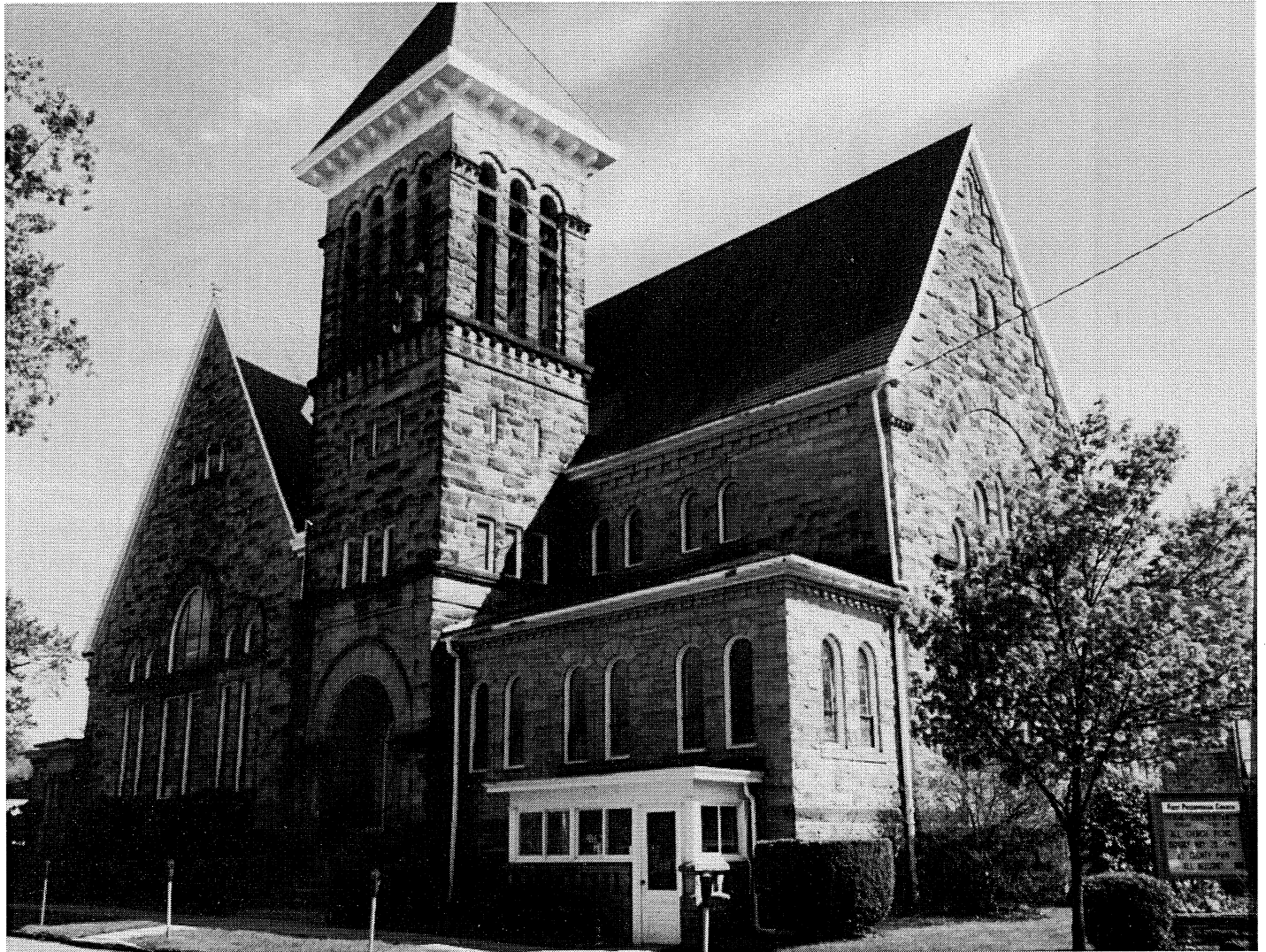


# *First Presbyterian Church*

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*Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost*  
*October 13, 2024*



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)

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

## Welcome and Announcements

Lector, David Larimer

## Prelude

*Delight in the Lord*

Ben Logan

## Chiming of the Trinity

## Introit

*Our Hope, Our Life*

Martin E. Leckebusch

## Call to Worship

We gather before God together, imperfect but present.

**Let us worship God together earnestly, with our whole selves.**

We gather before God together, desiring deeper faith.

**Let us learn from God together as we seek harmony between our words and our actions.**

## ✠ Hymn No. 726

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

## ✠ Call to Confession

God has called us to follow him faithfully. God's path is filled with life, joy, peace, and love. But we falter from allegiance. So, let us seek to renew our intentions of following the God of light and love, grace and peace.

