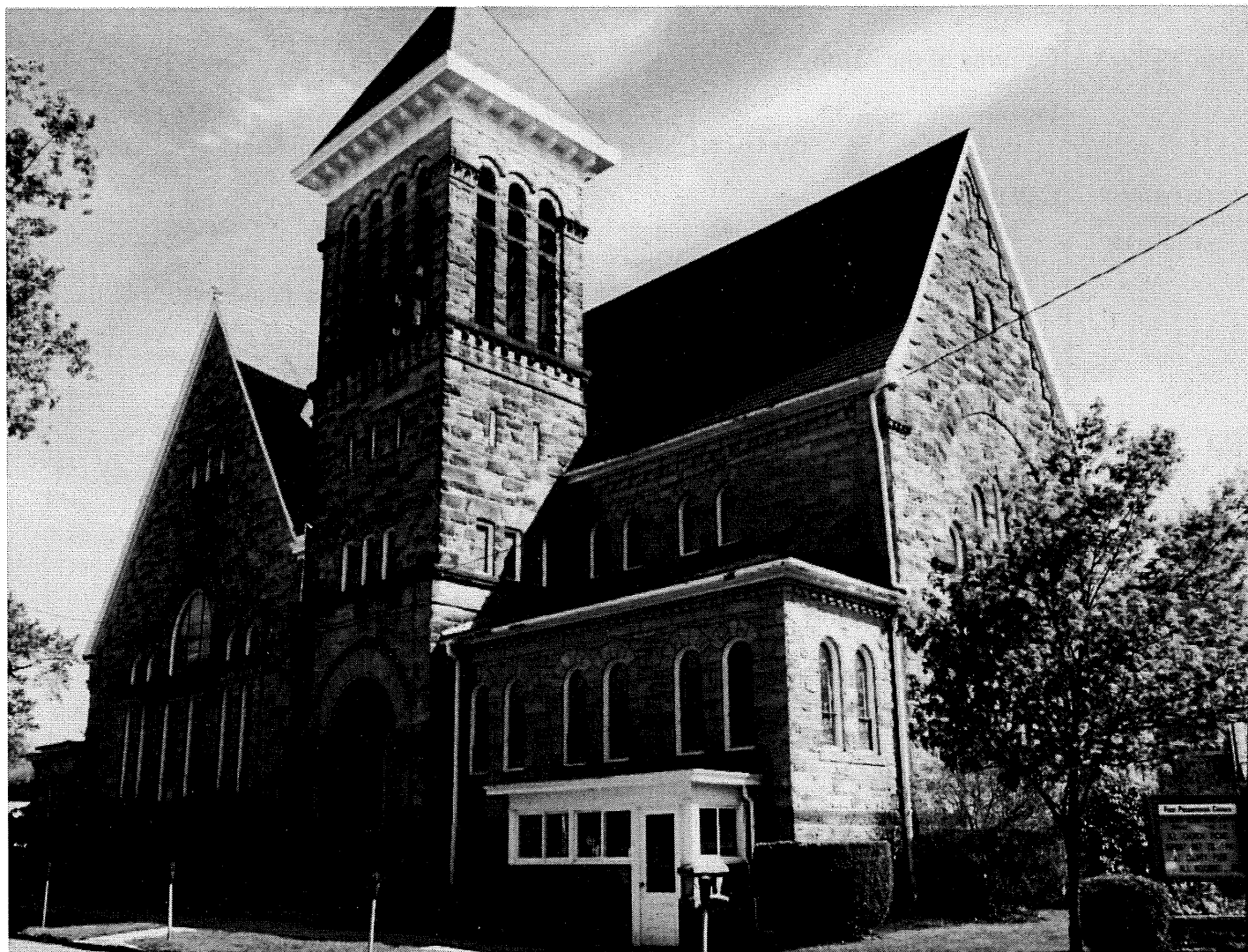


# *First Presbyterian Church*

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*3rd Sunday After Pentecost  
June 29, 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)

3rd Sunday After Pentecost

## Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Jeff Kapp

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

### Prelude

*God Is Here!*

Fred Pratt Green, Cyril Vincent Taylor  
(with improvisations by Jean Mitrosky)

### Chiming of the Trinity

### Introit

*Guard Me, O Lord*

Katie Farrell, Arr. Munch

(Special K Quartet: Jan & John Kerr, Cindy & Jeff Kapp)

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

### Call to Worship

In the calm waters of the ponds and the bouncing waters of the rivers,  
**you make a path, O God of wonders.**

In the playful waters of the streams that shape every rock and the furious waters of the whirlwinds coming down,

**you make a path, O God of wonders.**

We come to praise God, knowing that in the quiet and in the chaos of our lives,

**you will make a path.**

Let us worship God!

