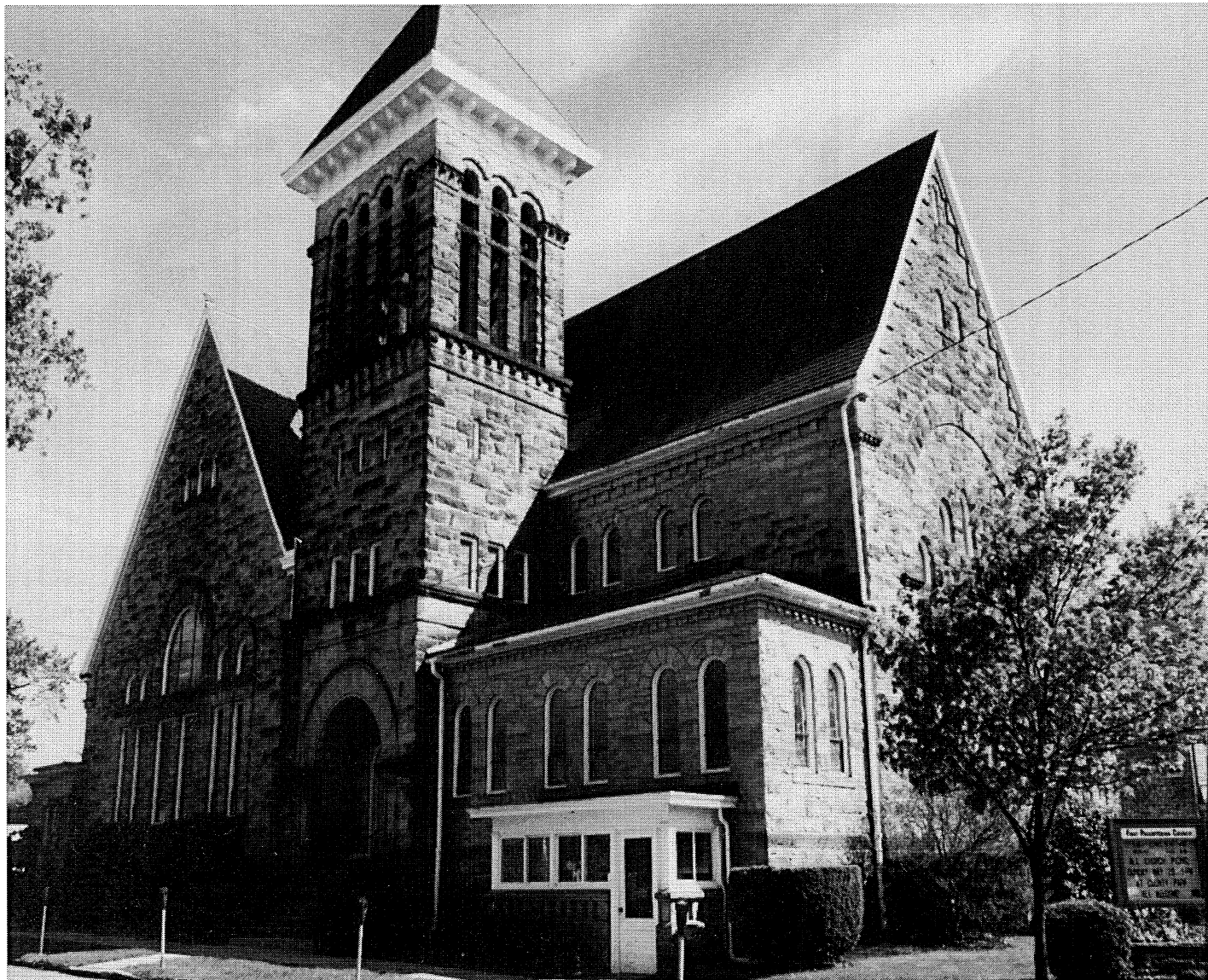


# *First Presbyterian Church*

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*5th Sunday of Easter  
May 3, 2026*



**700 Wood Street, Clarion, PA 16214**

**814-226-8145**

**[churchoffice@clarionfirstpresby.org](mailto:churchoffice@clarionfirstpresby.org)**

**[www.clarionfirstpresby.org](http://www.clarionfirstpresby.org)**

**We come together to worship, grow, and serve as disciples of Christ.**

# We Gather in God's Name

(Tune your car radio to 88.7 FM)

5th Sunday of Easter

## Welcome and Announcements

Lector, John Joy

We silently shift our focus to God and prepare to worship.