## ✠ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

O Lord, you are the maker of justice and the source of righteousness, the one who hears the cries of the suffering and who fills the hunger of the poor. Forgive us, O God, when we fail to reflect your just love: when we have food and food leftover, yet we do not share with any in need; when we have power for good and power for change, yet we use it only for our own satisfaction; when we have the words of the prophets before us, yet we cover our ears lest they make us uncomfortable. Forgive us, O Lord, and teach us to follow in your way. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## ✠ Declaration of Forgiveness

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

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

Debra Owens

## Prayer of Illumination

David Larimer

## First Scripture

Psalm 22:1-15

(p. 500)

## Second Scripture

Mark 10:17-31

(p. 46)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

"Getting Stuck"

Rev. Rebecca Mihm

## Organ Interlude

✦ Hymn No. 697

*Take My Life*

# We Give Thanks to God

## Call for the Offering

## Offering and Offertory

*Praise the Lord, Our God, Forever*

Wofgang A. Mozart,  
arr. Walter Ehret

## ✦ Doxology

## ✦ Prayer of Dedication

## Reaffirmation of Baptismal Covenant—Carol Steward

*The Apostles 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 on 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.

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

# We Go Forth to Serve

✦ Hymn No. 724

*O Jesus, I Have Promised*

## ✦ Charge and Benediction

## Postlude

*Fantasia on WEBB*

George J. Webb, arr. Franklin Ritter

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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 2024:</u>	<u>Class of 2025:</u>	<u>Class of 2026:</u>
Kathy Larimer	Jeff Deitz	Norma Kooman
Elaine Matticks	Jeff Kapp	Dave Larimer
Pam Reid	Kurt Nesbitt	Cindy Stants

### Deacons:

<u>Class of 2024:</u>	<u>Class of 2025:</u>	<u>Class of 2026:</u>
Bonnie Champion	Kim Lewis	Robin Cable
Marianne Reynolds	Lee Seitz	Tamalyn Goble
Mary Swanger	Lori Smith	Joey Kunselman

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Pastor:** Rev. Rebecca Mihm  
**Lector:** David Larimer  
**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  
**Ushers in Charge:** Bill Champion, Stu & Stacy Hoffman

**The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in memory of our grandparents: Orville & Genevieve Gesin, Sam & Ann Cherico, Henry & Mary Alice Burns, and Robert & Catherine Angehr, by Scott and Angelia Burns.**

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m.	Worship
11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School, Children and Adults

## WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

10/6/2024

### Weekly Contributions

Envelope Contributions	\$7,908.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	<u>\$416.00</u>
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$8,324.00</b>

### Weekly Donations

Food Bags	\$225.00
Men's Fellowship	\$70.00
Peace Making	\$20.00
Caring Callers	<u>\$25.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$340.00</b>

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,664.00</b>
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## NOTES:

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

### Monday, October 14

6:00 p.m. Mission Team, Ministry Central  
7:00 p.m. Worship Team, Chapel

### Tuesday, October 15

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

### Wednesday, October 16

6:00 p.m. CE Team, Ministry Central  
8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous, Step Down Room

### Thursday, October 17

10:00 a.m. Morning Circle, Marilyn's home  
12:00 p.m. Afternoon Circle, Chapel  
5:00 p.m. Echoes Bell Rehearsal  
6:00 p.m. Joyful Bells Rehearsal

### Saturday, October 19

8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship Breakfast

### Next Sunday, October 20

10:00 a.m. Worship  
11:00 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The 2024 Per Capita Apportionment** for the Clarion First Presbyterian Church is \$37.40 per individual active member. This funds our work as a connectional church at the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly levels. An envelope has been included in the 2024 envelope packets for the annual cost for each church member. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and write Per Capita in the memo line.

**We will release the November/December 2024 edition of First Press (our newsletter) later this month.** If your ministry or group has news or happenings during November and December, please provide that information to the Church Office no later than October 18th. If you have questions or need help, call the office at (814) 226-8145.

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Saturday, October 19th:** We meet at 8:00 am in the social hall, and enjoy breakfast and fellowship, followed by a guest speaker. All men are welcome. Please contact Bill Champion with any questions or to let him know you plan to attend, 814-764-3886.

**A Congregational Meeting** will be held following the worship service on Sunday, October 27, 2024 for the purpose of electing new officers of the church.

**Reformation Sunday is coming October 27th.** It is the time when we celebrate the tradition that grounds our faith, the occasion in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. We will be processing the banners that represent the confessions of PC (USA).