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

### ✦ Hymn No. 366

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

### ✦ Call to Confession

### ✦ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of mercy, we confess that we too often are given in to the yearnings of the flesh. We have impure thoughts. We idolize those who misuse power. We harbor jealousies and are quick to anger. We neglect to care for others and gratify our own desires. Forgive us, O God, and cleanse us of our sin. Lead us to ways of love, joy, and peace. Send your Spirit to engender patience, kindness, and generosity, and lead us to be gentle in our care for all of your people. 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

### Time with the Children

Debra Owens

### Prayer of Illumination

Jeff Kapp

### First Scripture

Psalm 16

(p. 495)

### Second Scripture

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

(p. 190)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Organ Interlude

✦Hymn No. 688

*Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*

We Give Thanks to God

✦Affirmation of Faith

5.120 *The Second Helvetic Confession*

The works which we do by faith are pleasing to God and are approved by him. Because of faith in Christ, those who do good works which, moreover, are done from God’s grace through the Holy Spirit are pleasing to God. For St. Peter said: “In every nation any one who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.” And Paul said: “We have not ceased to pray for you... that you may walk worthily of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work.”

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory

*Turn Your Radio On*      *Albert E. Brumley, Arr. Larry Wright*

(Special K Quartet: Jan & John Kerr, Cindy & Jeff Kapp)

✦Doxology

✦Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✦Hymn No. 738

*O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

✦Charge and Benediction

Postlude

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*      Peter C. Lutkin

(Special K Quartet: Jan & John Kerr, Cindy & Jeff Kapp)

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**Introit:** “Guard Me, O Lord,” Katie Farrell, Arr. Munch. Livestreamed with permission of Munch, 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:** Jeff Kapp  
**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:** Kim Lewis, Lee Seitz, Jeff Deitz

The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in memory of Melma McMaster, by Pauline Henry.

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship

## WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

6/15 AND 6/22/2025

### Weekly Contributions—6/15/2025

Envelope Contributions	\$2,630.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$101.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$2,731.00</b>

### Weekly Donations

Food Bags	\$235.00
Vacation Bible School Donation	\$150.00
Blessing Box	\$15.00
Rental Income Headstart	\$1,245.00
Tee Shirt	\$10.00
Caring Callers	\$125.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,780.00</b>

**Total** \$4,511.00

### Weekly Contributions—6/22/2025

Envelope Contributions	\$1,175.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$81.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$1,256.00</b>

### Weekly Donations

Men's Fellowship	\$40.00
Vacation Bible School Donation	\$25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$65.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,321.00</b>

## NOTES:

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

### Monday, June 30

1:00 p.m. Newsletter Folding, Ministry Central  
7:00 p.m. Evening Circle,

### Tuesday, July 1

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

### Wednesday, July 2

4:30 p.m. Food Bag Meeting  
8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous, Step Down Room

### Friday, July 4 Independence Day

Church Building and Church Office Closed

### Next Sunday, July 6

10:00 a.m. Worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Newsletter Help Needed!** We will be preparing the newsletters for mailing on Monday, June 30th, at 1:00 p.m. in Ministry Central. No special skills required. Just show up and we'll put you to work!

**The Date Has Changed!! Vacation Bible School will be held on Monday, July 14 - Thursday, July 17; 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** The theme is **On The Road With Jesus**. The time will be filled with Bible lessons, crafts, and games aimed at learning: "The Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9. The program will culminate with participants singing during worship on Sunday, July 20. The First Presby Christian Education team is busy planning and creating and cannot wait to work with the children this summer!

