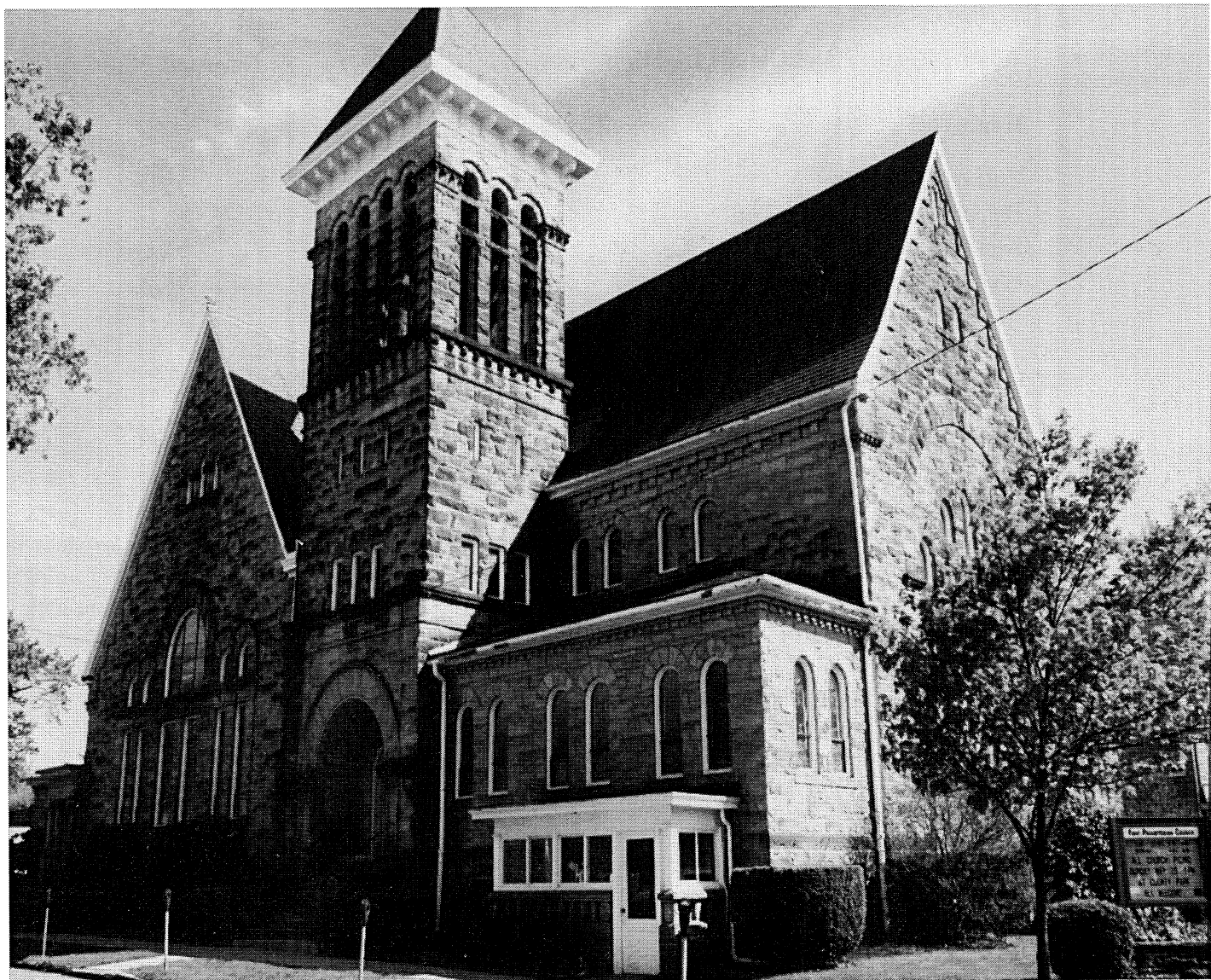


# *First Presbyterian Church*

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*2nd Sunday Of Advent  
December 7, 2025*



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)

## 2nd Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Jeff Kapp

Prelude

*Adagio in G Minor*

Tomaso Albinoni

Chiming of the Trinity

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

Advent Reading and Candle Lighting

David and Marianne Reynolds

Hymn #85

*Light One Candle To Watch For Messiah (v. 2)*

Call to Worship

Prepare the way of the Lord!

