



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

First Presbyterian Church
Service for the Lord's Day
23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 5, 2023

10:00 a.m.

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

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome
Prelude

Call to Worship

The Psalmist sings:

Psalm 43:3-4

O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;

***Let them lead me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.***

Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;

***And I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.***

* Hymn 35

“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

***We acknowledge before you, O God,
that we are drawn to false teachings.
We succumb to the adoration of this world
when we seek to be noticed,
crave being honored, and look for the best seats.
We have ignored the true teacher
who calls us to lives of humility, kindness, and service to others.
Forgive us. Help us to practice the teachings of Jesus.
Set us on your path, O God.***

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

* Passing of the Peace

* Response: Gloria Patri 581

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Micah 3:5-12 (OT, p. 863)

Psalter: Psalms 42 and 43 (Hymnal 778)

A Time with Children

Jana Schillinger

Anthem

“Your Word, O Lord”

Donald McCullough

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 23:1-12 (NT, p. 25)

Sermon: “Be Careful Who You Follow”

Rev. Thyren

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 756

“O God of Every Nation”

* 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 that Jesus Christ is Lord
to the glory of God.
Amen!***

Invitation to the Offering
Offertory

The 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 712 “As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought”
- * Charge and Benediction
- * Postlude

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

* All who are able shall stand.

Portions of today's liturgy are used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word Companion, Year A, Volume 2*, Kimberly Bracken Long, editor.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Guest Preacher
Coordinator of Children and Youth
Director of Music
Organist
Liturgist

Rev. James Thyren
Jana Schillinger
Frank Jones
Kay Ten Eyck
Debbie Miller

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.

Bible Time is our program for children (age 4 to approx. grade 4) to hear Bible stories told in a fun and engaging way. Each Sunday following the anthem, children are invited to go (with adult leadership) for Bible Time (lasting about 20 minutes) and return for the Prayers and the end of service.

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.

The red attendance pads have returned to the pews! Please sign your name and pass it to the next person in the pew.

Make some music with us. Every Wednesday, **the Adult Choir** rehearses at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, and **the Bell Choir** rehearses at 8 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. New singers and ringers are welcome for these ensembles.

All youth are invited to be part of the Joyful Noise group on Sunday November 19. The group will assist with the first hymn during worship and be a part of the All Church concert at 4pm on the same day. There will be a brief practice prior to worship on the 19th. Questions? Contact Connie Weiss 570-466-4520 or Kay Ten Eyck.

Adult Education continues Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in room 206. Michael Thompson will lead us in "Praying the Psalm." All are welcome!

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, Bob, Bonnie, Betty, Leslie, Sara, Susan, Flo, Lisa, Janet, Patty, Sharon, Sonny, Ralph, Linzy, Sue, Dillon, Tony, Lisa Donna, Andy, Margaret, Aiden, Colleen M., Glynn family, LeAnne, Wayne, Dennis, Robert, Barb Frutchey family, Tomachilk family, Jim, Dean, Robert Bill, Dennis, the family of Janet Taylor.



Choral Society of NEPA Celebrates 25 Years

The Choral Society of NEPA will again fill our sanctuary with music on Sunday afternoon, November 5th at 3:00 pm with songs of LOVE and MARRIAGE, including works of Johannes Brahms, Daniel Pinkham, Alice Parker, and Joseph Haydn. The program celebrates the Society's 25th Anniversary, and will be followed by a dessert reception with displays of history and highlights from the organization's first quarter-century.

This will mark Alan Baker's last trip to the podium with the Choral Society, so we hope you can come and be a part of their special day. General admission will be \$15.00 for adults, \$ 12.00 for ages 65+, with ages 18-and-under admitted free of charge.

Highway Clean-up: Our next Highway clean up to clean our strip of the Morgan Highway (between Winola and Country Club Roads) in on Saturday, November 11th, meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of Clarks Summit United Methodist Church (corner of Morgan Hwy. and Grove St.). PennDOT supplies us with garbage bags, gloves, and safety vests, and we put up warning signs to alert traffic from both directions. The work usually takes about an hour. Please consider joining. For additional information, contact Alan Baker at abaker2@verizon.net

All-Church Recital

Sunday, November 19, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Musicians in our church family and guests offer an afternoon of music for choirs, bells, vocalists, and instrumental soloists. It is our annual celebration of talent, given as a gift to the community and offered to lift the spirits of our audience. Your hearts will soar—and your feet will tap.

Do you have a college student or military person far from home? The Deacons would like to send them a goodie box to break the winter monotony. If you will forward the student's name and complete mailing address to Grace Farrell (570-878-7396 / glee1124@yahoo.com) or the church office (office@fpccs.org / 570-586-6306), we'll be happy to make that happen.

We are collecting coats to support the local mission project of the Troy Presbyterian Church. They are beginning an outreach to those in need within their small town in a rural area. **Do you have lightly used or new coats to donate?** Please bring coats of all sizes to the church by Monday, November 20. We will deliver them on the 21st.

Scout BSA Troop 160 and 1600 of Clarks Summit will host their Annual Eat In or Take Out Breakfast Saturday, November 11, 2023 from 7:00 to 11:30 a.m. at Clarks Summit United Methodist Church, 1310 Morgan Highway. Cost: Adults \$12.00.

Poinsettias will beautify our sanctuary during the season of Advent.

Price is \$9.50 per plant; the deadline is **November 20**. Poinsettia order forms are available in the narthex (lobby). Order Your Poinsettias Now.

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, November 5

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the Sanctuary and online
 - **Bible Time**
- **3 p.m.**, Concert by Choral Society of NEPA, our Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 7

- **7 p.m.**, Mission and Justice, room 206

Wednesday, November 8

- **10:30**, Prayer and Share, Room 209
- **6 p.m.**, Adult Education begins, room 206
- **7 p.m.**, Adult Choir, Sanctuary
- **8 p.m.**, Adult Bell Choir, Fellowship Hall

Saturday, November 11

- **9 a.m.**, Highway Clean-up, meet at Clarks Summit United Methodist Church parking lot

Sunday, November 12

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online
 - **Bible Time** for young children following anthem

Save the date: All Church Recital, Sunday, November 19, 4:00 PM featuring music by choirs, bells, vocalists, instrumental soloists.

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.



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