## Prelude

*Sweet Hour of Prayer*  
Joyful Bells

Douglas E. Wagner

## Chiming of the Trinity

## Call to Worship

Christ is a living stone, precious in God's sight, and on him we build our lives.

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in bold.

**We are God's people, and we proclaim God's mighty acts,**  
for we have been called out of darkness and into the light.

**Once we were not a people, but now we are God's people;**  
once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.

**With hearts lifted in praise, we come to worship.**

## ✦ Hymn No. 401

*Here in This Place*

✦ When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

## ✦ Call to Confession

## ✦ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Christ, our way, our truth, our life, you have shown us the way, so clearly and fully. You have not simply told us how to live, you have shown us. But we still don't get it. Sometimes we do not believe all you have said to us; we do not trust the way you have shown us. Help us, O God. Forgive us. Open our ears to your truth. Open our eyes to your way and lead us into new life. It's in your name we pray, Amen.**

## ✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the Good News:  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

## GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen

## ✦ Gloria Patri

# We Share God's Word

## Time with the Children

Kathy Larimer

## Prayer of Illumination

## First Scripture

Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16

(pp. 505-506)

## Anthem

*I Love to Tell the Story*  
Echoes of Joy Handbells

Fischer/Arr. Dobrinski

## Second Scripture

1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2: 2-10

(p. 233)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

“Stone and Living Stones”

Rev. Rebecca Mihm

**Organ Interlude**

**Hymn No. 361**

*O Christ, the Great Foundation*

## **We Give Thanks to God**

✠ **Affirmation of Faith**

7.090 The Shorter Catechism

That the Word may become effectual to salvation we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation, and prayer; receive it with faith and love; lay it up in our hearts; and practice it in our lives.

**Call for the Offering**

**Offering and Offertory**

*Amazing Grace*  
Echoes of Joy/ Joyful Bells

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

✠ **Doxology**

✠ **Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

## **We Go Forth to Serve**

✠ **Hymn No. 463**

*How Firm a Foundation*

✠ **Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Psalm XX*

Gordon Young

### **DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

### **POSTLUDE**

Please remember at the close of the service, the Postlude is a time to silently reflect on God and the mission to which we are called. We ask that you please remain silent and seated until the music has ended.

## WELCOME VISITORS

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church. We are glad to provide hybrid and virtual worship services for this Sunday. Services are currently livestreamed on our Facebook page (First Presbyterian Church of Clarion) in real time, then archived to our website and YouTube channel.

At First Presbyterian Church our mission is to worship, grow, and serve as followers of Jesus. From our youngest to our oldest, we seek to worship God in our actions, grow in God's love, and serve God's people in our community and around the world. We hope that you will come join us so we may personally extend a warm welcome. If you have any questions or particular prayer needs, please feel free to contact the church office at 226-8145 between 9 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

For more information visit our website at [www.clarionfirstpresby.org](http://www.clarionfirstpresby.org).

Find us on Facebook! (First Presbyterian Church of Clarion)

Video recordings of past sermons may be viewed by clicking the "Worship" link on our home page at [www.clarionfirstpresby.org](http://www.clarionfirstpresby.org) or a phone app is available at [sermon.net](http://sermon.net) (look for First Presbyterian Church—Clarion.) You can also choose to listen to an audio version. Simply pick the option that works best for you. Videos of Sunday worship are also posted on our Facebook page (see above).

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## CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

**Pastor:** Rev. Rebecca Mihm  
**Organist:** Jean Mitrosky  
**Director of Music:** Bonnie Champion  
**Treasurer:** Ann Brooks  
**Secretary:** Cindy Kapp  
**Sexton:** Mike Hetrick  
**Sound Engineer:** Josh Deitz  
**Video Engineer:** Dan Willy

### Ruling Elders:

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027:</u>	<u>Class of 2028:</u>
Norma Kooman	Bill Champion	John Joy
Dave Larimer	Matt Kurtas	Marianne Reynolds
Cindy Stants	Kathy Larimer	Tammy Slike

### Deacons:

<u>Class of 2026:</u>	<u>Class of 2027:</u>	<u>Class of 2028:</u>
Robin Cable	Barb Beggs	Carolyn McFarland
Mary Swanger	Stacy Hoffman	Glenn Beichner
Joey Kunselman	Bert Louder	Joyce Alberta

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Pastor:** Rev. Rebecca Mihm  
**Lector:** John Joy  
**Director of Music:** Bonnie Champion  
**Organist:** Jean Mitrosky  
**Sound Engineer:** Josh Deitz/Jeff Kapp  
**Video Engineer:** Dan Willy/Kurt Nesbitt  
**Acolytes:** Clara Stants, Jeremy Willy, Andrew Scovel, Nathan Scovel, Sawyer Kunselman, Audrina Champion, Logan Myers

**Ushers in Charge:** Mary Swanger, Stacy Hoffman

The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, in memory of Kevin "Moose" McClain, by Lee Seitz, Dr. Michael McClain and David Collett.