**Lift every valley, lift every voice.**

Prepare the way of the Lord!

**And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.**

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

✠ Hymn No. 610

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

✠ Call to Confession

✠ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Great God, as we prepare to behold the birth of Jesus again, we are mindful of how we have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story points us to your glory, yet we struggle to join in the song of praise and thanksgiving. We are distracted and confused, so focused on things of little significance we overlook the good news of great joy that you have prepared. Tell us again that the Savior is born. Tell us again that we are forgiven. Tell us again that our lives can be abundant in faith, hope and love because of what you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

✠ Assurance of Pardon

The angel tells Joseph that the child forming in Mary's womb is to be named Jesus. "Call him Jesus," the angel says, "for he will save the people from their sins." From his birth through his resurrection, from age to age, Jesus is about salvation. This is good news!

Friends, believe the good news.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

✠ Gloria Patri

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

## We Share God's Word

Time with the Children

Rev. Gary Lyon

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture

Isaiah 12: 2-6

(pp. 641-642)

Second Scripture

Luke 14: 16-24

(p. 77)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Share the Story!"

Rev. Gary Lyon

## Organ Interlude

✠Hymn No. 726

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

## We Give Thanks to God

✠Affirmation of Faith (responsive)

We are an Advent people, a people of hope.

**For us, Advent is a time of waiting, and so we wait. We wait for the coming of the One who is the fulfillment of God's promise, the fulfillment of hope, the declaration that we have been redeemed. Even so, we are not a naïve people. We know that the world in which we live will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow. We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist. We know that death and separation will continue to be a part of our lives.**

But because we are an Advent people, we know that none of these things will win in the end.

**The Holy One is coming, to make holy once again all that was, is and ever will be. And in our waiting and our hoping, we work and worship, pray and play, in all things hoping that peace, love and joy will reign in our lives and in our world, now and forever.**

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory

*An Advent Alleluia*

Douglas Wagner

Offertory Prayer

Holy One, this Advent season we wait in hope.

**And we give in hope.**

Hope for your coming reign;

**Hope because of your presence with us even now.**

Receive these generous offerings,

**And use them for your work of healing and hope in our world.**

Amen.

✠Doxology

✠ Prayer of Dedication

COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Words of Institution

Partaking of the Elements

Communion Prayer

**And also with you.**

**We lift them to the Lord.**

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

✠The Lord's Prayer

## We Go Forth to Serve

✠Hymn No. 107

*Awake, Awake, and Greet The New Morn*

✠Charge and Benediction

Postlude

*Trumpet Tune on "Venez divin Messia"*

David Lasky

### 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 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

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

<b>Pastor:</b>	Rev. Gary Lyon
<b>Lector:</b>	Jeff Kapp
<b>Time with Children:</b>	Rev. Gary Lyon
<b>Director of Music:</b>	Bonnie Champion
<b>Organist:</b>	Jean Mitrosky
<b>Sound Engineer:</b>	Josh Deitz/Jeff Kapp
<b>Video Engineer:</b>	Dan Willy/Kurt Nesbitt
<b>Acolytes:</b>	Clara Stants, Jeremy Willy, Andrew Scovel, Nathan Scovel, Sawyer Kunselman, Audrina Champion, Logan Myers
<b>Ushers in Charge:</b>	Tammy Goble, The Stants family

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m.	Worship
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Choir rehearsal
11:30 a.m.	Cantata rehearsal

## WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

11/30/25

### Weekly Contributions

Envelope Contributions	\$5,990.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$5.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$5,995.00</b>

### Weekly Donations

Blessing Box	\$500.00
Christmas Flowers	\$73.00
Food Bags	\$300.00
Men's Fellowship	\$120.00
Covenant Fund	\$100.00
Caring Callers	\$25.00
	<b>\$1,118.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,113.00</b>

