



Psalm 23:1

**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 of Easter

April 26, 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: Hymn 226, verses 1 and 6
Words of Welcome

Prelude "In the Garden" arr. Robert Hobby

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 645 "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"
Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Almighty and merciful God,

we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much

the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against your holy laws.

We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;

and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive those who confess their faults.

Restore those who are penitent,

according to your promises declared in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O merciful God, for his sake,

that we may live a holy, just, and humble life

to the glory of your holy name.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response 587 ***Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Acts 2:42-47

Psalter: Psalm 23 (Hymn 802)

A Moment with Our Children

Anthem "Lift High the Cross" arr. by Diane McAninch
Bell Choir

Epistle Lesson: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Sermon: "When Suffering is Unfair"

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 226 "There in the Garden"

* Affirmation of Faith Revelation 7:10, 15-17

***"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!"***

***For this reason the saints of God are before God's throne
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat,
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.***

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

Offering

Offertory

"Slane"

arr. John Dixon

* Doxology 606

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 187 "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "Trumpet Tune" arr. Alfred Fedak

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

*All who are able shall stand.

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	Marie Cochrane
Ushers	The Farrell Family
Director of Bells	Richard Cochrane

The flowers: The flowers are given in loving memory of husband and father, Robert Reese by the Reese family in loving memory. Flowers are given in honor of Leonard Ballelli's birthday and Leonard and Mary Parry Ballelli's anniversary.



Nate Worrell and Friends will entertain us in a concert to be held in the sanctuary on Sunday, April 26 at 4 pm.

The talented young pianist and church member returns with a group of luminous colleagues that he has met at Ithaca College and elsewhere. Join us as we welcome the next generation of musical performers, including cellist Eli Jort, mezzo-soprano Anastasia Inglima, and flutist Catherine Huhn. Catherine has performed numerous times at the church as a soloist and in a chamber trio with Connie and John Weiss. She will perform works by J.S. Bach and Taffanel. Inglima will sing selections by Massenet, Rossini, Handel, and Obradors, while Jort is featured in two pieces by Chopin. Nate will be accompanying them on piano.

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.

Save the date for our final 2026 Arts at First Presbyterian event: "An Evening of Broadway with Tim Shew," Friday, May 15, 2025, 7:00 pm

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, April 26**
 - 10 a.m., Worship in the sanctuary and online
 - 11:00 a.m., Confirmation, Room 206
 - 11:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
 - 4:00 p.m., Nate Worrell in Concert, Sanctuary
- **Monday, April 27**
- **Tuesday, April 28**
 - 9:30 a.m., Yoga, Room 111
 - 10:00 a.m., My Brother's keeper Quilt Fellowship Hall
 - 6 p.m., OA, Room 210
 - 6:15 p.m., Adult Choir, Sanctuary
 - 7:00 p.m., Deacons, Session Room
 - 7:00 p.m., AA, Room 111
- **Wednesday, April 29**
 - 10:30 a.m., Prayer and Share, Room 209
 - 12:00 p.m., Bridge Club
 - 6:00 p.m., Adult Christian Education, Room 206
 - 7:00 p.m., Bell Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall
 - 7:30 p.m., AlAnon, Room 206
- **Thursday, April 30**
 - 8:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast, Sunrise Café, Depot Street
- **Friday, May 1**
 - 12:00 p.m., Bridge Club
- **Saturday, May 2**
 - 9:00 a.m., Adopt a Highway
- **Sunday, May 3**
 - 10 a.m., Worship in the sanctuary and online
 - 11 a.m., Confirmation, Room 206

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 pray for: Debbie, Molly, John, Nancy, Sarah, Carol, Leslie, Kim, Stuart, Kathy, 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.

ADOPT A HIGHWAY

The schedule for the spring Morgan Highway Cleanups is set for Saturday, **May 2, 2026** and Saturday **June 27, 2026**. We will meet at the parking lot of the Clarks Summit United Methodist Church at 9:00 AM. 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.

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study - Will meet off site at Sunrise Café, Thursday, **April 30th** at 8:30 a.m.

Church Life, Dinner Invitation - The Church Life Committee is sponsoring a Dinner Night at Montdale Country Club, Thursday, **May 21** at 6 p.m. All are welcome! We will order from the menu, with separate checks available. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or contact JoAnn Hall at jodihall@nep.net or 570-806-1591

The Session has called a **meeting of the congregation** for today, immediately following worship. The purpose of this special meeting is to act on the report of the Nominating Team.

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

Topic: 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