

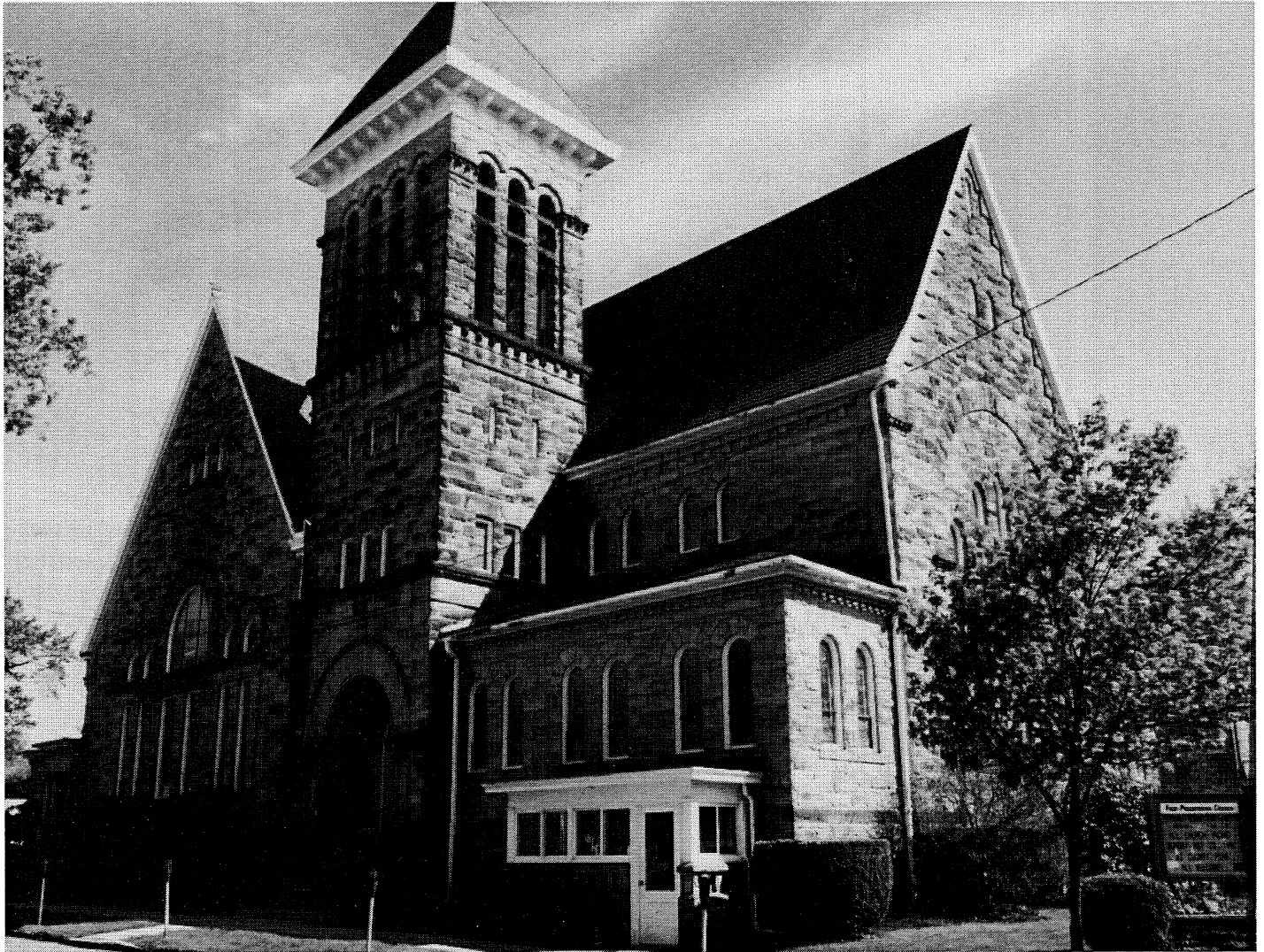
# *First Presbyterian Church*

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*7th Sunday After Pentecost*

*July 27, 2025*



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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)

7th Sunday After Pentecost

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

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

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

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

## Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Bill Champion

### Prelude

*Just Want You*  
(Soloist: Dana Solida)

Matt Bronleewe, Sarah Reeves

### Chiming of the Trinity

### Call to Worship

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; God's glory will dwell in our land.

**Let us hear what God will speak!**

Righteousness and peace will kiss each other; faithfulness will spring up from the ground.

**Let us hear what God will speak!**

God will speak peace to God's people, to those who turn to God in their hearts.

