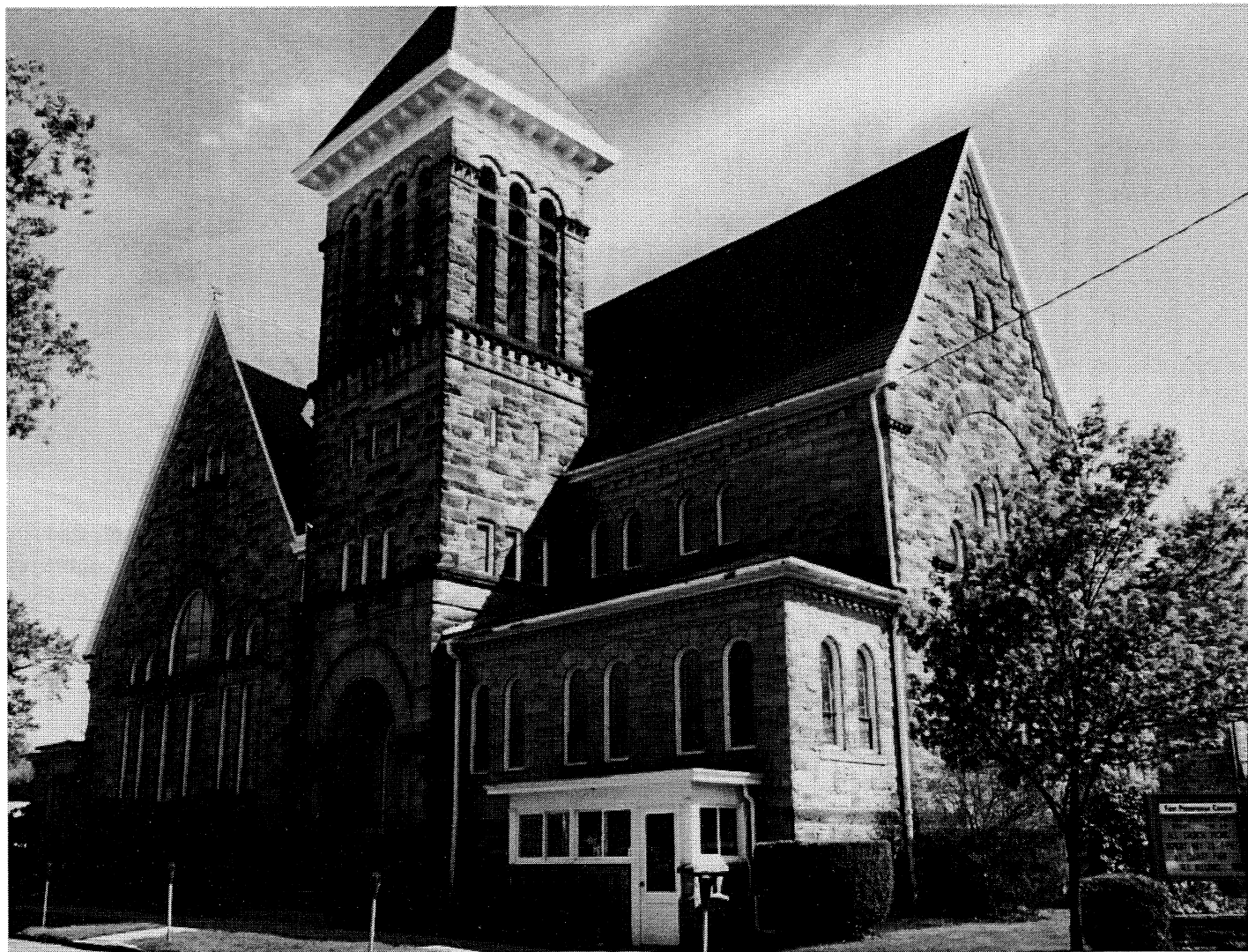


# *First Presbyterian Church*

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*11th Sunday After Pentecost  
August 24, 2025*



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**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)

11th Sunday After Pentecost

## Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Jeff Deitz

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

### Prelude

*God, We Praise You*  
(Saxophonist—Brian Ahn)

Nettleton

### Chiming of the Trinity

### Introit

*You Are Near*  
(Saxophonist—Brian Ahn)

Dan Schutte

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

### Call to Worship

O Consuming Fire, you spark awe and joy  
**with the work of your hands and the power of your deeds.**  
You give us an unshakable kingdom in this ever-shaking world.  
**So we give you thanks and worship you with reverence and awe.**  
Let us worship God!

