer † Alina Shaw † Linda
Shuler † Chris Sicora † Rose Smarachek † Toi Smith † Walter Smith
† Gianna Smoyer † Lewis Stiltner † Ginger Thorp † Jerry Tregembo
† Fred Walker † Shirl Walsh † Sandy Walters † Joseph Waywood †
Edna Weaver**

**Pray for the safety and protection of First Responders
(police, fire, EMTs), Military Personnel, Medical Personnel,
Caregivers who deplete themselves caring for others,
those affected by senseless violence and war,
and those affected by natural disasters.**

*(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)*

What Did They Expect?

Mark 16:1-8; Acts 10:34-43

The four gospels were written by the disciples, Matthew, Mark and John, and by Dr. Luke, for specific _____ and to specific _____, much as we would tell a good story.

The _____ began at sundown on Friday and ended at sundown on Saturday. No work or business was to be done during that time.

_____—Guards had been posted to

- 1) to keep anyone from _____ Jesus' body (Romans), and
- 2) to keep Jesus in and _____ (Jewish leaders).

_____—Often it was a large round stone that was difficult to remove.

A lifeless _____—They had been there when Jesus died. They fully expected to find His lifeless body, which they would _____ as their last act of devotion and love.

Their “alarmed” reaction (Greek: *ekthambeō*) carries the sense of being _____ by surprise or perplexity.

The angel told them to _____ and _____ and named Peter specifically.



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	379-0149
Chairman of Deacons:	Susan Aten	929-6406
Head Usher:	Dave Neel	412-337-6365
Custodian:	Patty Gillon	929-7616
H. O. A:	Linda Aten	929-6406

E L D E R S

Class of 2024

Lori Lamberski
Carol Tragesser
David Burdis
Linda Aten

Class of 2025

Fred Exley
Doug Cole
Jack Backo

Class of 2026

John Conger
Sharon Zunic

D E A C O N S

Class of 2024

Jessica Phillabaum
Dave Neel
Kay Conger
Brenda Kennedy

Class of 2025

Susan Aten
June Exley
Barb Moskala

Class of 2026

Patty Gillon
Eileen Kunca

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)