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. Handbell Practice  
10:00 a.m. Worship  
11:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School

## WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

4/26/26

### Weekly Contributions

Envelope Contributions	\$4,515.00
Misc. Cash Contributions	\$68.00
	<b>\$4,583.00</b>

### Weekly Donations

Food Bags	\$35.00
Men's Fellowship	\$20.00
Rental Income	\$1,305.00
Fellowship—NBC Chorus Tickets	\$52.00
Caring Callers	\$25.00
	<b>\$1,437.00</b>

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,020.00</b>
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## NOTES

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

**Monday, May 4**

7:00 p.m. Prayer Workshop—Chapel

**Tuesday, May 5**

6:00 p.m. NA Meeting

**Wednesday, May 6**

10:30 a.m. Caring Callers—Ministry Central

7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting

**Thursday, May 7**

5:00 p.m. Handbell dinner and cleaning

**Saturday, May 9**

9:00 a.m. Clean-up Day at Church

**Sunday, May 10**

9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. Worship—Mother's Day

11:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\_\_SAVE THE DATE!** May 9th will be clean-up day at the church and manse grounds. 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Rain date will be May 16th.

**\_\_Today is the finale for both Bell Choirs.** The choirs will return in the Fall to begin rehearsals in preparation to participate in Worship. We would like to thank the members of both **Echoes of Joy** and **Joyful Bells** for their commitment to our music program. The members are: Barbara Beggs, Jordonna Bowser, Mary Brooks, Jeff Deitz, Lynn Giering, Cindy Kapp, Jeff Kapp, Kathy Larimer, Bert Louder, Brenda Mazzocchi, Pastor Rebecca Mihm, Pam Reid, Debi Ruffner, Lee Seitz, and Kara Willy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**\_\_Prayer Workshop—May 4th:** If you've ever wanted to learn a different way of praying than your usual approach, this is your chance! On Monday, May 4th, at 7 PM, Deb Owens will be leading a workshop on prayer. She will talk about two types of prayer, and then we will have some shared time learning how to use them. Deb is in a Spiritual Formation class at the seminary. One of the assignments is teaching others about different forms of prayer. This workshop is open to anyone in our congregation who wishes to attend. Please use the sign-up sheet in the ramp room so we can have enough materials on hand for everyone.

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**PRAYER LIST**

Randy Cable  
Shirley McKinley  
Pauline Henry  
Jeff Deitz  
Mary Ann Lees  
Greg Rhoads  
Dave Steward  
Charlie Kurtas  
Tom Goble  
Dorothy Jean Foreman  
Isaac Solida  
All our homebound members

Mary Biser  
Charlotte Hartman  
Ben McKinley  
Anthony Louder  
Pat Hargest  
Alexandra Sharrar  
Mary Kay Arth  
Mason Martin and family  
Rob Summerville  
Cori  
Chuck Reninger  
Kay Caller  
Amy Benhoff  
Ryan Cornicki  
Jerry Deitz  
Don Neiderriter  
Shawn Martin  
John McConnell  
A 4-year-old with kidney cancer  
Nina Faust Joslin  
Alec Booth  
Terry  
Darlene Hargenrader  
Bernice Yockey  
Karen McMillen  
Nancy Mills  
Dudley Fye  
Emily Champion  
Mark Willy  
Syncere Caesar(7 yr. old with leukemia)

**PRAYER LIST (CONTINUED)**

Jenn Yockey  
A young mother and child  
Lynn Hefner  
Archer Kunselman  
Doug Arth  
A family struggling with a difficult situation  
Larry Jamison  
Bill Peterson  
Scott Apel  
James Eaker  
Gigi

**Around the World**

Everyone serving in the US Military  
Gitwe Congregation in Rwanda, our faith partners

**Homebound Member  
of the Week**

Gail Baptist  
42 E. 8th Ave.  
Clarion, Pa. 16214