**Let us hear what God will speak!**

### ✦ Hymn No. 267

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

### ✦ Call to Confession

### ✦ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious God, we humbly confess that we have fallen short of who you call us to be. We seek peace and comfort in our lives, ignoring the needs of those around us. We live our lives in ways that bring chaos and calamity to our neighbors. Cleanse us from sin and show us your steadfast love, so that in turning to you, we may seek unity and peace for all creation. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

### ✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the Good News:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

### ✦ Gloria Patri

## We Share God's Word

### Time with the Children

Debra Owens

### Prayer of Illumination

Bill Champion

### First Scripture

Luke 11:1-13

(p. 72)

### Second Scripture

Psalm 138

(p. 577)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Organ Interlude

✦Hymn No. 634

*To God Be the Glory*

We Give Thanks to God

✦Affirmation of Faith

6.114 *The Westminster Confession of Faith*

Prayer with thanksgiving, being one special part of religious worship, is by God required of all; and that it may be accepted, it is to be made in the name of the Son, by the help of his Spirit, according to his will, with understanding, reverence, humility, fervency, faith, love, and perseverance.

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory

*So Good to Me*  
(Soloist: Dana Solida)

J. Smith/P. Welling/Z. Williams

✦Doxology

✦Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✦Hymn No. 363

*Rejoice, the Lord is King!*

✦Charge and Benediction

Postlude

*O Jesus, King Most Wonderful*

Tom Birchwood

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**1<sup>st</sup> Hymn:** “Come, Christians. Join to Sing” from *Glory to God* #267. Text: Christian Henry Bateman, 1843. Music: Spanish folk melody; arr. Benjamin Carr, 1824; harm. David Evans, 1927. Music Harm.: © 1927 *Oxford University Press*. Livestreamed and reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727612, all rights reserved.

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**3<sup>rd</sup> Hymn:** “Rejoice, the Lord is King!” from *Glory to God* #363. Text: Charles Wesley, 1746, alt. Music: John Darwall, 1770; desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 20<sup>th</sup> cent. Music Desc.: © 1985 *Hymns Ancient & Modern* (admin. by *Hope Publishing Company*). Livestreamed with permission under CCLI Streaming Plus License™ A-21963048 and reprinted with permission under Church Copyright License ® A-21963031, all rights reserved.

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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 thru Friday.

**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:** Debra Owens  
**Sexton:** Mike Hetrick  
**Sound Engineer:** Josh Deitz  
**Video Engineer:** Dan Willy

### Ruling Elders:

<u>Class of 2025:</u>	<u>Class of 2026:</u>	<u>Class of 2027:</u>
Jeff Deitz	Norma Kooman	Bill Champion
Jeff Kapp	Dave Larimer	Matt Kurtas
Kurt Nesbitt	Cindy Stants	Kathy Larimer

### Deacons:

<u>Class of 2025:</u>	<u>Class of 2026:</u>	<u>Class of 2027:</u>
Kim Lewis	Robin Cable	Barb Beggs
Lee Seitz	Tamalyn Goble	Stacy Hoffman
Lori Smith	Joey Kunselman	Bert Louder

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Pastor:** Rev. Rebecca Mihm  
**Lector:** Bill Champion  
**Time with Children:** Debra Owens  
**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  
**Ushers in Charge:** Barb and Rick Beggs, Bert Louder

**The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in honor of our 45th wedding anniversary, by Michelle & Jeff Deitz.**

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship

## WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

**The Treasurer is on vacation so the deposit summary is not currently available for this week. When Ann returns, the information will be included in the next edition of the bulletin.**

## NOTES:

## Things for which I'm thankful to God

A -

B -

C -

D -

E -

F -

G -

H -

I -

J -

K -

L -

M -

N -

O -

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Q -

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W -

X -

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Z -

## Ways I can praise God

A -

B -

C -

D -

E -

F -

G -

H -

I -

J -

K -

L -

M -

N -

O -

P -

Q -

R -

S -

T -

U -

V -

W -

X -

Y -

Z -

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

### Monday, July 28

7:00 p.m. Evening Circle

### Tuesday, July 29

6:00 p.m. NA Meeting, Step Down Room

### Wednesday, July 30

8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous, Step Down Room

### Next Sunday, August 3 Communion Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship  
—Communion

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Rummage Sale—August 8th and 9th:** The Fellowship Committee is having a rummage sale on August 8th and 9th. Please look for any clean, used clothes, treasures, and items that you can donate. Anything that is too large to transport yourself, please call Jeff Kapp or Bill Champion. Please do not bring items before July 27th. They can be left in the nursery in the church basement. If you have questions, please call Norma Kooman (814-226-8808) or Bert Louder (814-758-0455).

Many thanks to all who gave their time and talents to the July 14-17 VBS "Road Trip." You are all a blessing ... Pastor Rebecca, Bonnie Champion, Deb Owens, Tammy Slike, Nicole and Keaton Stants, Carol Steward, Jeff Kapp, January Myers, Beth Gore, Tammy Huey, Bailee Slike, Pam Reid, Lori Smith, Robin Cable, Meghan Schmader, and Austin Myers. We are grateful for the families who brought their children each evening and supported our Blessing Box mission project. And thank you Afternoon Circle for your generous donation to the VBS program. As we continue on our journey, always remember: "The Lord God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9b.