**The New Wilmington Mission Conference** is among the longest-standing mission conferences in the USA, and it's right in our backyard along I-80. This year's conference will be held from **July 18 - 23 at Westminster College**, and will feature national and international speakers of faith. Our mission committee would love members of the congregation to attend and grow in faith: to make it easier for you or your whole family to attend, the committee will hear requests for scholarships to reimburse mileage, lodging, or meals. You may attend for a day trip, or the whole conference, depending on your needs. Conference details are online : <https://www.nwcmmission.org/>. To discuss reimbursement/scholarship opportunities (all ages), email the church office: [churchoffice@clarionfirstpresby.org](mailto:churchoffice@clarionfirstpresby.org) to meet with a representative from the Mission Committee.

**Camp Lambec** began as a joint venture among six Presbyteries, including our own, and offers amazing faith-based summer camp opportunities from June through August. Recent updates to facilities at the Camp have revitalized the camp experience. Our mission committee is hearing scholarship/reimbursement requests for local children or grandchildren of our congregation to attend any of the following 2025 camps: "Wet and Wild, grades 3-6"; "Wetter-N-Wilder, grades 7-12"; "Family Camps, all ages";

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

and "Music Camp, grades 4-college". Information is available at <https://campplambec.com/>. To discuss reimbursement/scholarship opportunities (all ages), please reach out to the church office via email: [churchoffice@clarionfirstpresby.org](mailto:churchoffice@clarionfirstpresby.org) to meet with a representative from the Mission Committee.

## 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  
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 Neideritter  
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  
Bruce McClain  
Nina Faust Joslin  
Mike Hiles  
Alec Booth  
Greg Nesbitt

Bereaved: Please remember  
the friends and family of:  
Stella Zubik  
Shirley Cyphert  
Andy Monnat

### Around the World

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

### Homebound Member of the Week

Ellen Fulton  
Clarion Healthcare & Rehab  
999 Heidrick Street, Rm 205  
Clarion, PA 16214  
Ellen's Birthday is July 7th.

JUNE 29, 2025  
THIRD SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

*Jesus expects his followers to be all in.*

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 9:51-62	The cost of following Jesus
Monday	1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21	Elijah meets God at Horeb
Tuesday	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Fruit of the Spirit
Wednesday	Leviticus 19:1-18	Living a holy life
Thursday	Matthew 5:43-48	Love for enemies
Friday	2 Timothy 1:3-7	Thanksgiving and encouragement
Saturday	Psalms 16	Song of trust and security in God
Sunday	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20	Jesus sends out the seventy

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Jesus said to him [someone wanting to follow Jesus], "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."*  
Luke 9:62 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Ever-present God, help us to see the world as you see it so that all our thoughts, words, and actions reflect your justice and mercy through Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, for life and health and every good we give you thanks, O Lord. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May God's Spirit guide you.



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JUNE 29, 2025  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
*Spirit, Open My Heart*

taking 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:

- Would you describe your life as easy or difficult? Explain.
- Is following Jesus easy or hard? Explain.

DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Luke 9:51-62.

Jesus leaves Galilee and begins his travels to Jerusalem. It is a pivotal move, one that will lead to his rejection and death by the religious leaders there. That critical move also intensifies what it means to be a follower of Jesus. There is no looking back. There are no excuses to attend to other activities first, including those that seem to be responsible and caring. Jesus expects his followers to be all in. In this reading, this is not the Jesus who reminds us of the power of God's forgiveness and grace. He is setting a very high bar, one that clashes with typical social behavior. Jesus expects a very different way of life for his disciples. It's not Jesus and other obligations working together with equal value. It is Jesus alone. Everything in life is to be understood through the life he teaches. His mission on behalf of the kingdom of God challenges everything we typically value. Since it is the good news of the kingdom of God that Jesus brings, then being a follower is worthy of our total attention.

*Discuss:* How does knowing that Jesus expects his followers to be all in, challenge the way you live?

*Pray:* Almighty God, through your kingdom our lives are changed forever; make our desires your desires and our priorities your priorities through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you follow in Jesus' footsteps to help someone in need?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Galatians 5:22-23 lists the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Make a fruit salad. Buy a selection of different fruit and peel and slice them up. As you enjoy eating the salad, think or talk about who you know that has shown the fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians through their actions and words. Write a prayer thanking God for the fruit of the Spirit you have seen revealed in those people. For example, "Thank you for [name] who has shown the fruit of love in you when ..." or "Thank you for [name] who I saw being patient when ..."



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