



Blessed
are the
peacemakers,
for they
shall be called
the children
of God.

Matthew 5:9

First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit
The congregation is asked to read the portions in bold.

*The people are invited to stand or may remain seated

Prelude

Announcements

Call To Worship Psalm 1:1-3

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers.

**But their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law they meditate day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

Let us worship God together.
Introduction to the Sermon on the Mount

* Hymn “Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit”

Tune: Nettleton

**Blessed are the poor in spirit; God’s whole realm is surely theirs.
Those in mourning will find comfort as an answer to their prayers.
Meek ones whom this world despises will inherit everything.
God, your kingdom still surprises; may we seek the reign you bring.**

**Blessed, too, are those who hunger and who thirst for what is right.
They will not be prone to wander, for your will is their delight.
Those who show God’s care and mercy will receive that mercy too.
God, in Christ you show us clearly all the joy we have in you.**

**Those who share the peace God gives them will find blessings as God’s own.
Those oppressed for faithful living will call heaven’s kingdom Home.
When the world’s ways seem distressing and we feel life’s painful sting,
God, remind us of the blessings of the wondrous life you bring.**

Responsive Reading of Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12

Leader: When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down,
his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

People: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Leader: Blessed are those who mourn,

People: for they will be comforted.

Leader: Blessed are the meek,

People: for they will inherit the earth.

Leader: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

People: for they will be filled.

Leader: Blessed are the merciful,

People: for they will receive mercy.

Leader: Blessed are the pure in heart,

People: for they will see God.

Leader: Blessed are the peacemakers,

People: for they will be called children of God.

Leader: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,

People: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Leader: Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of
evil against you falsely on my account.

**People: Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way
they persecuted the prophets who were before you.**

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:13-20

Hymn "Up on a Mountaintop"

Tune: "Be Thou My Vision"

**Up on a mountaintop, Jesus sat down,
Teaching the people who gathered around:
Look for the blessings that God kindly brings;
God's loving kingdom is changing all things.**

**You are the salt and you're also the light.
Flavor God's world, with your faith shining bright.
Know that I've come here, God's word to fulfill.
Keep the commandments and follow them well.**

Prayer (Unison)

O God, we thank you for Jesus' teachings to all who follow him. We thank you for the blessings of the Beatitudes, and for the wonderful surprises they bring us, about what it means for your church to live in your kingdom. Help us by your Spirit to hear your word in scripture, and to follow your way in our lives. Make us salt and light to your world. Amen.

Time with Children

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:21-42

* Hymn "Up on a Mountaintop"

Tune: "Be Thou My Vision"

**Let go of anger, for it is a sin.
It will destroy you, both outside and in.
Even your thinking can lead you astray;
Whatever tempts you, just throw it away.**

**Keep strong the bonds between husband and wife;
Keep your commitments for all of your life.
Don't swear by heaven or by earth below;
Let "yes" be "yes" then, and let "no" be "no."**

**If any hurt you, then you may resist,
But not with hatred or weapon or fist.
God's way is stronger than any you face;
Stand up and love them! And give them God's grace.**

* Prayer of Confession (Unison)

O God, we have heard Jesus' teachings many times, but we confess that sometimes we think they are impractical. We let anger take hold of us. We fail to keep our commitments to you and to others. We lack courage to follow Jesus' way of love. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to find joy in obedience to you. Amen.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Jesus teaches us in Matthew 7:11, “If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!” In Jesus Christ, God gives us the gift of forgiveness.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

* Passing the Peace

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:43-48

* Hymn “Up on a Mountaintop”

Tune: “Be Thou My Vision”

**Love those who hate you and pray for them, too.
God’s mercy reaches out far beyond you.
Seek, as God’s people, God’s wholeness each day
So you can witness to God’s perfect way.**

Anthem

“A Canon of Praise”

Natalie Sleeth

Hymn “Don’t Show Off Your Giving”

Tune: “Let All Things Now Living”

**Don’t show off your giving—the good you are doing—
But quietly give without public display.
Let prayer be in secret, your spirit renewing.
Don’t heap empty phrases, but pray then this way:
“Our Father in heaven, may your name be holy.
We pray for your kingdom and our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we, too, pardon freely.
Protect us from troubles and evils we dread.”**

Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Responsive Reading of Gospel Lesson: Matthew 6:16-21

Leader: And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

**People: But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,
so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father
who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you...**

Leader: Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal;

People: But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal.

