

# First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day  
16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Almighty God, you call your church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you. Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Jesus Loves Me”

arr. Joe Utterback

Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

***who made heaven and earth.***

This is the day the Lord has made!

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

\* Hymn 722

"Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession

***Holy God, you call us to live abundant and generous lives.***

***Forgive us for the ways we have allowed our souls to be twisted out of shape.***

***We trust too much in our own abilities, leaving no room for your grace.***

***We push ahead of our neighbors, pursuing our needs before theirs.***

***We exclude those you love whom we deem insignificant.***

***We spend our affluence to separate, rather than build relationships.***

***We use our power to dominate, rather than to heal and empower.***

***Have mercy on us.***

***Set us free from our worst impulses,***

***that we might find our lives by following you.***

***We pray in the name of Jesus who has given his life for us and for all.***

\* Silent Confession

\* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

\* Response 581

“Gloria Patri”

***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: Proverbs 1:20-33 (OT, p. 584)

A Time with Children

Psalter: Psalm 19 (OT, p. 498)

Second Lesson: Mark 8:27-38 (NT, p. 43)

Sermon: "Cruciform Community"

*Fall Series: How Shall We Reconstitute the Church?*

Rev. Carter

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

\* Hymn 718 "Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said"

\* 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.**

Minute for Peace and Global Witness Offering

Offering

Offertory

"Now Thank We All Our God"

arr. Michael Helman

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 726 "Will You Come and Follow Me"

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude

"Psalm 19"

Benedetto Marcello

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\* All who are able shall stand.

**The flowers** are given

- by Janet Stansbury in loving memory of her mother, Sara A. Morgan, and her brother, John G. Morgan; and
- to say, "Happy Grandparents Day" and "Happy Birthday" to Sandra Bailey with love from all your children and all your grandchildren.

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher	Rev. William Carter
Coordinator of Children And Youth Ministries	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	Beverly Bright
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Ushers	Diana Pope-Albright, Erika Henderson

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## **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.

**The sanctuary** is always open for prayer whenever the building is open.

**A memorial service** for Tinka Zenke will be held next Saturday, September 18, 2 p.m.

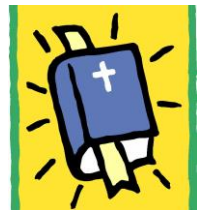
**The church office has returned to regular hours**, open from 8:30 pm to 4:30 pm, with a lunch hour between 12 noon and 1:00 p.m. You can contact us by phone (570-586-6306) or email ([office@fpccs.org](mailto:office@fpccs.org)).

**We are looking for morning volunteers in the office**, to answer phones, welcome visitors, and assist with light office tasks (typing, proofreading, etc.). The hours are from 9 a.m. to noon, and occasionally for a few hours in the afternoon. Volunteers can work weekly, monthly, or on call. Want to get out of the house and do something meaningful? We would love to have you on the team. Free coffee and occasional donuts provided. To sign up, [send an email to Nancy](#), phone us (570-586-6306), or drop by when we are open.

We are ready to **welcome new members** to the church. Want to join us officially? [Send an email to Rev. Bill](#) or call the office to register your interest.

## **Christian Education Information**

**Bibles for our children:** Today we are presenting our new **3rd grade** and **Kindergarten** students with Bibles. It is important to us as a church that we encourage our children to hear God's story and to begin reading it for themselves. If the name of a child was omitted, please let us know.



**Confirmation Class scheduled for this year.** We will be offering a confirmation class this year for any student in grades 7-12 who is ready to dig deeper in their faith and learn what it means to belong to the church. Please contact the church office or Jana Schillinger to let us know if you'd like to participate. An informational meeting with parents and young people will be held next Sunday, September 19 at 11 a.m.

## **The W.A.Y. begins Wednesday, September 15! Education and Music for All God's People**

The Christian Education committee is excited to offer **in person classes** for the WAY this fall. As we continue to find "normal" and with caution regarding continuing COVID concerns, we will hold a simplified, 1-hour program through September. While we hope to return to our full WAY programming soon, for now we will meet at 6:15 each Wednesday.

*We hope to see you there!*



Meets in Room 108.

**Grace & Faith & Music (4 years old - Grade 5):** Join us for a **combined music and CE** class! Children will hear stories from the Bible and learn about God's amazing love for them while also singing classic children's Bible songs. The children's music program typically participates in worship once a month. Children will sing, play instruments, lead worship, and much more.  
*Make a joyful noise to the Lord as you grow in grace and faith!*

**We Believe (Grades 6 and up):** This fall, students will explore a unit called *Knowing God*, answering questions about who God is and who we are as Christians. In September, we will answer: What do Christians believe in? Is it okay to have doubts about God? Who Can be Saved? Meets in Room 209.

**Adults: Mark's Clueless Disciples** Does it ever feel like we are just stumbling around in our attempts to follow Jesus? If so, it might be consoling to know that that's how the disciples appear in the Gospel of Mark. They just don't get it! Mark's Gospel warns us that it isn't easy to follow Jesus. We will make mistakes. This gospel is meant to encourage us by showing us what being a disciple of Jesus really means.

