

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

February 7, 2021

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

"Blessed Assurance"

arr. John Ness Beck

Call to Worship

Let us worship and sing praises to God,

for the Lord is gracious and worthy of praise!

Let us hope in God's steadfast love

and worship God together!

Hymn 410

"God is Calling through the Whisper"

1 God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs,
through the thrill of sudden beauties that can catch us by surprise.
Flash of lightning, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder:
God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?

2 God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.
Place of hurt or face of needing; strident cry or silent pleading:
God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?

3 God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,
through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.
Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing:
God is calling—and we hear! God is calling—and we hear!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God,

you call us to proclaim the gospel,

but we remain silent in the presence of evil.

You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,

but we are content to live in separation.

You call us to seek the good of all,

but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.

You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,

but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near.

Forgive us, O Lord.

Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,

and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others;

through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

Silent Confession
Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Psalter: Psalm 147:1-11 [Hymn 657]

Refrain: Sing to God, with joy and gladness, hymns and psalms of gratitude;
with the voice of praise discover that to worship God is good.

- 1 God unites the scattered people, gathers those who wandered far,
heals the hurt and broken spirits, tending every wound and scar. **(Refrain)**
- 2 Such is God's great power and wisdom, none can calculate or tell;
keen is God to ground the wicked and with humble folk to dwell. **(Refrain)**
- 3 God with clouds the sky has curtained, thus ensuring rain shall fall;
earth, responding, grows to order food for creatures great and small. **(Refrain)**
- 4 God's discernment never favors strength or speed to lift or move;
God delights in those who worship, trusting in God's steadfast love. *(Refrain)*

A Time with Children

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's

law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Sermon: "So Much Winning"

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn 738

"O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee"

- 1 O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
- 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.
- 3 Teach me thy patience, still with thee in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.
- 4 In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way;
in peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;**

**who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;**

the third day he rose again from the dead;

**he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;**

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;

the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

"Be Still, My Soul"

arr. Bill Ingram

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn 394

"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation" (sung to #143)

- 1 Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone.
- 2 To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
come, with all your loving-kindness; hear your people as we pray,
and your fullest benediction shed within these walls today.
- 3 Here bestow on all your servants what they seek from you to gain;
what they gain from you, forever with the blessed to retain;
and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.
- 4 Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory while unending ages run!

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

arr. John A. Behnke

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children And Youth Ministry	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	Chris Norton
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Director of Bell Choir	Richard Cochrane
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck

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Church Family Announcements

The Annual Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit has been called for **February 7, 2021 (today)**. As provided by our bylaws, it will be held online **on ZOOM immediately following worship** (around 11:00 a.m.). A link will be available on our FPCCS website in the days before the meeting. The reports will be e-mailed to those on our e-mail list on Wednesday, February 3.

For those who have no access to the internet, we will gladly send you a printed packet of all reports.

We will take a break from Sunday (virtual) coffee hour. Please watch our announcement page, web page and/or weekly "Light From the Hill."

Wednesday evening Bible study wraps up on February 10, at 7:00 pm. Join in as Rev. Carter presents "*Wintering in Corinth*", to coincide with his winter sermon series. [Join with Zoom](#)

CAMP LACKAWANNA INFORMATION

Summer Camp 2021 Registration is open! Head on over to camplackawanna.org to see what programs are being offered this summer and sign your children up for camp! Family Camp registration is also open! **Our church provides scholarships** for all young people who want to go. Mykela Bricka, the new camp director, will take part in our February 14 worship service and tell us about the new developments at our church camp. If you have any questions please email camplackwanna.director@gmail.com.

DATES	CAMP	AGE GROUP
June 24-27	Family Camp	All Ages
June 28-30	Mini Camp	Ages 6-10
July 4-10	Wet n' Wild	Ages 7-16
July 11-17	Music, Arts and Drama	Ages 7-16
July 11-24	JH/SR 2-week	Completed grades 6-11
July 18-24	Adventure Camp	Completed grades 6-10
July 25-31	Night Owls	Completed grades 3-10
August 1-7	Camp Olympics	Ages 7-16

- **Our building is bustling -- one person at a time!** Feel free to read a book or check out a DVD from our church library, pray or play the piano in the sanctuary, or have a free cup of coffee with the pastor (who will keep six feet away). No groups, please, but Masked Individuals are welcome in limited numbers whenever the building is open. [Stir-Crazy People](#) are especially invited.

Year-end pledge statements have been mailed. If you haven't received yours yet, please notify the church office (570-586-6306).

Most of the **2021 offering boxes** have been distributed. If you haven't received a box, and would like one, please notify the church office (570-586-6306).

What's coming in the near future

- Super Bowl Sunday is February 7. So is **[Souper Bowl Sunday](#)**. We invite you to make a donation to the Abington Ecumenical food party. You send checks made out to the church (marked for "Food Pantry") or **[donate online](#)**.
- February 14 will be **Mardi Gras Sunday** with New Orleans music in our live-streamed worship service. The brilliant bassist Tony Marino will be our musical guest.



Valentines from Vienna

A live-streamed concert of chamber music on February 14 at 4:00 pm

The banner includes three portrait photographs of the performers: a man in a dark jacket sitting at a piano, a woman in a black top, and another woman in a blue top.

During the pandemic, Rev. Carter has acquired a grant to provide a series of three **online concerts of uplifting music** for the public. The next concert is called, "**Valentines from Vienna: An Afternoon of Chamber Music.**" Scheduled to be broadcast live from the sanctuary on **February 14 at 4:00 p.m.**, it will feature Dr. Katie Morell's chamber group performing Beethoven's "**[Gassenhauer](#)**" Trio in Bb and Zemlinsky's **[Trio in D minor](#)**.