

# First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

May 16, 2021

10:00 a.m.

## Prayer Before Worship

O God, your Son, Jesus, prayed for his disciples, and sent them into the world to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. By your Holy Spirit, hold the church in unity, and keep it faithful to your Word, so that, breaking bread together, we may be one with Christ in faith and love and service, now and forever. Amen.

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

"It Is Well with My Soul"

John Weiss, Cello

arr. Phillip Keveren

Call to Worship

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you,  
that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.

***If we walk in the light as he himself is in the light,  
we have fellowship with one another,  
and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.***

This is the day the Lord has made.

***Let us rejoice and be glad in it.***

\* Hymn 377

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2 I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.

(Refrain)

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. (Refrain)

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession

***Almighty God, you have sent Jesus Christ as the light of the world,  
exposing the lies that we tell,  
revealing the falsehoods that we perpetuate,  
unveiling the evil deeds that we have done,  
and shining your light on what we have hidden in the shadows.***

***We hurt one another,***

***distort the damage by speaking untruths,  
and resist the honesty of your love.***

***In the name of Christ, we boldly ask for mercy.  
Cancel our sin. Cleanse us from all lawlessness.  
Restore us to walk in fellowship with you and one another;  
through Jesus Christ, the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Amen.***

\* Silent Confession

\* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

\* Easter Response 587                   ***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

Reception of New Members

## **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson: John 17:6-19

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

Psalter: Psalm 1 (Hymn 457)

1 How happy are the saints of God who do not heed the wicked way;  
delighting in the holy Word they seek God's wisdom night and day.

2 Like deeply rooted trees, they stand beside an ever-flowing stream.  
Their fruit is plentiful and good; their leaves are always growing green.

3 While wicked ones are whisked away like straw before the driving wind,  
the saints are firmly planted still, and God will keep them to the end.

A Time with Children

Epistle Lesson: 1 John 5:10-21

Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his

Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

And this is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have obtained the requests made of him. If you see your brother or sister committing what is not a mortal sin, you will ask, and God will give life to such a one—to those whose sin is not mortal. There is sin that is mortal; I do not say that you should pray about that. All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that is not mortal.

We know that those who are born of God do not sin, but the one who was born of God protects them, and the evil one does not touch them. We know that we are God's children, and that the whole world lies under the power of the evil one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

Sermon: "Can't Touch This"

Rev. Carter

*Easter Series: The Shape of Love*

### **RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

\* Hymn 451

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

- 1 Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!
- 2 Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.  
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!
- 3 Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere.  
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

\* Affirmation of Faith

A Brief Statement of Faith, section 1

**In life and in death we belong to God.  
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.  
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,  
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,  
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.  
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,**

**Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.  
God raised this Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

Offering  
Offertory

“Thy Word”

arr. John Carter

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 268

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

- 1 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
- 2 Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.
- 3 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.
- 4 Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time;  
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

\* Charge and Benediction

Postlude

“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

arr. Douglas Wagner

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**The flowers** this morning honor the congregation as we gather together with our church family to renew and strengthen our faith and celebrate our many blessings of freedom.

**First Presbyterian Church  
300 School Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411  
570/586-6306      [www.fpccs.org](http://www.fpccs.org)**

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children And Youth Ministries	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	John Conklin
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck

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## **Family Announcements**

**Thank you for joining us for Worship.** We worship every Sunday in two ways!

- **Have you had your vaccines?** [Make a reservation with our office](#) (570-586-6306) and join us in person at 10:00 a.m.
- Tune in online for our weekly service, which is broadcast live on [our video page on YouTube](#) and archived for later viewing on the same site.

**The Session has called a meeting of the congregation after worship this morning.**

The purposes of this special meeting are to (a) act on the Nominating Team's slate of elders and deacons, and (b) to change the bylaws to reduce the number of the Board of Deacons from "eighteen" to "fifteen or more."

**Following the meeting,** all in the church family are invited to a **picnic at Lackawanna State Park** on Abington Road, North Abington Township. We will begin to meet at the Pine Pavilion (near the pool) between 11:30 and 11:45. **Bring your own food and lawn chairs.** Plan to stick around and spend time with friends new and old.

## **CAMP LACKAWANNA INFORMATION**

**Summer Camp 2021 Registration is open! Head on over to [camp.lackawanna.org](http://camp.lackawanna.org)** to see what programs are being offered this summer and to register your children for camp! Family Camp registration is also open!

<b>DATES</b>	<b>CAMP</b>	<b>AGE GROUP</b>
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 church offers scholarships** for all young people who want to go. Check with Jana Schillinger for details.

**Camp Lackawanna is actively seeking a cook** for the summer program. Applications can be filled out at [www.camplackawanna.org](http://www.camplackawanna.org)

**As we are returning to more regular services and attendance at church**, please consider honoring loved ones, celebrations and family events with a special floral arrangement to mark the occasion. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

**Meetings this week:** Worship, Music and Arts will hold their annual planning meeting this Thursday, May 20, 7:00 p.m. in the session room (206).

**FEMA is currently accepting applications to reimburse** up to \$9000 for Covid-19 related funeral expenses. The original article (from Boston Globe) and the FEMA link are below. <https://www.boston.com/news/coronavirus/2021/04/08/fema-coronavirus-funeral-expenses> or [www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance](http://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance).

## Susquehanna Valley Brass

**YouTube Broadcast - May 16 4:00 p.m.**

The Susquehanna Valley Brass (SVB) is a dynamic new group comprised of five of NEPA's premiere brass musicians. Locally members of the SVB can be heard performing with the NEPA Philharmonic, Scranton Brass Orchestra, Voodoo Brass Band, and the East Coast Sound Brass Quintet. Members of the group have previously held touring positions performing all across the country with the Monumental Brass Quintet (DC), Bay Street Brass (IN), and the Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass (PA). Several members of the ensemble are committed to the future of the arts and are active educators holding positions at Tunkhannock High School, Bloomsburg University, and Marywood University. This program will survey early Americana including styles found in popular songs, music of the American Armed Services, and Jazz. Members of the Susquehanna Valley Brass are: Kenneth Luckey and Sean Mason on trumpet, Rena Hummel on French horn, Chuck Smith on trombone, and ensemble leader Michael Parker on tuba (pictured).



The concert was recorded last Friday evening, and will be available for viewing this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. on YouTube. Information on the link will be available at [www.fpccs.org](http://www.fpccs.org) and on the church's Facebook page.

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