In this 5-week study we'll follow Peter's and the other 11 disciples' foibles and follies sequentially through Mark's 16 chapters, hoping to get to know them, ourselves, and Jesus all the better. And, Rev. Carter will be preaching on Mark, so Wednesday and Sunday will relate. Meets in Room 206.

**Adult Choir - Wednesdays - 7:15-8:15:** Our adult choir program will resume this fall as we work toward being together again. We will begin singing easy hymns and work toward our tradition of choral music at First Presbyterian. Students in 9th Grade to adults 99+ are welcome to join us. Don't have much of a music reading ability? Don't worry; our singers support one another in and out of the church.




**Bell Choir - Wednesdays - 8:30-9:15, beginning on October 6:** The Bell Choir is always looking for new members to ring throughout the year. Students in 9th Grade to adults 99+ are welcome to join this ensemble. Some music reading ability is recommended as the bell choir performs some challenging music. The bell choir typically performs once a month in service but rehearses weekly.

**Worship through Service Updates**  
by the Mission and Justice Committee

*“Your mission, should you choose to accept it . . .”*

*Several projects have been identified as recipients for service on September 26. They are:*

- Safety Net collection of Personal Care Items until Sunday September 26 for distribution at Safety Net. (List is below.) Contact: Dave Naeher
- Hymn Sing at pre-arranged senior living locations. Contact: Jan Thyren
- Tree removal and clean-up in our church parking lot. Contact: Jay Clymer
- Preparation of “thinking of you” packages for delivery. Contact: Jana Schillinger
- My Brother’s Keeper Quilting will make sleeping bags for homeless. Contact: Janet Dobson
- Collection of game prizes for residents at Clarks Summit State Hospital (see below). Contact: Janet Dobson
- The Hickory Street Community Meal program (*Saturday, September 25*) Preparing and serving a meal; bagging of food pantry donations (see below). Contact: Alan Baker

There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex for each of these projects, or you can call the contact person to volunteer. There are many ways to make a difference in our community. Please be generous with your time .

**Items needed by Safety Net include:**

diapers (all sizes)	baby powder	baby formula
toothbrushes, toothpaste	bar soap	shampoo, conditioner
men's and women's deodorant	men's and women's disposable razors	
shaving cream	facial tissue	toilet tissue
	dish soap	feminine hygiene products
		liquid laundry detergent

**Prize suggestions for Clarks Summit State Hospital residents:**

art supplies, make up, nail polish, coloring books, easy word-find tablets, puzzles, blank stationary card packets, small stuffed animals (no buttons please).

**The Dollar Store is a great source for these purchases.**

**HICKORY STREET SHOPPING LIST**

___ 1 box of Cereal	___ 1 box of Pasta
___ 1 can or plastic jar of Spaghetti Sauce	___ 1 bag of Candy
___ 1 box of Mac n Cheese	___ 1-2 cans of Vegetables
___ 1 can of Fruit	___ 1 can of Tuna
___ 1 4-pack of Jello Pudding cups	___ 1 box Pop Tarts
___ 1 plastic jar of Peanut Butter	___ 1 plastic jar/squeeze bottle of Jelly

**“PEACE IS ACTIVE, not passive,**

**PEACE IS DOING, not waiting.**

**IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT.”**

## Worship is Getting "Closer to Normal"

Our leadership continues to encourage us to wear masks during worship. We welcome to in-person worship all who have been fully vaccinated, all children who attend school, as well as all children whose parents have been fully vaccinated.

- Mask-wearing and temperature checks will continue to occur 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.

## Meetings this week:

- |                           |            |                                   |  |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| • Monday, September 13    | 11 a.m.    | Friends of Naomi                  | Fellowship Hall  |
| • Tuesday, September 14   | 10 a.m.    | MBK Quilters                      | Fellowship Hall  |
|                           | 7 p.m.     | Session                           | Room 206   |
| • Wednesday, September 15 | 10:30 a.m. | Prayer and Share                  | Room 209   |
|                           | 6:15 p.m.  | <b>THE WAY</b>                    |  |
|                           |            | Children age 4 to Grade 5         | Room 108   |
|                           |            | Children grades 6 and up          | Room 209   |
|                           |            | Adults class                      | Room 206   |
|                           | 7:15 p.m.  | Adult Choir                       | Sanctuary  |
| • Thursday, September 16  | 8:30 a.m.  | Men's Breakfast                   | Room 206   |
| • Friday, September 17    |            | Presbyter Deadline                | <a href="mailto:office@fpccs.org">office@fpccs.org</a> |
| • Saturday, September 18  | 2 p.m.     | Memorial Service: Tinka Zenke     | Sanctuary  |
| • Sunday, September 19    | 10 a.m.    | Worship                           | Sanctuary  |
|                           | 11 a.m.    | Confirmation Parent/child meeting | Rm 206   |



### 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?

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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