

Then beginning with Moses
and all the prophets, he interpreted
to them the things about himself in
all the scriptures.

Luke 24:27, 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

Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

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 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" arr. Robert Hobby

Call to Worship

We need your presence on the long road, Lord.

***The road between fear and hope,
the road between the place where all is lost
and the place of resurrection.***

Like the disciples walking the road to Emmaus,

we are in need of your company!

Jesus, stand among us, in your risen power,

let this time of worship, be a hallowed hour.

Let us worship our Risen and Reigning Lord, Jesus Christ!

* Hymn 234

"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

God of wonder, sometimes we forget to be surprised.

**Forgive us for the times when our busyness
gets in the way of noticing your presence.**

**Forgive us for the times when our familiarity with your age-old story
dulls our ability to marvel.**

**Forgive the ways we pack away curiosity,
leaving questions and wonder to children.**

**Open our eyes to your works —
the bold and quiet, strange and strong, beautiful and befuddling.**

Stir our desire to celebrate with you and our neighbors.

**Unzip our tight-lipped ways that we might proclaim
in head-shaking wonder, and bewildered praise:**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

The Lord is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Through the Holy Spirit, we are gifted with the joy that rises
from the certainty of resurrection, for the Lord is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

Amen, alleluia!

Alleluia, amen!

* Passing of the Peace

* Response 589 ***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Now the Lord is risen indeed.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalter: Hymn 655 (Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19)

A Moment with Our Children

Second Lesson: Luke 24:13-35

Sermon:

Rev. Stephen Emick

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 737 “Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song”

* Affirmation of Faith: From *A Declaration of Faith*

We are certain that Jesus lives. He lives as God with us, touching all of human life with the presence of God. He lives as one of us with God. Because he shares our humanity and has bound us to himself in love, we have an advocate in the innermost life of God. We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real. It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us. We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord. He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord

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

Offering

Offertory “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” arr. Robert Hobby

606 * Doxology

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 238 “Thine is the Glory”

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude “Now the Green Blade Rises” arr. David Cherwien

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

*All who are able shall stand.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Guest Pastor	Rev. Stephen Emick
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Jay Clymer
Ushers	The Farrell Family

The flowers: The flowers are given in honor of Don Keen's birthday by his wife.

This Week at a Glance

- **Sunday, April 19**
- 10 a.m., Worship in the sanctuary and online
- 11:00 a.m., Confirmation, Room 206
- **Monday, April 20**
- **Tuesday, April 21**
- 9:30 a.m., Yoga, Room 111
- 6 p.m., OA, Room 210
- 6:15 p.m., Adult Choir, Sanctuary
- 7 p.m., AA, Room 111
- **Wednesday, April 22**
- 10:30 a.m., Prayer and Share, Room 209
- 6:00 p.m., Adult Christian Education, Room 206
- 7:30 p.m., AlAnon, Room 206
- 7:00 p.m., Adult Bell Choir, Fellowship Hall
- **Thursday, April 23**
- **Friday, April 24**
- **Saturday, April 25**
- **Sunday, April 26**
- 10 a.m., Worship in the sanctuary and online
- 11 a.m., Confirmation, Room 206

Our guest preacher this morning is the Rev. Stephen Emick, an honorably retired minister member of Mountain Laurel Presbytery, Pastor Emeritus of First Presbyterian Church in Allentown, and currently serving as Presbytery Vice-Moderator. Stephen and his wife, Barbara, a nurse with St. Luke's Health Network, are originally from Scranton. They are the parents of two young adult daughters – one is married and a nurse and the other is a PhD student in economics at Brown University. Stephen served Second Presbyterian Church in Roanoke, Virginia before serving for 28 years at First Presbyterian Church in Allentown.

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).

The flowers The flowers given in honor of Don Keen's birthday by his wife.

Please pray for: Judy S., AJ, Lee, Sally, Terry, Estelle, Nate, Len, Millie, Faith, Erin, Katie, Mary, Sue and family Kate, Shirley, Peg, Dorina, Jane & Family, Stan and Leona, Denise H. and family, Char and Family, Renee and Wendy.

Our Wednesday Bible Study will be back next week, April 22

Strangers, Aliens and Refugees

This five week Wednesday Bible Study series continues into May as we explore what the Bible teaches us about who strangers and aliens are, and how to respond to them when they come among us today in NEPA. Sessions will cover a varied collection of topics:

April 22 – Why is the treatment of strangers and aliens so important in the Old Testament?
-- Michael Thompson

April 29 – Who are the strangers, aliens and refugees in our Scranton region and how are they doing? What do they need? -- GUEST SPEAKER: Julie Shumacher Cohen, AVP for Community Engagement & Government Affairs, University of Scranton.

May 6 – A big idea from St. Paul: How Christ has reconciled us—so we are no longer strangers and aliens. – Rev. Bill Carter

May 13 – “My life as a refugee –and how I was (sometimes) welcomed.” -- GUEST SPEAKER (with Charlie Pinches): Ushu Mukelo, President, Congolese Community of Scranton.

May 20 – Final Considerations -- Michael Thompson