

First Presbyterian Church



*4th Sunday Of Advent
December 21, 2025*



700 Wood Street, Clarion, PA 16214

814-226-8145

churchoffice@clarionfirstpresby.org

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)

4th Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Jeff Kapp

Prelude

Es ist ei Ros (Lo How a Rose Ere Blooming)

Chiming of the Trinity

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

Advent Reading and Candle Lighting

Robin Cable and Marilyn Fox

Hymn #85

Light One Candle To Watch For Messiah (v. 4)

Call to Worship

We stand on the cusp:

the promise is almost fulfilled.

We wait with bated breath:

the child is almost here.

We trust the well-loved story:

God is truly with us.

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

✦ Hymn No. 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

✦ Call to Confession

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

✦ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Shepherd of our souls, we anticipate your coming but do not feel ready. We have done too much of the wrong things, and not enough of the right. We have focused too much on ourselves, and not enough on others. Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we might be saved. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

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

Prayer of Illumination

Choir Cantata

THERE IS A BETHLEHEM

Created by Dave Clark and Tony Wood

Come to Bethlehem Medley

Come, Emmanuel Medley

Almost Bethlehem

That's Where Faith Begins

I Can't See God (But I Know He's There)

His Name Is Jesus Medley **Soloist**—Kara Willy

He Drew Closer **Duet**—Jeff and Cindy Kapp

Finale Medley **Soloist**—Debra Owens

Mary: Nicole Stants

Joseph: Keaton Stants

Narrator: John Joy

We Give Thanks to God

✦Affirmation of Faith

9.19 The Confession of 1967

Out of Israel God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God’s promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory Mary Did You Know? Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene

✦Doxology

✦ Prayer of Dedication

✦Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✦Hymn No. 106 Prepare the Way, O Zion

✦Charge and Benediction

Postlude People Look East James Mansfield

Cantata Members:

<u>Soprano</u>	<u>Alto</u>	<u>Tenor</u>	<u>Bass</u>
Judith Gardner	Barbara Beggs	Bill Champion	Glenn Beichner
Norma Kooman	Michelle Deitz	Jeff Deitz	Jeff Kapp
Bert Louder	Sally Hall	Lynn Giering	Dave Reynolds
Dana Solida	Catie Hall	Cindy Kapp	
Kara Willy	Kathy Larimer	Mary Swanger	
	Elaine Matticks		
	Jean Mitrosky		
	Debra Owens		

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.

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 or a phone app is available at 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 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: Jeff Kapp
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: Joey, Ashley and Gavin Kunselman

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

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

WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY 12/14/25

Weekly Contributions	
Envelope Contributions	\$7,875.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$563.00
Total Contributions	\$8,438.00

Weekly Donations	
Christmas Joy Offering	\$10.00
Christmas Flowers	\$27.00
Food Bags	\$300.00
Men's Fellowship	\$20.00
Pastor Discretionary Fund	\$25.00
	\$382.00

Total	\$8,820.00
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NOTES:

PRAYER LIST

Randy Cable
Shirley McKinley
Pauline Henry
Jeff Deitz
Mary Ann Lees
Greg Rhoads
Dave Steward
Sue Widmer
Jim McConnell
Charlie 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
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
Terry
Elise Burns Pasles
Darlene Hargenrader
Sara Riggins
Sherrie Kapp
Bernice Yockey
Bill Burnworth

PRAYER LIST (CONTINUED)

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

Sam Spencer
Edgewood Hgts.
612 Keck Ave.
New Bethlehem, Pa. 16242

Tuesday, December 23

6:00 p.m. NA Meeting

Wednesday, December 24

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Thursday, December 25

Merry Christmas To All!

Sunday, December 28

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Choir Practice

11:00 a.m. Sunday School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

—I will be working on the Jan/Feb/Mar newsletter come the first of the year. If you would like anything included in this, please get the information to me by the **5th of January**. Thank you! Cindy

—The yearly offering envelopes are located in the Ramp Room. Please be sure to get yours on your way in or out of the Sanctuary.

—There will be a brief congregational meeting on **Sunday December 28, 2025** during the service, for the purpose of electing an elder to serve a term beginning in January 2026.

—De-Hanging of the Greens will be on January 4, 2026 after Sunday School and Choir Rehearsal. Pizza will be provided.

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