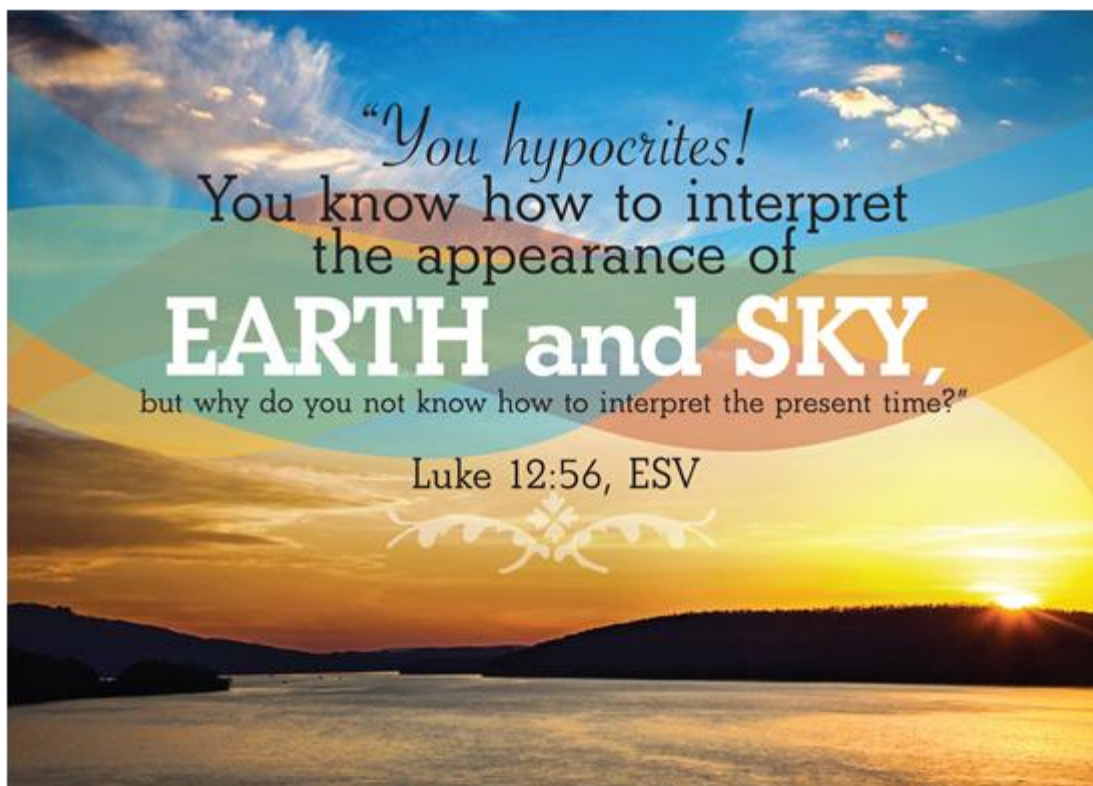




First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 2025

10:00 a.m.

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

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Congregational Hymn Sing (9:45)

Hymns 649, 215, 69

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Suite No. 3 in B Minor Presto”

Call to Worship

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword.

***The word of God pierces until it divides soul from spirit,
joints from marrow.***

The word of God judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Before God, no one is hidden. All of us must render an account.

* Hymn 463

“How Firm a Foundation”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

***Lord, we hear your invitation, “Come, follow me,”
yet we lack the courage to travel the road with you.
You lead us on paths we have not known,
yet we prefer our settled certainties.
You call us beyond our self-imposed boundaries and borders,
yet we play it safe and resist your Spirit’s leading.
Forgive our feckless faith, our lack of courage,
and all our excuses and distractions.
Awaken our trust
that you will guide us through many dangers, toils, and snares
and that your grace will lead us home; in Christ, we pray.***

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response 390

“Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!”

***Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia!
Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia! Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia!***

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 (OT p. 630)

Psalter: Psalm 52 (OT p. 521)

A Time with Children

Gospel Lesson: Luke 12:49-56 (NT p. 75)

Sermon: “Division - and Other Signs of the Times”

Rev. Carter

Summer Sermon Series: Taking a Road Trip with Jesus

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 300

“We Are One in the Spirit”

* Affirmation of Faith: A Declaration of Faith, PCUS (9.5)

***We believe Christ gives us and demands of us
lives in pilgrimage toward God's kingdom.
Like Christ we may enjoy on our journey all that sustains life
and makes it pleasant and beautiful.
No more than Christ are we spared the darkness,
ambiguity, and threat of life in the world.
We are in the world, but not of the world.
Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people
do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world,
but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom.***

***Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom:
to serve as he has served us;
to take up our cross,
risking the consequences of faithful discipleship;
to walk by faith, not by sight,
to hope for what we have not seen.***

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory "C. P. E. Bach Trio sonata in G Major Allegro"

* Doxology (609)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known. Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 321 "The Church's One Foundation"

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "Toccata" Charles Marie Widor
arr. Lani Smith

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

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers are given by Bonnie Plantholt to the glory of God in loving memory of her parents, Erwin and Dorothy Eckstein.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Debbie Miller
Musicians	Catherine Huhn, flute; Connie Weiss, oboe, John Weiss, cello

**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 gather at 10:00 a.m. in person or on our YouTube channel, (or stream the service on YouTube at a later time).
- Please use the red attendance pads to record your presence today.