## NOTES:

**Monday, December 8**

10:00 a.m. Food Bag Meeting

**Tuesday, December 9**

6:00 p.m. NA Meeting

**Wednesday, December 10**

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting

**Thursday, December 11**

12:00 p.m. Afternoon Circle

2:00 p.m. Food Distribution

4:30 p.m. Echoes of Joy Handbell Practice

5:30 p.m. Joyful Bells Handbell Practice

**Sunday, December 14**

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Choir Practice

11:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:30 a.m. Cantata Rehearsal

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

—The Clarion Community Choir concert is **tonight, Sunday, December 7 at 7:00pm** in the Marwick Boyd Auditorium. Our Echoes of Joy Handbell Choir will also be performing during that concert. Come and support our bell choir and our local musicians.

—Salvation Army Bell Ringing Season is upon us. **December 12, 2025**— Your Mission Committee has a signup sheet in the Ramp Room for any volunteers who are willing to share an hour to raise funds for this honorable cause. Spread some holiday cheer and dress up, or bring an instrument to stir up additional donations! Your Christ-like spirit and creativity are requested and will lead the way for holiday good cheer in our community. Thank you and God Bless.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

—We will be having a Christmas party at our Afternoon Circle meeting on December 11, 2025. We will meet at Perkins at 12:00.

—There will be a brief Congregational meeting today following Worship to approve the Pastor's Terms of Call.—

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**Hymn#85:** "Light One Candle to Watch For Messiah" Contributors: Wayne L. Wold. Tune: Setting© 1984 Augsburg Fortress. Text: © 1984 Augsburg Fortress. Livestreamed with permission under ONELICENSE #A-85955, all rights reserved.

**Hymn#726:** "Will you Come and Follow Me." Contributors: Text: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1987. Music: Scottish melody. Arr. By John L. Bell, 1987. Text and music arr.(c) 1987 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) Livestreamed with permission under ONELICENSE#A-87129. All rights reserved.

**Offertory:** "An Advent Alleluia" Contributors: Douglas E. Wagner (a) 1994 Hope Publishing Company. Text: 1994 Hope Publishing Co. Livestreamed with Permission under ONELICENSE #A-70476. All rights reserved.

**Hymn#107:** "Awake, Awake, And Greet The New Morn." Text: Marty Haugen, 1983 alt. Music: Marty Haugen, 1983. Text and Music© 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. Livestreamed with permission under ONELICENSE #A-09936. All rights reserved.

**Postlude:** Trumpet Tune on "Venezdixin Messia." Contributors: David Lasky. Livestreamed with permission under ONELICENSE #A-208167. All rights reserved.

## PRAYER LIST

Randy Cable  
Shirley McKinley  
Pauline Henry  
Jeff Deitz  
Mary Ann Lees  
Greg Rhoads  
Dave Steward  
Sue Widmer  
Jim McConnell  
Charlie Kurtas  
Lucy Kurtas  
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  
Dan Clark  
Amy Benhoff  
Archer Kunselman  
Ryan Cornicki  
Jerry Deitz  
Don Neiderriter  
Shawn Martin  
John McConnell  
A 4-year-old with kidney cancer  
Terry Wensel  
Kathy Lahr  
Nina Faust Joslin  
Alec Booth  
Greg Nesbitt  
Terry  
Elise Burns Pasles  
Darlene Hargenrader  
Sara Riggins

## PRAYER LIST (CONTINUED)

Sherrie Kapp  
Bernice Yockey  
Bill Burnworth  
Steve Payne  
Kara's friend  
Karen McMillen  
Nancy Mills  
Dudley Fye  
Susan Joy's neighbor  
Emily Champion  
Zack  
Mark Willy  
Marsha Siple  
Denise

**Bereaved:** Please remember the friends and families of:

Denny Hickman

### **Around the World**

Everyone serving in the US Military

Gitwe Congregation in Rwanda, our faith partners

### **Homebound Member of the Week**

Ellen Fulton  
Clarion Health Care & Rehab  
999 Heidrick St. Rm 205  
Clarion, Pa. 16214