



First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
13th Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2025

10:00 a.m.

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

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music – Hymns 598, 698, 432

Words of Welcome

Prelude

"The Garden of Peace"

Franklin Ritter

Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

* Hymn 223 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”
 Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

***O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel,
but we remain silent in the presence of evil.
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,
but we are content to live in separation.
You call us to seek the good of all,
but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.
You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,
but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near.
Forgive us, O Lord.
Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,
and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others;
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.***

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response (598)

***Amen, we praise your name, O God!
Amen, we praise your name, O God!
Amen, amen. Amen, amen! Amen, we praise your name, O God.***

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Jeremiah 18:1-11 (OT, p. 699)

Psalter: Psalm 139 (Hymnal 29)

A Time with Children

Anthem “Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen”
 Susan Palo Cherwien and David M. Cherwien

Gospel Lesson: Luke 14:25-33 (NT, p. 78)

Sermon: “On Hating Your Life”

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 432 “How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles’ Creed (Hymnal, p. 35)

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Minute for Peacemaking
Offering

Diane Scheuer

Offertory "Voluntary in E Minor" John Stanley
* Response (698)

***Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.***

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 296 "Go in Grace and Make Disciples"
* Charge and Benediction
* Postlude k "Gavotte" F. J. Gossec

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

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers have been given to the glory of God in memory of Marta Allen by Olympia Cianfichi.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Guest Organist	Jan Thyren
Liturgist	John Young

**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.

Old Testament Connections at Wednesday Night Study

On 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 using maps, timelines, world history, and other tools. We will meet at 6:00 p.m. in the library (Room 206).



The 2025-26 Arts at First Presbyterian concert series will open on **Sunday, September 14 at 4 p.m.** with the internationally-acclaimed **Bloom/ Funkhouser Duo** (Peter H. Bloom, flute, and John Funkhouser, piano). The duo will be performing **Salute to Duke Ellington** which will celebrate Duke and his esteemed co-composers Billy Strayhorn, Juan Tizol and Mercer

Ellington, with classics and rarities like Caravan, Take the A Train, I'm Beginning to See the Light, East Saint Louis Toodle-Oo, Depk, and Jump for Joy. The concert is open to the public free of charge, with a free-will offering taken to help defray the cost of the event. Meet the artists at a reception held following the concert.

Arts Events scheduled for October are: Sunday, October 12 at 4 p.m. - Arcadia Chorale, and Sunday, October 26 at 4 p.m. - Colebrook Road (bluegrass band).

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:

- Saturday, September 20 at 1p.m. - 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!

Our LIFT Program resumes next Sunday. This regularly-occurring, inter-generational program and meal is held after worship for everyone to break bread together as we truly "experience" being a part of the family of God. We will hear God's word and engage in discussions and activities.

It's time to sign up for Worship Through Service projects. You will find the list of ten community service projects that we will undertake around the last weekend of September. Sign-up forms will be in the bulletins for one two more weeks. You can also sign up in the Narthex or use the google link in Wednesday's **Light from the Hill**.

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, Mollie, Ellen S., Jeff, Jean, Nancy, Sarah, Carol, Leslie, Kim, Stuart, Kathy, Tim, Claire, Craig K., Gary K., Judy S., AJ, Lee, Sally, Terry, Estelle, Nate, Len, Millie, family and friends, Faith, Erin, Terry B., Katie, Mary, Sue and family, Renee, Wendy.

State Hospital Luncheon: The women of the church will host a fall luncheon for friends from Clarks Summit State Hospital on Oct. 7, noon in Fellowship Hall. There is a need for several items at this time: any **luggage/ backpacks** you no longer use (in good condition) are helpful when someone transitions out of their current building, **shoes** and used, **working CD players**. They love **leggings** (new) as well as **baseball caps**. (The staff can't keep these two items in stock!) Any questions, please call Janet Dobson at 570-563-1887.



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.

ADOPT A HIGHWAY: The first fall Morgan Highway Cleanup is set for Saturday, September 20, meeting at the parking lot of the Clarks Summit United Methodist Church at 9 a.m. Safety vests, gloves, and garbage bags are provided. Please contact Jack Scheuer at john.scheuer123@gmail.com or 570-362-3275 for more details.

Deacons' Worship Through Service Project: Summer Safety for Homeless 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) **Toothpaste, toothbrushes and socks are not needed.**

Hoping to see you at the Celebration for Rev. Bill's anniversaries. Reservation envelopes, with meal selection and payment, may be placed in either the offering plate or the wooden box in the Narthex. **Deadline: September 22.**

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 7

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

Tuesday, September 9

- 9:30 a.m., Yoga, Room 111
- 6 p.m., OA, Room 210
- 7 p.m., Session, Room 206
- 7 p.m., AA, Room 111

Wednesday, September 10

- 10:30 a.m., Prayer and Share, Room 209
- 6 p.m., Wednesday Night Bible Study: Old Testament Connections
- 7 p.m., Choir rehearsal, sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m., AlAnon, Room 206

Thursday, September 11

- 9 a.m., Mobile Food Pantry: preparations / 4 p.m., food distribution
- 7 p.m., AA, Room 111

Friday, September 12, Presbyter Deadline, forward articles to office@fpccs.org

Sunday, September 14

- 10 a.m., Worship in the sanctuary and online
- 11:15, LIFT program
- 3 p.m., OA, Room 210
- 4 p.m., Arts: Salute to Duke Ellington, Sanctuary

Looking Ahead:

- September 20, Highway cleanup, 9 a.m.
- September 21, Confirmation Class family meeting, after worship
- September 27-28, Worship Through Service Weekend.



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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