The Food Bag/Blessing Box Committee would like to thank the kids (and their families) of this year's Vacation Bible School program for their generous contributions to our Blessing Box. We would also like to thank the members of the local Indivisible We Rise Chapter for their generous contributions as well. We are extraordinarily grateful to both!

Our sincerest sympathies to the family of Bruce McClain, who passed away on July 22, 2025. Lee Seitz is his sister-in-law and her son Michael McClain is his nephew.

## PRAYER LIST

Randy Cable

Margy Port

Shirley McKinley

Pauline Henry

Ruth Ann Minich

Tam Goble

Jeff Deitz

Kathy Larimer

Mary Ann Lees

Greg Rhoads

Pat McConnell

Jim McConnell

Jill Siegel

Dave Steward

Sue Widmer

All our homebound members

Mary Biser

Charlotte Hartman

Ben McKinley

Anthony Louder

Pat Hargest

Alexandra Sharrar

Dr. Shannon Penland

Mary Kay Arth

Mason Martin and family

Rob Summerville

Evie Renwick

Cori

Chuck Reninger

Kay Caller

Dan Clark

Amy Benhoff

Archer Kunselman

Ryan Cornicki

Jerry Deitz

Don Neiderriter

Tom Minich

Rev. Robin Sharp

Kathy Meley

Shawn Martin

Clayton Hayden & family

John McConnell

Ryan Kemmer and family

A 2-year-old with eye cancer

A 4-year-old with kidney

Cancer

Terry Wensel

Kathy Lahr

Scott and Sherry Keefer

Carolyn McFarland's son,  
Mike

Nina Faust Joslin

Mike Hiles

Alec Booth

Greg Nesbitt

Barb Funk

Brian Galbraith

Terry

Denny Hickman

Bereaved: Please remember  
the friends and family of:

Lynn Hepfl

Rick Finotti

Dennis McLaughlin

Ginny Mohney

Bruce McClain

### Around the World

Everyone serving in the US  
Military

Gitwe Congregation in  
Rwanda, our faith partners

### Homebound Member of the Week

Sam Spencer

Edgewood Heights

612 Keck Avenue

New Bethlehem, PA 16242

JULY 27, 2025  
SEVENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

taking<sup>+</sup>  
faith  
home

*Jesus teaches his followers to pray.*

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 11:1-13	Jesus teaches about prayer
Monday	Genesis 18:20-32	Abraham haggles with God
Tuesday	Colossians 2:6-19	Fullness of life in Christ
Wednesday	Exodus 32:7-14	Moses appeals to God
Thursday	James 5:13-20	The prayer of faith
Friday	Matthew 6:5-15	Jesus on prayer
Saturday	Psalms 138	Praise and thanksgiving
Sunday	Luke 12:13-21	Parable of the rich fool

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*He [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." Luke 11:1 (NRSV)*

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Almighty and merciful God, we thank you that you reach out to us in Christ so that we may enjoy a personal relationship with you filled with hope and confidence. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, your care for us goes beyond what we can imagine; we thank you for this food, one of the ways you shower us with your mercy. In Jesus' name, amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May God give you confidence in your life of prayer.

JULY 27, 2025  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
Day by Day

taking<sup>+</sup>  
faith  
home

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Who is a person you know that is easy to talk to? Explain.
- How has prayer had an impact on your life?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 11:1-13.

How can one comfortably and confidently speak to the Almighty? Jesus' followers wanted to learn how to pray. Whether we are a person in the role of leadership in the congregation or one who participates regularly in worship and other activities, many of us feel ill-equipped when asked about our prayer life. It is normal to feel that way. There can be a feeling of vulnerability. When Jesus taught the disciples the Lord's Prayer, he did two important things. First, he prayed often, something that is especially noted in the Gospel of Luke. Second, Jesus gave a simple and short outline for prayer: praise God; pray for God's kingdom to be evident in life; ask for food to stay alive; seek forgiveness; and ask for help to avoid times that test our character as a follower of Jesus. All of this is offered to God as "Father," as an intimate relationship of a child to a parent. Prayer involves a personal and trusted relationship with God. Prayer gives praise and thanksgiving to God and requests for the basics in life, including forgiveness for ourselves and for others.

Discuss: Who taught you to pray the Lord's Prayer and how often do you pray it?

Pray: Heavenly Father, teach us to pray that we may celebrate our trusted relationship with you and care for all that you have made through Jesus Christ, our partner in prayer. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who can you visit and pray with?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Prayer is a practice we need to learn, both as individuals and when in groups. Even Jesus' disciples needed to learn how to pray. Prayer helps us to grow in our relationship with God. What part does prayer play in your daily life? Consider building a daily routine of prayer using the acronym ACTS as a guide. Adoration is praising God, Confession is admitting wrong doings, Thanksgiving is thanking God, and Supplication is asking and making requests known to God. Take a moment now to use this format and write a prayer for today. Read your prayer aloud and finish by saying "Amen," which means "so be it."