**Mission's Coat Project continues.** The coat rack is on the walkway between the Ramp Room and the CE Building.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Coats hung on the rack are for anyone who needs a coat. If you need a coat, please take one. If you have a coat or two that are new or still in great shape, hang them on the rack so someone else may be blessed with their warmth. New or gently-used tennis shoes or boots are also needed.

## PRAYER LIST

Randy Cable  
Marge Port  
Don McCord  
Shirley McKinley  
Pauline Henry  
Ruth Ann Minich  
Kathy Larimer  
All our homebound members

Kay Caller  
Bertie Gibson  
Dan Clark  
Amy Benhoff  
Archer Kunselman  
Lori Beth  
Ryan Cornicki  
Peggy Seigworth

Mary Biser  
Charlotte Hartman  
Kenneth Daugherty, Jr.  
Ben McKinley

Greg Rhoads  
Elizabeth  
Sherry Proctor

Laurie Dickey  
Anthony Louder  
Pat Hargest  
Alice Davis  
Alexandra Sharrar  
Dr. Shannon Penland  
Mary Kay Arth  
Tracey & Jody Hall  
Mason Martin and family  
Angelo Gehenio

### Bereaved

Please remember the friends  
and family of:  
Brigette Mattson

### Around the World

Everyone serving in the US  
Military

Joe Amato  
Tom Minich  
Rob Summerville  
Evie Renwick  
Cori

Gitwe Congregation in  
Rwanda, our faith partners

### Homebound Member of the Week

Cecilia "Bunny" Rhea  
Highland Oaks at  
Water Run, Rm 110  
300 Water Run Road  
Clarion, PA 16214

Ellen DiBernardo  
Sam DiBernardo  
Chuck Reninger  
Sara Bennefield  
Edd Myers  
Grace Carroll  
Mike Hiles

OCTOBER 13, 2024

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY

AFTER PENTECOST

taking<sup>†</sup>  
faith  
home

*Following Jesus trusts the goodness of God.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 10:17-31	A rich man goes away sad
Monday	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15	Seek good and not evil
Tuesday	Hebrews 4:12-16	Jesus is the great high priest
Wednesday	Matthew 6:24-34	Do not worry
Thursday	Ecclesiastes 3:1-8	Everything has its time
Friday	Proverbs 3:1-6	Trust and honor God
Saturday	Psalms 90:12-17	Teach us wisdom
Sunday	Mark 10:35-45	The Son of Man came to save

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Jesus looked at them [his disciples] and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." Mark 10:27 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Wise and compassionate God, may we see in Jesus the way of life that trusts your goodness and serves others with compassion and generosity. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, may the gift of this food and the kingdom you bring us in Jesus, give us wise hearts and the strength to care for others. Amen. (Psalm 90:12, 17)

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the love of Christ free you to love others.



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OCTOBER 13, 2024

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*O Master, Let Me  
Walk with You*

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:

- Could you easily give away all your possessions? Why or why not?
- Does knowing that for God all things are possible make life easy or difficult? Explain.

### DEVOTIONS

*Read: Mark 10:17-31.*

This passage can make our heads spin with good news, then bad, and then good again. Jesus is addressed as a "good teacher" (v. 17) by a rich man. But that leads to Jesus telling him, "No one is good but God alone" (v. 18). Jesus then lists the commandments as how to live, and the rich man says he has kept them all. But then Jesus asks for more of the rich man: sell all his possessions and give the money to the poor, then follow Jesus. Jesus says that it is hard for the wealthy to enter the kingdom of God. In fact, it is hard for anyone! When all hope seems to be lost, Jesus says, "for God all things are possible" (v. 27). In frustration Peter points out how the disciples have already given up so much. Jesus counters that the losses will be made up with huge benefits of dwellings and families, yet persecutions will remain. Standards for achievement and the good life are all challenged because "many who are first will be last, and the last will be first" (v. 31). Following Jesus is a letting go of our own standards to trust in God. *Discuss:* What have you had to let go of to follow Jesus?

*Pray: Almighty God, help us to let go of any contentment with ourselves to be open to the work of your kingdom for the sake of humility and love in Jesus' name. Amen.*

### SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what possessions can you donate for others to use?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Hebrews 4:12 says that the word of God is "living and active." Gather various translations of the Bible or find them online. Biblegateway.com is a good online resource. During devotion time, choose one of the *Daily Bible Readings* and look them up in different Bible translations. Make notes of what is similar and what is different. (The CEV, ICB, and NIV are good translations when reading with children and youth.) Then think or talk about how the scripture is living and active in your life. Place a Bible in a visible place in your home as a reminder of the central place of God's word in your life.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonestonesministry.org)