



First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2023

10:00 a.m.

In preparation for worship, please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Alleluia Toccata”

Fenton Groden

Call to Worship

O mortal, God has told you what is good.

And what does the LORD require of you?

To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.

* Hymn 612

“We Praise You, O God”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

***Almighty God, we confess that
we have not been faithful to you in our thoughts and actions.
We have been selfish in our desires
and quarrelsome in our relationships.
We have allowed fear to divide us from those who seem different,
and let distrust separate us from one another.
Shine your light into our darkened hearts.
Save us from our divisive ways.
Unite us in the same mind as Jesus Christ,
who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in perfect harmony.***

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response 583 "Glory to God"

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Matthew 5:1-12 (NT, p. 4)

Psalter: Psalm 15 (Hymnal 419)

A Time with Children

Second Lesson: Isaiah 49:14-23

Sermon: "As a Nursing Mother"

Sermon Series: Wintering with Isaiah

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 7 "Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth" (to Hymn 738)

* Affirmation of Faith: A Brief Statement of Faith, section 2

***We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah
chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.
Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.***

*Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.*

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.**

Offering
Offertory "Litany" Charles Callahan
* Doxology 606

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 11 "Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud"
* Charge and Benediction
* Postlude "Voluntary" Douglas Wagner

If you are leaving before the postlude is finished, please do so quietly.

* All who are able shall stand.

We are grateful for the many ways that people support our church's ministry to the community and world. If you wish to contribute by cell phone, **scan here.**



PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Nancy Post

**First Presbyterian Church
300 School Street
Clarks Summit, PA 18411
570/586-6306
www.fpccs.org**

Looking Ahead:

Souper Bowl Sunday

Sunday, February 12 isn't just the Big Game...
it's a big opportunity to help those in need!

Remember to bring your donation to church on
Souper Bowl Sunday or check **fpccs.org** for
online donation information.

All proceeds will benefit the AEM Food Pantry.



Sunday, February 19

- 10 a.m., Mardi Gras Sunday, Sanctuary
- 11:15 a.m., An Introduction to the Lenten Season, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 22

- 7 p.m., Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary

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Church Family Announcements

Our congregation worships God, equips God's people for ministry in the world, and serves God in ways that are faithful to the Gospel.

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

- **Join us in person at 10:00 a.m.**
- **Tune in online** for our service, which is broadcast live on [our video page on YouTube](#) and archived for later viewing on the same site.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit has been called for Sunday, February 5 at 11:15 a.m. The meeting will take place in the sanctuary. A link to participate on Zoom will be on our weekly e-mail and website, and the packet of annual reports will be made available ahead of time.

Large-print bulletins can be found at the rear of the sanctuary.

The Nursery is open Sunday mornings from 9:40-11:10 a.m. for children ages 3 and younger in room 208. The nursery is staffed by Heather Lyons.

They are back! Next time you sit in one of our pews, look for **the red attendance pad**. After you see it, please fill out your name and pass it to the next person across the pew. We are trying to do a better job keeping track of those who come to worship.

Tell us your prayer concerns: 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: Barbara, Hall, Nancy, Ellen, Susannah, Janice, Kate, Leonard, Janet, June, Janet, Donna, Maura, Tina, Chuck, Jane, Morse, Dick Maurer and family, McLaughlin family, Rachel, Wayne, Alice, Carolyn, Rachel and Teal.

Needed...35 Bags of Groceries: As part of our church's many efforts to recognize and battle hunger in our community, we will again be serving a free lunch at Hickory Street Presbyterian on Saturday, March 25, 2023. The menu is being formulated so please watch for a narthex display and sign-ups as we will again need about a dozen volunteers to make the entree, another dozen to prepare desserts, and another dozen to serve the meal that day. But as part of that day we also need to have on hand about 35 bags of groceries for distribution and as we continue to do this project twice each year, accumulating that big supply of groceries is proving to be the most difficult portion of the work. So please start now to help us fill those grocery bags. Shopping lists showing what is needed for each bag can be found in the narthex; please consider taking one and watching for good sales as you do your own grocery shopping. You can shop for the complete bag contents or just focus on some of the individual items.

The 2023 flower calendar is hanging in the hallway next to Rev. Carter's office. If you wish to contribute sanctuary flowers during the year, please sign up and you will be contacted for additional details.

2023 Offering Envelopes can be found on the table in the narthex (lobby). Please take yours home today. If you would like a box of envelopes, and one hasn't been prepared for you, contact the church office (570-586-6306).

Can you help? We are seeking volunteers to replenish our committees and assist with brief but important tasks around the church.

- Can you assist with serving meals at one of our funeral luncheons? Let our Deacons know.
- Interested in volunteering in the office on a regular weekday morning? Notify Nancy Owens.
- Can you serve on the Christian Education and Growth committee? Let Jana know.
- Could you serve on the Worship, Music, and Arts committee, or on the Arts planning team? Tell Jan Thyren or Robin Pinches of your interest.

Thanks for considering this invitation. This church depends on volunteers!

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, January 29

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online

Tuesday, January 31

Wednesday, February 1

- **10:30 a.m.**, Prayer and Share, Room 209
- **6 p.m.**, Adult Bible Study, Room 206
- **7 p.m.**, Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft
- **8 p.m.**, Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, February 2

- **8:30 a.m.**, Men's Breakfast, Room 206
- **5 p.m.**, Worship, Music, Arts, Room 206
- **7 p.m.**, Building and Grounds, Room 209
- **7 p.m.**, Christian Education, Room 206

Sunday, February 5

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online
- **11:15 a.m.**, Annual Meeting, Sanctuary