



First Presbyterian Church
Service for the Lord's Day
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 2023

10:00 a.m.

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

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn Sing (9:45 a.m.)

Words of Welcome

Prelude

"I Love to Tell the Story"

arr. Harold DeCou

Introit

"A Joyful Song"

Gordon Young

Call to Worship

Let us open our hearts to the sunshine of God's love.

Let us open our souls to the gentle wind of God's Spirit.

We have gathered to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

A Word that renews us again and again.

***Glory be to God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit,
who loves, saves, and renews us.***

* Hymn 667 “When Morning Gilds the Skies”
 Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession
* Prayer of Confession

***O God of Grace,
we confess that sometimes we are unsure of our faith.
We are weighed down with doubt and guilt,
and do not always have the courage to trust in you.
We often turn away from your way
and wander toward easier ways.
Forgive us and fill our hearts with the assurance of your love,
and renew our courage through your Holy Spirit,
that we may serve you with joy.***

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Forgiveness

In the waters of baptism, we have died with Christ and we have been raised with Him to new life. Nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God through Jesus Christ, our Lord. In Christ we are forgiven and set free to live in praise and thanksgiving!

Thanks be to God!

* Passing of the Peace

* Gloria Patri 581

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34 (OT, p. 735)

Second Lesson: II Timothy 3:14-4:5 (NT, p. 213)

A Time with Children

Special Music

Gospel Lesson: Luke 18:1-8 (NT, p. 81)

Sermon: “Never Give Up!”

Rev. Samford

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 465 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

* 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.*

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

“Wonderful Words of Life”

arr. Wilbur Held

* Doxology 606

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 846

“Fight the Good Fight”

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

arr. Jon Spong

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

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers are given by Jack Pittman to the Glory of God and in loving memory of his wife, Barbara.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Guest Preacher

Rev. William Samford

Coordinator of Children and Youth

Jana Schillinger

Director of Music

Frank Jones

Organist

Kay Ten Eyck

Liturgist

Christine Lee

Ushers

Judy Cutler, Debbie Miller

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

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 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 red attendance pads have returned to the pews! Please sign 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.

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.

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, Chuck, Jane, Rachel, Wayne, Alice, Cheryl, Kathy, Otto, Dawn, Colleen, Anne, Aria, Morse, Christian, Margaret, Bob, Bonnie, Leslie, Sara, Susan, Flo, Gretchen, Jim, Lisa, Karis, Janet, Patty, Dean, Sharon, Naylor family, Sonny, Ralph, Linzy, Sue, Dillon, Marta, Allen, Tony, Lisa Bourcier family, Donna.

We will be looking for a sexton to begin work this fall. A job description is posted on the church bulletin board. A letter of application and resume can be sent to the church office.

The Adult Choir will begin Rehearsals this Wednesday, August 30, 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. ***New singers are welcome.***

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.



Next Sunday is our Jazz Communion Service!



Sunday, September 3

Our annual **Jazz Communion** will swing the fall into gear at 10:00 a.m. This year, we welcome the Presbybop Blue Note Sextet as they feature the music of trumpeter Lee Morgan.

Coming this fall:



Sunday, September 10 Join us for **Rally Day!**

- During Worship, we will **celebrate a baptism** and **present Bibles to our kindergarten and third-grade children.***
- After the service, everyone is invited to enjoy a **pancake brunch** in Fellowship Hall while we catch up and discuss a Bible story and the year ahead.*

Wednesday, September 13 – Bell Choir rehearsals resume at 8 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.*

Thursday, September 14 – Northeast Pennsylvania Philharmonic will present a concert in our sanctuary at 7 p.m. Tickets must be purchased from the Philharmonic.*

Saturday, September 16 – Highway Cleanup - Meet at Clarks Summit Methodist Church at 9 a.m.*

Sunday, September 17 – Bible Time

A new program for our children (age 4 to approx. grade 4) to hear Bible stories told in a fun and engaging way. Each Sunday morning following the anthem, children will be invited to depart the sanctuary for Bible Time (designed to last about 20 minutes). They will return for the Prayers and the end of the service.*

Also on September 17 – A Bird Walk at Lackawanna State Park with Meg Hatch after worship.*

Tuesday, September 19 - The Presbyterian Women begin their **monthly Bible study** with Rev. Bill at 10 a.m. This year's topic: "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts." **All women are welcome!***

Wednesday, September 20 - Adult Education begins at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Charlie Pinches will offer the first series, titled, "The Apostle Paul and the Called Life."*

September 30 - October 1 - Worship Through Service weekend, with hands-on service projects around the community.*

*Additional details on all these activities are available in the September Presbyter. If you didn't receive one in your mailbox, please take one from the literature rack in the Nathex.

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, August 27

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

Monday, August 28

Tuesday, August 29

Wednesday, August 30

- **10:30**, Prayer and Share, room 209
- **7 p.m.**, Adult Choir, sanctuary

Thursday, August 31

- **8:30 a.m.**, Men's Breakfast at the Sunrise Café

Sunday, September 3

- **10 a.m.**, **JAZZ** Communion service in the sanctuary and online

Monday, September 4 – Labor Day – Church Office is closed.

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