



**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

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026

10:00 a.m.

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

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music
Words of Welcome

Prelude "Prelude" Cesar Franck
Call to Worship *Psalm 23:4-5*

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
For you are with me; your rod and staff – they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

* Hymn 187 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"
Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession
* Prayer of Confession

***God of light,
you sent Jesus Christ to illumine the world.
Yet we stumble in the dark
as those who do not know where they are going.
We dwell in lies and act as if you do not know us.
We live by fixed rules and resist your mercy.
We question your love and stray from truth that might set us free.
Take away our sin.
Speak your mercy so that we can hear your voice
and receive the fullness of your eternal life;
through Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world.***

* Silent Confession

* Kyrie 437 ***You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!***

* 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: John 9:1-17 (NT p. 102)
Psalter: Psalm 23 (Hymnal 803)

A Time with Children

Anthem "Meditations on the Cross" arr. Michael Helman

Gospel Lesson: John 9:18-41 (NT p. 102)

Sermon: "The Trouble Jesus Causes"

Rev. Carter

Sermon Series: Concealed and Revealed

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 450 "Be Thou My Vision"

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (Hymnal, p. 14)

Presentation

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal p. 17)

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

* Baptism

* Welcome

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (Hymnal, p. 35)

Minute for One Great Hour of Sharing

Offering

Offertory "The King of Love, My Shepherd Is"

arr. Peter Crisafulli

* Response 694, verse 1

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care.

You are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.

How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start;

Sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 661 "Why Should I Feel Discouraged?"

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "Elevation apres Benedictus" Dom Paul Benoit

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

* All who are able shall stand.

Baptized today are Samantha Jean Cole (Jacob Cole's wife) and their four daughters: Abby Jaclyn, Leda Ann, Mackenzie Madison, and Raelynn Grace.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Pastor | Rev. William G. Carter |
| Coordinator of Children and Youth | Jana Schillinger |
| Director of Music | Frank Jones |
| Organist | Kay Ten Eyck |
| Liturgist | Dick White |
| Usher | The Farrell family and Erika Adams |
| Director of Bells | Richard Cochrane |

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 each Sunday 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.

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: Debbie, Molly, Ellen S., John, Nancy, Sarah, Carol, Leslie, Kim, Stuart, Kathy, Timothy, Claire, Craig K., Gary K., Judy S., AJ, Lee, Sally, Terry, Estelle, Nate, Len, Millie, Faith, Erin, Katie, Mary, Sue and family, Margaret, Jim L., Robyn, K.J., Christine, Rachel and family, Theresa, Cindy, Bob, Dick, Kate, Shirley, Peg, Dorina, Jane & Family, Stan and Leona, Denise H. and family, Char and Family, Renee and Wendy.

Curious about our church? Interested in membership? If so, you are invited to an Inquirers Gathering on Sunday, March 22 at 11:15 a.m. We will meet in Room 111 (downstairs) with Rev. Bill and deacon Chris Jeske to discover more about our congregation and its ministry. To let us know you're coming, send an e-mail to Chris at judge622@gmail.com. We would like to receive some new members in worship on Palm Sunday, March 29.

Our Lenten Series: "The Celtic Way – When Heaven Touches Earth"

On Wednesdays in Lent, we will explore the Celtic contributions to the Christian Life. Join us each week at 6:00 pm in Room 206 (Session Room). We will meet an ancient saint or two, reflect on the "Thin Places" we have known, and discuss the high crosses and the ornate vines that decorate them. All are welcome! The six-week series runs from February 25 through Wednesday, April 1.

The flowers are given by Nancy Zink in thanks for the faith of her family.

Free Bibles: Take What You Need! You may have noticed that our Worship/Music/Arts committee has been replacing the Bibles in our pews. That means we have plenty to give away. Help yourself to one (or more) of the Bibles on a table in the Narthex. If you want more, there are a couple of boxes of used red pew Bibles in Room 210. Everybody needs a Bible! Help us find new homes for them.

Palm Sunday, March 29 - L.I.F.T. Program for Holy Week - We will host a L.I.F.T. (Living in Faith Together) program after worship on Palm Sunday, with a lesson and activities over a simple lunch for all in Fellowship Hall. Households of all ages and sizes will break bread

together as we hear God's Word and engage in discussion and activities. Can you make a crockpot of soup to share? Please let Jana know.

Upcoming Spring Lunch: Please join us and our guests from the Clarks Summit State Hospital on April 7 at Noon in Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in attending lunch and fellowship, or if you have questions about this event. contact Janet at 570-563-1887. She is looking for several bakers to provide cookies and/or fancy breads. Due to allergies, please NO NUTS.

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, March 15

- 10 a.m., Worship in the Sanctuary and online
- 11:00 a.m., Confirmation, Room 206
- 3 p.m., OA, Room 210
- 4 p.m., Arts Event: **The Blue Note Jazztet** in concert, Sanctuary

Monday, March 16

Tuesday, March 17 Happy Saint Patrick's Day

- 9:30 a.m., Yoga, Room 111
- 10:00 a.m., Woman's Bible Study
- 6:15 p.m., Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary
- 7 p.m., AA, Room 111

Wednesday, March 18

- 10:30 a.m., Prayer & Share
- 12:00 p.m., Bridge club
- 6 p.m., Adult Education, "The Celtic Way," Room 206
- 7 p.m., Bell Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall
- 7:30 p.m., AlAnon, Room 111

Thursday, March 19

- 8:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast, Room 206
- 2:00 p.m., Sr. Games

Friday, March 20

- 12:00 p.m., Bridge Club

Saturday, March 21

- 9:45 a.m., OA

Sunday, March 22

- 10 a.m., Worship
- 11:00 a.m., Confirmation, Room 206
- 3 p.m., OA, Room 210
- 5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts, Room 111

Join Us Later Today - The Blue Note Jazztet

Sunday, March 15 at 4:00 p.m.

The Blue Note Jazztet specializes in snapping tunes from the venerable the Blue Note record label. This is swinging and accessible music, the 1950's and '60's. Featured are Horace Silver, Freddie John Coltrane, Herbie Hancock, and Wayne Shorter.



in the finger-tradition of hard-mostly from composers Hubbard, Lee Morgan,

The Jazztet, following sold-out upstate New York and at Keystone perform a free concert on Sunday, March 15 at 4:00 p.m. as preparation for an upcoming live recording with producer George Graham. The lineup includes Jeff Stockham on trumpet, Mike Carbone on tenor sax/flute, Kate Anderson on alto sax, Bill Carter on piano, Tony Marino on bass, and Tyler Dempsey on drums. A free-will offering will support event costs, and a reception to meet the artists follows the concert.

shows in College, will

Check out our upgraded website - Did you know that most of our visitors and new members found us on our website? That's why it is important to keep it attractive, informative, and up to date. We are grateful to Dick Cochrane (our beloved webmaster) who led the initiative to update the website from the ground up. We are also grateful for the Session's leadership in dedicating funds from our "Ministry Enhancement" fund to rebuild the site. Check it out for yourself at <https://fpccs.org/>



We are grateful for the many ways that people support our ministry to the community and world. If you wish to cell phone, **scan here.**



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