



“Blessed is the one
who comes in the name
of the Lord.”

LUKE 13:35, NRSV

**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

2nd Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

10:00 a.m.

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

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Hymn

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Steal Away”

arr. Gilbert Martin

Call to Worship

from Psalm 27

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;

he will set me high on a rock.

* Hymn 49

“The God of Abraham Praise”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Everlasting God,

fountain of all life and the true home of every heart:

Our hearts are restless until they rest in you.

Yet our hearts have wandered away

by selfish passion and base desire.

Having sought many things,

we have neglected the one thing needful.

We have not loved you with our whole hearts;

turn us back to you and grant us forgiveness.

Lead us home, that we may find in you

our life and joy and peace.

* Response: ***Create in me a clean heart, O God;***

create in me a clean heart, O God;

create in me a clean heart, O God,

and renew a right spirit within me.

Hymnal 423

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

During the season of Lent, we refrain from singing alleluia.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 (OT p. 12)

Psalter: Psalm 27 (Hymnal 90)

A Time with Children

Anthem "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

Second Lesson: Luke 13:31-35 (NT p. 77)

Sermon: "Backtalking the King"

Rev. Carter

Sermon series: Come Home with Luke

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 223 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

* Affirmation of Faith: A Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,

sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,

and binds us together with all believers

in the one body of Christ, the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage

to pray without ceasing,

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,

to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,

and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Minute for One Great Hour of Sharing

Philip Muntzel

Offering

Offertory

"A Mountain Spiritual"

arr. Maurice Whitney

* Doxology (606)

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 702 "Christ Be Beside Me"

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child" arr. Marianne Kim

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

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God in memory of loved ones by Karen White.

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	Warren Acker
Ushers	The Farrell Family

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.

This morning for our children:

- The Nursery is staffed regularly on Sunday mornings from 9:40 to 11:10 a.m. Located in room 208 (sanctuary level), it is furnished with a changing table, and age-appropriate toys and books for children ages 3 and younger.
- During Bible Time we will be listening to Jesus, learning about being a good neighbor, growing God's kingdom, celebrating, and being lost & found.



Our Wednesday Adult Bible Study continues each week at 5:45. The Bible study is called **“An Acceptable Fast,”** based on the Old Testament lectionary readings for the season of Lent. Want to be with a group that studies the Bible and enjoys one another? Come and join us!

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, Ann, Bill, Mike, Jason, Bobby, Craig K., Gary K., Phil, Tucker, Frank, Cheryl, Kathy, Tim, Ray, Caleb, Jon, Char, Susan, Jerry, Don, Roberta, Judy, Evelyn, Wayne, Clark family, Candace, Jen, Terry, the Tolpa family, Edward, Sue, the Fitzgerald family, Joseph, Baby Lyric, Lisa, Judy S.

The next Mobile Food Pantry takes place **Thursday, April 10.** Pre-registration is required at fpccsfoodpantry@gmail.com or 570-586-6306.

More Lackawanna County families are welcome. Put the word out so that others can have access to this program.



Pots of Tulips will be ordered for Easter morning. The plants are \$9 per pot. Deadline to order is **today.** Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church. To purchase tulips, complete the order form (found in the Presbyter or in the Narthex) and either place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office with payment.

2025 Flower calendar: There are still several available weeks for individuals, families, and church committees to donate flowers for the worship service. Please email office@fpccs.org or call 570-586-6306 and Karis or Rebekah Naeher will contact you.

Do You Know What You're REALLY Saying? At a Table Talk on Sunday, March 30 at 11:15 we will welcome Dr. Yerodin Lucas for a helpful conversation on "cultural humility," the lifelong process of self-reflection and self-critique where we examine our assumptions, biases, and cultural identities while also learning about others. Often we are not aware of our own biases, that shape our beliefs, judgments, and actions toward our neighbors. Grab a cup of coffee and join in the conversation downstairs after worship.

STATE HOSPITAL LUNCHEON - Tuesday, April 1, noon, Fellowship Hall:

All are welcome to join us for a meal and fellowship with guests from Clarks Summit State Hospital. Items such as small writing journals/notebooks (not wire bound), greeting cards (with or without message), CD'S, candy (no hard candy or nuts), and new socks for adult men and women are being collected in the narthex. Any questions or if interested in attending that day, contact Janet Dobson, or leave a message at the church office, 570-586-6306 or office@fpccs.org

ARTS at First Presbyterian

Sunday, March 16, 4 p.m., The Lyric Consort presents Irish music for St Patrick's Day. This a cappella vocal group led by Chris Gallo was founded by Dr. Alan Baker in 1993 and performs beautiful vocal music for unaccompanied voices.

Saturday, March 29, 7 p.m., a Tuba Recital will be presented by renowned British tuba player Will Druiett. Mr. Druiett has appeared in recitals throughout Europe, USA, and Asia. Recently Will was invited to perform as a soloist as part of the 79th Vienna Philharmonic Ball in the Musikverein.

Saturday, April 5, 7 p.m., An Evening with the Seraph Brass

"The next Canadian Brass" is how critics describe this quintet of the world's best brass players. Don't miss this outstanding ensemble as they return to NEPA. They will raise the roof!



Can you help?

Arts at First Presbyterian is looking for a host home or homes for two female musicians for the April 5 concert. The host would need to house the individual(s) on Saturday evening and provide breakfast on Sunday morning. The host would also need to provide transportation from church to your home after the concert and back to church Sunday morning. The only requirements are a separate room and a pet-free and smoke-free home. If interested, please contact the webmaster at webmaster@fpccs.org, or the office at 570-586-6306.

Looking Ahead:

Table Talk presentation, March 30, 11:15 a.m.
State Hospital Luncheon, April 1, noon
Highway Cleanup, April 12, 9 a.m.

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 16

- 10 a.m., Worship in the sanctuary and online
- Following the anthem, Bible Time
- 11:15 a.m., Pre-confirmation meeting
- 4 p.m., Lyric Consort presents Irish music for St. Patrick's Day, Sanctuary

Monday, March 17

Tuesday, March 18

- 9:30 a.m., Yoga, Room 111
- 10 a.m., Women's Bible Study, Fellowship Hall
- 6 p.m., OA, Room 210
- 7 p.m., AA, Room 111

Wednesday, March 19

- 10:30 a.m., Prayer and Share, Room 209
- 5:45 p.m., Adult Christian Education, Room 206
- 7 p.m., Adult Choir, Sanctuary
- 7:30 p.m., AlAnon, Room 206
- 8 p.m., Adult Bell Choir, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, March 20

- 8:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast and Bible Study, Room 206
- 2 p.m., Senior Game Day, Fellowship Hall

Friday, March 21

Saturday, March 22

Sunday, March 23

- 10 a.m., Worship in the sanctuary and online
- Following the anthem, Bible Time

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