All: For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
Hymn “Don’t Show Off Your Giving” Tune: “Let All Things Now Living”

**Whenever you’re fasting, don’t show off to others
In hopes that your neighbors will speak well of you.
Don’t brag of your faith to your sisters and brothers,
For it is enough that God sees what you do.
Don’t hoard earthly treasure or trust your possessions;
They rust and are stolen; you’ll have them no more!
Instead seek God’s kingdom—its worth never lessens—
And find your heart’s treasure in things that endure.**

Minutes for Peacemaking and Stewardship
Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
 Offertory
*Doxology
*Prayer of Dedication

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 6:22-34

Hymn “Don’t Show Off Your Giving” Tune: “Let All Things Now Living”

**The eye is a lamp and we need it for seeing,
So be like that lamp and let God’s light shine through.
You can’t serve two masters with all of your being,
So choose God or money! Which one will rule you?
And so, too, I tell you to put away worry
Of what you’ll consume or the clothes that you’ll wear.
God cares for the birds and gives flowers their glory,
So trust God for shelter and safety and care.**

Prayers of the People

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 7:1-6

Hymn “Don’t Go ‘Round Judging Others” Tune: “O Jesus, I Have Promised”

**Don’t go ‘round judging others, or they may judge you, too.
Don’t criticize your neighbors for things you also do.
Don’t squander what is holy or waste what you’ve received.
Hold fast the faith God gives you; rejoice, give thanks, believe!**

Prayer (Unison)

**God you have given us the wondrous gift of faith, through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Help us to find joy in this precious gift—not wasting it or ignoring it—but sharing it
with others. Amen.**

*Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed (traditional)

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 7:7-12

Hymn "Don't Go 'Round Judging Others"

Tune: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

**Ask God, and God will give you; search well, and you will find.
Knock and the door will open for God is just and kind.
Do everything for others that you want them to do.
The Law and Prophets matter! This is God's Word for you.**

Time of Silent Prayer

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 7:13-20

Hymn "Don't Go 'Round Judging Others"

Tune: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

**The gate to life is narrow; destruction's way is wide.
So take the way that's harder and let God be your guide.
Beware of those who lead you down pathways that destroy.
And seek the fruit of heaven; God gives us kingdom joy!**

Prayer (Unison)

**Loving God, help us to give ourselves to you anew, each day.
Help us to listen to your voice and to find joy in following your way. Amen.**

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 7:21-27

* Hymn "Don't Go 'Round Judging Others"

Tune: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

**Not all who call the Lord's name will enter heaven's realm,
But only those obeying will call God's kingdom Home.
The wise hear God and follow; on rock, they stand secure.
The storms of life may shatter, but they will still endure.**

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude**

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Bible lesson, singing, and praying as children together. They will return to the sanctuary during the final hymn.

- For the children who remain in worship, we have activities for your child in the **worship bags** located in the Narthex.
- For the youngest children, we have a **fully-staffed nursery** available during worship in room 208.

Prayer Request Cards are available in the pew racks. Pass them to the center aisle to be collected during the first hymn. **Please pray for:** our Haitian friends; church officers, staff, Stephen Ministers; Jennifer, Abby, Kim, Travelers, Rose, Georgeanne; Kate, Robbie, Moira, Jennifer, Michele, Tinka, Aldy, Katie, State Police and families, Ben, Erin, military personnel.

THE W.A.Y. is in full swing on Wednesday evenings. Come for a light supper and stay for education time and / or choir rehearsals. Check the calendar on page 3 or the September Presbyterian for specifics.

About Today's Service - Our entire worship service features a presentation of the Sermon on the Mount, which Jesus gives in chapters 5-7 in the Gospel of Matthew. All the hymns, the readings, and the liturgy draw upon these powerful teachings of Jesus. We are deeply grateful to Chris Norton, who has worked with a team of readers to speak the words of Jesus.

The content of the service has been shaped by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, noted hymn writer and Presbyterian pastor from Wilmington, DE. A Princeton classmate of Rev. Bill's, Carolyn discovered her gifts as a hymn writer at a Synod School class at Wilson College. She has composed over a hundred new hymn texts, and we are thankful for her work in designing this special worship experience.

