



"Yes, Lord;  
**I believe**  
that you are  
the Christ,  
the Son of God."

John 11:27, ESV

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

# First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 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: Hymn 785 (verse 1)

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“God So Loved the World” arr. T. Smith, D. Hustad *Beverly Bright,*  
*piano/Kay Ten Eyck, organ*

Call to Worship

from John 11

Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,

***and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.***”

Do you believe this?

***Yes, we believe he is the Messiah, the Son of God,  
the one coming into the world.***

\* Hymn 213

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

*Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.*

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession

***God of mercy,***

***you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.***

***We confess that we have strayed from you***

***and turned aside from your way.***

***We are misled by pride,***

***for we see ourselves pure when we are stained,***

***and great when we are small.***

***We have failed in love, neglected justice,***

***and ignored your truth.***

***Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.***

***Return us to paths of righteousness***

***through Jesus Christ, our Savior.***

\* Silent Confession

\* Kyrie 551

“Lord, Have Mercy”

***Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy upon us.***

***Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy upon us.***

\* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

\* Gloria Patri 581

## **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: John 11:1-29 (NT, p.104)

Psalter: Psalm 130 (OT, p. 573)

A Time with Children

Anthem "What Wondrous Love Is This" arr. Lloyd Larson

Second Lesson: John 11:30-53 (NT, p,104)

Sermon: "If Easter Comes Before Good Friday" Rev. Carter  
Sermon Series: Lent and Easter in the Company of John

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

\* Hymn 785 "In Deepest Night"

\* Affirmation of Faith: Philippians 2:5-11

***Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.***

***And being found in human form he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.***

***Therefore God also highly exalted him***

***and gave him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,***

***in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:***

***Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.***

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.**

Minute for One Great Hour of Sharing

Offering

Offertory "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. Wilbur Held

\* Doxology 606

## **GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\* Hymn 215 "What Wondrous Love Is This"

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" arr. Carl Schalk

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

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\* All who are able shall stand.

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Director of Bells	Richard Cochrane
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Grant Taylor
Ushers	Erika Adams, Diana Pope-Albright

## **Church Family Announcements**

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

**Thank you for joining us for Worship.** We worship 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.

**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 in the pew racks. Pass them to the center aisle to be collected during the first hymn.

**Please pray for:** Hall, Kate, Leonard, June, Janet, Donna, Maura, Tina, Chuck, Jane, Morse, Rachel, Wayne, Alice, the Pittman family, Cheryl, Kathy, Racheal, Otto, Dawn.

## **Adult Education during Lent**

**Each Wednesday at 6 p.m. during Lent, our adult education series will be on the topic "Exclusion and Embrace."** Each week the class will discuss a brief video that explores our relationship to those who have frequently been excluded from our circle of faith. These include gays and lesbians, the Jews, those who practice other religions, and people of other nations. Some of these videos are already posted online, so we will share those links in our weekly emails.

## **The Arts at First Presbyterian 2022-2023 concert series will conclude with two blockbuster events in April.**

### **“Considering Matthew Shepard”**

**Saturday, April 15, 2023 7:00 pm**

**Choral Society of NEPA / Bloomburg University Choir**

Dr. Alan Baker directs a combined choir and orchestra for a Grammy-nominated oratorio by Craig Hella Johnson. The work tells the perhaps forgotten story of the 1988 hate-crime murder (25 years ago now) of a gay college student in Wyoming, an “ordinary boy” who “never could imagine his life could be this story” yet became a modern-day martyr with federal hate-crime legislation named for him. The large scale production is based on spiritual texts, Shepard’s journal, and news reports. This beautiful piece is haunting and truthful. Join us for a soul-stirring evening, unlike any other!

### **Big Band Jazz: Basie, Buddy, and Ella**

**Sunday, April 30, 2023 4:00 pm**

We close our season with the NEPA Repertory Orchestra, a 16-piece jazz band under the direction of saxophonist Tom Heinze and pianist Bill Carter. They will gather the region’s finest musicians to offer a toe-tapping afternoon of classic big band music.

Both events are open to the public free of charge, with a free-will offering taken to help defray the costs of the event. For more information, please call the church at 570-586-6306 or visit our website at [www.fpccs.org](http://www.fpccs.org). The church is located at 300 School Street in Clarks Summit.

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.



## **This Week at a Glance**

Sunday, March 26

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

Monday, March 27

- **5 p.m.**, Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 28

- **10 a.m.**, MBK Quilters, Fellowship Hall
- **7 p.m.**, Deacons, Room 206

Wednesday, March 29

- **10:30 a.m.**, Prayer and Share, Room 209
- **6 p.m.**, Adult Bible Study, Room 206
- **7:00 p.m.**, Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Loft
- **8 p.m.**, Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, March 30

Saturday, April 1

- **11 a.m.**, Memorial Service for Barbara Pittman

Sunday, April 2 – Palm Sunday

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online
- **11:15**, Holy Week program, Fellowship Hall

**Looking ahead:**

**Thursday, April 6** Maundy Thursday Service, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

**Friday, April 7** Good Friday Service, 12 – 1 p.m., Sanctuary

**Saturday, April 8** Highway Clean-up, 9 a.m., meeting at  
Clarks Summit Methodist Parking Lot

**Sunday, April 9** Easter Sunday Service, 10 a.m., Sanctuary



**Camp Lackawanna is  
accepting registrations  
for the Summer 2023 Season!**

Camp programs are scheduled between  
June 23 through July 21.

**Check out the options**

[www.camplackawanna.org](http://www.camplackawanna.org)

Camping scholarships are available from our  
Christian Education Committee.  
Check with Jana Schillinger for details.

Programs are planned for children  
and young people in  
grades 1 through 12.



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