Summer Bible Study for Adults: Our topic is "Women of the Bible." We will meet at 5:45 pm during August to accommodate the choir rehearsal of the Guaraldi Jazz Mass. We will look at some of the famous and little-known women in the Old Testament.

Summer choir: Do you enjoy singing, but can't commit to weekly rehearsals? Come and sing with the choir in worship August 24. The next rehearsal is Thursday, August 21, 7 p.m. For more information contact Connie Weiss, 570-466-4520.

FPC Young(er) Adult Group - These are great opportunities for new friends and even whole families to meet others in the church. For details and to RSVP, please reach out to Michael Thompson at mkthompson96@gmail.com or 518-577-8691:

- Sunday, August 24 at 3pm - Games Day at the Church. Bring a game or a snack to share. We will meet downstairs in the fellowship hall.
- Saturday, September 20 at 1pm - Apple Picking at Lakeland Orchard, 1649 Lakeland Drive, Scott Township. General admission tickets are \$22.95.
- Saturday, October 18? - We are working on plans for a campfire night.
- November - let us know your ideas!

Old Testament Connections at Wednesday Night Study

Starting September 10, we will begin our Fall Wednesday night Bible study with "Old Testament Connections." Each week, we will use a different lens to understand how various stories of the Bible connect to one another: timelines, maps, world history, and other tools. We will meet at 6:00 pm in the library (Room 206).

On August 31: the Vince Guaraldi Jazz Mass

Our Jazz Communion service takes place this year on August 31. We are thrilled that the service will feature the Vince Guaraldi Mass.

Created for the inaugural year of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco, Guaraldi presented this jazz mass six months before he received international fame as the composer of "A Charlie Brown Christmas."

As a special treat, we have invited Derrick Bang, Mr. Guaraldi's biographer, to talk about the work before the service at 9:30 in the sanctuary. To learn more about Derrick, visit his online blog.

Our choir will be joined by the choir of Our Lady of the Snows - and all are invited to sing with them. Choir rehearsals will be held on August 6, 13, and 27, from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm in our sanctuary. We ask that all singers attend at least two rehearsals.





Take a Presbyterian trip to Ireland

Registration is now open for our church's journey to the Emerald Isle. Scheduled for April 12-21, 2026, a group of Presbyterians will travel to Dublin, Galway, and all the spots in between. Brochures are available in the narthex. As with the trip to Scotland, Witte Travel of Grand Rapids is organizing an extraordinary trip for us. Reach out to **Rev. Bill Carter** or Jamie Strong with questions.

An information session will be offered on Friday, September 5, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 206.

ADOPT A HIGHWAY: The first fall Morgan Highway Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, September 20. We will meet at the parking lot of the Clarks Summit United Methodist Church at 9:00 a.m. Safety vests, gloves, and garbage bags will be provided. If you have never participated in this activity and would like to join the group, please contact Jack Scheuer at 570-362-3275 or john.scheuer123@gmail.com for more details.

Deacons' Worship Through Service Project: Summer Safety for Home-less Adults: As part of FPCCS' Worship through Service program, the Deacons are collecting personal care and food items for the Community Intervention Center (CIC) day shelter in Scranton. Please consider contributing items from the "wish list" (below) and dropping them in the Narthex before September 7th. Your gift will help homeless adults stay safe and comfortable this summer. Questions? Please contact Barb Norton at 570-878-8026. Thank you!

Insect repellant, sunscreen, wash cloths, disposable razors, combs, brushes, deodorant, travel size shampoo, conditioner, small bars of soap, snack bars (soft varieties preferred), snack cracker packs, and first aid supplies such as band-aids, gauze, antiseptic, wound cream, Ace bandages),

Note: toothpaste, toothbrushes and socks are not needed at this time!

First Announcement: Arts at First Presbyterian

As you read this notice, a brochure for our upcoming arts series is being prepared. Here are the events on our schedule for September and October.

- Sunday, September 14 at 4 pm - Tribute to Duke Ellington
- Sunday, October 12 at 4 pm - Arcadia Chorale
- Sunday, October 26 at 4 pm - Colebrook Road (bluegrass band)

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, August 17

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

Tuesday, August 19

- 9:30 a.m., Yoga, Room 111
- 6 p.m., OA, Room 210
- 7 p.m., AA, Room 111

Wednesday, August 20

- 9 a.m., Presbyter Mailing, Room 206
- 10:30 a.m., Prayer and Share, Room 209
- 5:45 p.m., Summer Bible Study, Room 206
- Regular Choir Rehearsal resumes, 7 p.m., Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m., AlAnon, Room 206

Thursday, August 21

- 8:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast and Bible Study
- 2:00 p.m., Senior game Day, Fellowship Hall
- 7 p.m., Summer Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 7 p.m., AA, Room 111

Saturday, August 23

Sunday, August 24

- 10 a.m., Worship in the sanctuary and online
- 3 p.m., *Young(er)* Adult Games Day at the Church, Fellowship Hall

Looking Ahead:

- August 31, Annual Jazz Communion Service, including the singing of the Guaraldi Mass.
- September 1, Labor Day, Church Office is closed.
- September 20, Highway cleanup, 9 a.m.
- September 27-28, Worship Through Service Weekend.

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