2014-15 Arts at First Presbyterian brochures are available in the narthex. It will be a season of dazzling duets, blazing bluegrass, jugglers, ringers, and singers! These events are open to the public, free of charge. Even though we take a free-will offering at each event, we rely on contributions from individuals and government grants to meet our expenses. Please consider supporting the arts series this year by putting a check in the offering plate with "Arts Series" in the memo block. We certainly appreciate any support you can provide!

Showers of blessings FOR TINKA! Tinka Zenke will turn 100 years old on September 30. **Let's shower her with cards** and love as she marks this very special birthday! The address to use is 412 Lily Lake Rd., Dalton, PA 18414.

The State Hospital Luncheon will be on October 7th. Please join us at noon for fellowship and lunch with our guests in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a pair of new men's or women socks with you. If unable to attend, donation of socks for the guests would be appreciated.

FELLOWSHIP FOOD – Each Sunday throughout the Fall, Winter and Spring, the Fellowship Committee provides goodies for Fellowship Time after church. However, please know that food contributions are always welcome from those not on the committee as well. Just bring your plate of goodies to the kitchen before the church service, and we'll give them a place of honor on the food table.

Are you a senior and need help paying for Groceries?

If you are aged 60+, a resident of Lackawanna County, have monthly income below \$1,916 for single individuals and \$2,586 for married couples, and resources under \$9,000, excluding your home, primary vehicle and other items, you could qualify for SNAP, **S**upplemental **N**utrition **A**ssistance **P**rogram. Approximately 2 out of 3 seniors who qualify to receive SNAP are missing out on benefits. Don't be one of them. Contact The Voluntary Action Center, 570-347-5616 or jwynn@vacnepa.org to see if you qualify.

Help Wanted: We are looking for a nursery attendant to start ASAP. They can contact Gwynne Gilbert (570-586-9317) or Steve Selige (570 650-2451) for more information.

October is Food Pantry Month!

Please remember those in our community who are less fortunate. Non-perishable food items, such as soups, cereals, pastas, powdered milk, tuna, etc. will be collected throughout October and delivered to the Abington Ecumenical Ministerium's Food Pantry in Dalton for distribution in the Abington Area.

Turkey Day: Thanksgiving is approaching. Come join me in a Thanksgiving feast. My table is open to anyone who doesn't feel like cooking this year, is going to be alone, or just wants to celebrate the day with others. It is always a time of friendship and great food. Please contact me to let me know you want to come. Judy Cutler 570-446-9310 or jdragonflyc@hotmail.com

Weekly update from the Finance Committee: Last week's income was \$5,996, including \$5,091 to general pledge. Each week, \$7,650 is needed to meet budget. Thanks for your support!

This Week at a Glance

Today

7:00 AM	AA	Room 210
10:00	Worship	Sanctuary
10:20	"Joyful Noise" for children age 3 to gr 2	Room 103
11:30	Confirmation class	Room 209
4:00 PM	OA	Room 210

Monday, September 29

7:00 AM AA Room 210
12:00 & 6:00 PM Weight Watchers Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, September 30

7:00 AM AA Room 210
7:30 Big Book Group Room 103

Wednesday, October 1

7:00 AM AA Room 210
10:00 Prayer and Share Room 209
5:15 PM Light Supper Fellowship Hall

Wednesday continued

5:30 Teen Choir and Chapel Choir Sanctuary/Choir Rm
6:15 The W.A.Y. Educational time for all ages
7:15 Adult Choir Sanctuary
8:30 Bell Choir Fellowship Hall

Thursday, October 2

7:00 AM AA Room 210
8:30 Mens' Breakfast Room 206
5:00 PM Counseling Support Group Room 209
7:00 Building & Grounds Room 209
7:00 Christian Education Room 206
7:00 OA Room 210

Friday, October 3

7:00 AM AA Room 210

Saturday, October 4

7:00 AM AA Room 210
9:45 OA Room 210
12:00 –6:00 PM All-Presbytery Day Camp Lackawanna

Sunday, October 5 World Communion / Peacemaking Sunday

7:00 AM Tradition 3 Group AA Room 210
10:00 Worship Sanctuary
10:20 "Joyful Noise" for Children age 3 to gr 2 Room 103
11:30 Confirmation Class Room 209
4:00 PM OA Room 210