

First Presbyterian Church

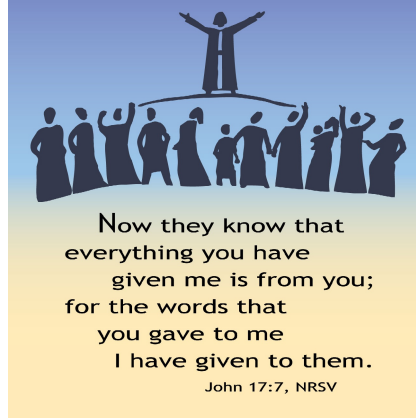
Clarksburg, West Virginia

Rev. John F. Koerner

Broadcast live on WPDX radio, 104.9 FM & 750 AM

Live stream at www.facebook.com/fpcclarksburg

May 16, 2021



Ten Forty-Five

7th Sunday of Easter

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Organ Prelude “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” EIN FEST BURG *Arr. by Blake*

Welcome

* The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Introit

Two Hymns performed by Trombone Quartet consisting of David Nuzum, Russell McIntyre, Ian McIntyre, and Dr. James Bryant

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

Ephesians 4:4-6

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope that belongs to your call,

**one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father of us all,
who is above all, and through all, and in all.**

Come, let us worship God.

Let us pray.

Iona Abby Worship Book

**O God, set your blessing on us as we begin this day together.
Confirm us in the truth by which we rightly live;
confront us with the truth from which we wrongly turn.
We ask not for what we want, but for what you know we need.
We offer this day and ourselves for you and to you,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

* Hymn #262 “God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand” *National Hymn*

1. God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, Our grateful songs before Thy throne
arise.
2. Thy love divine hath led us in the past; In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay; Thy word our law, Thy paths our chosen
way.
3. From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense;
Thy true religion in our hearts increase; Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.
4. Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way, Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

* Call to Confession

Beloved, we are God's children because of the love God has for us, yet we sometimes
fail to respond to God's outpouring of love. Let us confess our sins together.

*Prayer of Confession

From Homiletics Magazine

Merciful and loving God, we are ashamed and sorry for all the ways in which we have displeased you. Forgive us for our sins. Move us onto your will. Make us into the people you have always wanted us to be. Yes, breathe your Holy Spirit into us. For without your help we can do nothing. In Jesus' name. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us.
Friends, hear the good news and believe: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
Alleluia! Amen.

*Congregational Response- "Gloria Patri"

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Hymn #304 "Jesus Loves the Little Children (verse 1)

Children of the Church Dawn Woodburn

Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

Let us pray together.
**Gather us around you, Lord Jesus, as you did your disciples so long ago.
Speak to us through your word read and proclaimed. And grant that our
lives may be transformed by this meeting with you. Amen.**

First Scripture Lesson John 17:6-19

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Affirmation: *I am a child of God. I believe in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.
I believe he has the power to change my life and your life.*

Sermon "Organized Religion, Do We Need It?"

Rev. John F. Koerner

Piano Interlude - *Silent prayer and reflection*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into
heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall
come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting, Amen.

*Hymn #492 "Baptized in Water" Bunessan

1. Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit, Cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
Heirs of salvation, Trusting the promise, Faithfully now God's praises we sing.
2. Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit, Dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;
One with His rising, Freed and forgiven, Thankfully now God's praises we sing.
3. Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit, Marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
Born of the Spirit, We are God's children, Joyfully now God's praises we sing.

Reception of New Members and Sacrament of Holy Baptism



Question to the congregation:

Our Lord Jesus Christ ordered us to teach those who are baptized. Do you, the people of the church, promise to tell Lily the good news of the gospel, to help her know all that Christ commands, and by your fellowship and prayers, to strengthen her family ties to the household of God? If so please answer, **"We will."**

Unison welcome -

Chad, Heather, and Lily, with joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church; for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you, to share the good news of the gospel with you, and to help you know and follow Christ.

Prayers of the People

Gathering of Tithes and Offerings

Gathering - electronic gifts may be made through our website www.clarksburgfpc.org

Offertory Anthem "Finale From Symphony #4" *by J. Brahms*
Trombone Quartet

*The Doxology
Prayer of Dedication

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

* Hymn 438 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" *Dennis*

1. Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.
2. Before our Father's throne We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our comforts and our cares.
3. We share our mutual woes, Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows The sympathizing tear.
4. From sorrow, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free;
And perfect love and friendship reign Through all eternity.

* Charge and Benediction

* Congregational Response "First Song of Isaiah" (chorus only) x2

**Surely it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my strong-hold and my sure defense,
and he will be my Savior.**

* Organ Postlude "Festal Piece" *Arr by Blake*

Liturgists.....	The Congregation of First Presbyterian Church
Officiant and Preacher.....	Rev. John F. Koerner
Worship Leader.....	Maria Morrison
Minister of Music.....	Jeanne Harris
Organist.....	Dr. Mary Kay Devono
Acolytes.....	Bradley Burnett & Anthony Corsini
Parish Associate.....	Rev. Charla Waters Koerner
Parish Associate.....	Rev. James A. Harris

**The service will be broadcast on the radio on 104.9 FM & 750 AM
and it can also be viewed and heard at
<https://www.facebook.com/fpcclarksburg/>
<http://us02web.zoom.us/j/551720>
Attendance for May 9th: 55 in person, 4 on Facebook**

Church News and Announcements

May 16, 2021

Ushers: Jason Burnett, Lance Kuhens,



Nurturing Faith:

Seventh Sunday of Easter: Read John 17:6-19

Jesus prays that God would protect the friends that he is sending into the world.

Are these impulses at odds with one another – staying safe and serving in the wider world? What risks are we willing to take to speak truth to those who would rather not hear it?

Flowers- I have openings for flowers for the reredos for May 23, 30.

Special Concerns- Please let us know if anyone needs to be added or removed from the Special Concerns / Prayer List. The prayer chain operates every day. Let Pastor John or Harriett Northey know if there is a concern.

FOR CHURCHES IN OUR PRESBYTERY

Zion Presbyterian Church, Helvetia

Bates Memorial Presbyterian Church, Huntington

SPECIAL CARE FACILITIES:

Sara Graham, Amy Garrett, Jack Anderson, David Corsini,

Gary Mitchell, Peggy Clark, Mark Freeman

Please pray for: Bob, Janice and Derek Hardman, David Corsini and Mark Travis.

Glenn Everson, inlaw of Judy McQuaid

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN FAMILIES:

BYERS, Gayle; BYERS, Lauren and Bill Compton, Harmony; CARIDI, Morgan (Nickerson) & Michael; CAVALLO, Loria; CLARK, Lewis and Susan, Katy, Philip, and George; CLARK, Peggy; COLEMAN, Bonita; CORSINI, Anna, Anthony, and Gia; CORSINI, Chip and Robin; CORSINI, David and Jackie; CORSINI, Kevin, Jodi, Catherine, and Emily; CROWL, Dan & Kathy, E.J, Tony, Tiffany; DAVIS, Anne; DAVIS, Guy and Elsa; DAVISSON, Bill & Ann

Church Calendar

Tuesday, May 18

Prayer Group 10:00 AM

Zoom & in person

Wednesday, May 19

Bible Study 3:30 PM

Session 5:30 PM

in person and Zoom

Friday, May 21

AA Meeting at noon

Sunday, May 23

Pentecost Sunday

Holy Communion