

# First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

July 4, 2021

10:00 a.m.

God of the covenant, in our baptism you called us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us courage like you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ our redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

## **ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“America, the Beautiful”

arr. Harold DeCou

Call to Worship

How very good and pleasant it is  
when sisters and brothers live together in unity!

***It is like the precious oil on the head,  
like the dew that falls on the mountains of Zion.***

Together, let us worship God.

\* Hymn 385

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

1 All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell. Come ye before him and rejoice.

2 Know that the Lord is God indeed; without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk; he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

3 O enter then his gates with praise; approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.

4 For why? The Lord our God is good; his mercy is forever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

***Most merciful God, forgive us.***

***We imagine that we can live without you,  
when you give us our very breath.***

***We seek control over others  
rather than strive to live in unity.***

***We allow fear to overtake us,  
even though our lives are in your hands.***

***Draw us back into your steadfast love  
and shape us into the likeness of your Son,  
Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen***

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

***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.***

## **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Psalm 65

Praise is due to you, O God in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed,  
O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.  
When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.  
Happy are those whom you choose to bring near to live in your courts.  
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.  
By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation;  
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.  
By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might.  
You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their ways; the tumult of the  
peoples. Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;  
you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.  
You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of  
water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.  
You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers,  
and blessing its growth. You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks  
overflow with richness. The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird  
themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck  
themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

A Moment with Our Children

Second Lesson: James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down  
from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation of shadow due to change.  
In the fulfillment of his own purpose, he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that  
we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.  
You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak,  
yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with  
meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.  
But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any  
are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in  
a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what  
they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perse-  
vere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their  
doing.  
If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their  
hearts, their religious is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God,  
the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep  
oneself unstained by the world.

## RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\* Hymn 338

“O Beautiful For Spacious Skies”

1 O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with \*brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

2 O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!  
America! America! God mend thine every flaw; confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law!

3 O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! May God thy gold refine till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!

\* Affirmation of Faith: The 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

“Battle Hymn of the Republic”

arr. Harold DeCou

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

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 331

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

1 God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.

2 Thy love divine hath led us in the past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.  
Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay: thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

3 From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, be thy strong arm our ever sure defense.  
Thy true religion in our hearts increase. Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

4 Refresh thy people on their toilsome way. Lead us from night to never-ending day.  
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

Charge and Benediction  
Postlude

“The Washington Post March”

John Philip Sousa

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\* Those who are able shall stand.

**The flowers** are dedicated to the Glory of God in recognition of Sandra and Stuart’s 63<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary.

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### **PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Guest Preacher	Rev. James E. Thyren
Coordinator of Children And Youth Ministries	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	Adrienne Horger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Trumpet	Jeff Leas
Usher	Jeanne DeVirgilis

### **Church 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.

#### **Worship is Getting "Closer to Normal"**

At the last session meeting, Session revised our "In-Person" Welcome to include **all children who are asymptomatic and whose parents are fully vaccinated.**

Mask-wearing and temperature checks will continue to take place until further notice.

- You may sit wherever you wish.
- You are welcome, and invited, to sing . . . *while wearing your mask.*
- Reservations continue to be requested. However, we do have more flexibility now. If you forget to reserve a spot, you may still attend.

**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.

**The Church Office will be closed** on Monday, July 5, in observance of the Independence Day holiday, which occurs on Sunday.



**IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL at First Presbyterian  
JULY 19-23 from 9am to Noon.**

**Who is welcome at God's table? YOU are!**

You're invited to a week of fun and faith as we hear Bible stories of hospitality and welcome. With creative crafts, amazing songs, fun games, and so much more, it's an adventure you won't want to miss. Children age 4 to completed grade 5 can register at

[myvbs.org/fpcs](http://myvbs.org/fpcs)...and be sure to invite a friend!

**Want to help?** We welcome church members to be adult volunteers. Contact Jana at [fpccs.vbs@gmail.com](mailto:fpccs.vbs@gmail.com) for more information.

**Upcoming meetings**

**Wednesday, July 7 @ 6:30 p.m.** – Endowment Fund Committee – Room 209  
**@ 7:30 p.m.** – Bell Rehearsal - Sanctuary

**Looking ahead:**

**Monday, July 12 @ 10:30 a.m.** – Friends of Naomi Support Group

**Combined Session/Deacon meeting scheduled.**

The Summer meeting of the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit will be held on **Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.** This is our yearly combined meeting with the Board of Deacons and will be held in Fellowship Hall. Following the completion of the combined meeting, session members will adjourn to the Session Room. No food will be served this year.

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**The Mission and Justice Committee offers 2 opportunities to serve.**

On the Saturday mornings of August 28<sup>th</sup> and September 25<sup>th</sup>, our church will be preparing and serving a large community meal and filling/distributing bags of food at Hickory Street Presbyterian Church in Scranton. Since Hickory Street began this ministry to combat hunger in the local community, they have seen demand for the meals increase seven-fold and requests for food bags increase almost four-fold.

For August 28, we will prepare and serve around 130 meals and distribute around 40 bags of food. Volunteers are needed to:

- prepare in their own homes, in advance, the main entrée (10 people);
- prepare, as above, an easy-to-serve dessert (10 people);
- shop, collect food, financial support;
- (on August 28) additional on-site food prep, cooking, plating meals, filling food bags, delivering to both dine-in and drive-up guests, and clean-up (12 people);

To volunteer, or for more information, contact Alan Baker at [abaker2@verizon.net](mailto:abaker2@verizon.net) or speak with Jack and Diane Scheuer, Melba Fialko, and Ginny O'Brien. Look for sign-up and information sheets to be posted in the church foyer.

The work on September 25<sup>th</sup> will be part of our larger annual "Worship through Service" weekend.

**2020 Pastoral Sabbatical – in 2021!** Rev. Bill is now on sabbatical, which was deferred a year by the pandemic. He is "off the clock" until the end of August. Some of our best local preachers and caregivers will be covering for him, as he researches and writes a book titled *Thriving on a Riff: Jazz and the Spiritual Life*.

**For any pastoral needs during the sabbatical,** contact the church office (570-586-6306).

**Help Rev. Carter reduce his library!** Many books have been spread out in the Narthex that are available for the taking. They are free! Come when the church is open (M-F; 9am-4pm). No books will be reserved in advance or mailed.

### **CAMP LACKAWANNA INFORMATION**

**Summer Camp 2021 is open, and it's not too late to register. 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! **Our church offers scholarships** for all young people who want to go. Check with Jana Schillinger for details.

## **Camp Lackawanna Summer Schedule**

<b>DATES</b>	<b>CAMP</b>	<b>AGE GROUP</b>
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

**Summer Office Hours:** From now until the end of August, church office hours will be Monday through Friday, 9AM to 4PM, with lunch break at noon. Every effort will be made to have the office staffed each day, but if you need to speak face-to-face with a member of the staff, please call ahead (570-586-6306).



### **Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving**

First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit offers electronic Giving as a way to support the church on a regular or one-time basis. You can go to [fpccs.org](http://fpccs.org) or scan the QR code (at left) anytime to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history. Why not give it a try today?

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