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

### ✦ Hymn No. 744

*Arise, Your Light is Come!*

### ✦ Call to Confession

### ✦ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

O God of mercy, we confess that we live self-centered lives. We tolerate injustice and cruelty, complacent in our corner of the world. We neglect the needs of others. In your righteousness, deliver us and rescue us. Turn us to your way and lead us in your light, that we might serve you and care for all of creation. 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 Deitz

### First Scripture

Luke 13:10-17

(p. 76)

### Second Scripture

Jeremiah 1:4-10

(p. 698)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

"A Calling"

Rev. Rebecca Mihm

### Organ Interlude

## We Give Thanks to God

### ✠ Affirmation of Faith

5.117 *The Second Helvetic Confession*

The apostle Paul says: “Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called.” Also: “And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and to the Father through him,” and “Let each of you look not to one’s own interests, but to the interests of others,” and “Let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.”

### Call for the Offering

### Offering and Offertory

*How Great Thou Art/What a Wonderful World*

(Saxophonist—Brian Ahn)

Stuart K. Hine,

George Davis Weiss, Bob Thiele

### ✠ Doxology

### ✠ Prayer of Dedication

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

#### 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.

## We Go Forth to Serve

### ✠ Hymn No. 721

*Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

### ✠ Charge and Benediction

### Postlude

*City of God*  
(Saxophonist—Brian Ahn)

Dan Schutte

#### 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.

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**Introit:** “You are Near” Text: Dan Schutte. Text and Music: ©1971, 1974, 1979, 2003 *OCP*. All rights reserved. Livestreamed with permission under One License #A-727612, all rights reserved.

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## 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 Deitz  
**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:** Robin Cable, Meaghan, Josh, Kennedy and Olivia Schmader

The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in honor of Debra Owens. By Pauline Henry.

The rosebud on the piano is to congratulate John and Hillary Deitz on the birth of their daughter, Lorelei. She joins big sister Olivia. Michelle and Jeff Deitz are the proud grandparents

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship

## WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

8/17/2025

### Weekly Contributions

Envelope Contributions	\$1317.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$198.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$1515.00</b>

### Weekly Donations

Food Bags	\$125.00
Caring Callers	\$25.00
Funeral Dinners	\$100.00
Donation from estate of Don McCord	\$500.00
Men's Fellowship	\$20.00
Mission/School Supplies	\$30.00
Rummage Sale	\$5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$805.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,320.00</b>

## NOTES:

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

### Monday, August 25

7:00 p.m. Evening Circle

### Tuesday, August 26

8:00 p.m. NA Meeting

### Wednesday, August 27

6:30 p.m. Fellowship

7:00 p.m. Session

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting

### Sunday, August 31

10:00 a.m. Worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have put a name on the prayer list that no longer needs to be on that list, please inform the office.

The Fellowship Team would like to thank all who donated items to our rummage sale. We would like to specifically thank Bill and Bonnie Champion and John Joy. Thanks to John also for his extra effort. We would like to specifically thank all those who spent all last week with us in setting up and pricing the items as well as helping with the sales on Friday and Saturday: Joyce Alberta, Doug Bills, Audrina Champion and Dyan Siwiecki. We are truly grateful to God for all. Members of The Fellowship Team: Kurt Nesbitt, Chair-Rebecca Mihm, Norma Kooman, Jeff Kapp and Bert Louder.

The Mission Team is collecting school supplies to distribute to area students. If you'd like to help, there will be a collection basket in the ramp room through August 24th. If you'd like to contribute financially, make your check payable to Clarion First Presbyterian Church with "school supplies" in the memo line. We are grateful to the kind people at Designing Minds in Clarion for their donation of supplies to get the project off the ground.

The Mission Committee will distribute school supplies on Wed. Aug. 27th from 4:00-6:00 pm outside the Church Social Hall.

Our deepest sympathies to the family of Jennifer Eaker, who recently passed away. Bonnie Champion is her aunt.

## PRAYER LIST

Randy Cable	Greg Nesbitt
Margy Port	Barb Funk
Shirley McKinley	Brian Galbraith
Pauline Henry	Terry
Ruth Ann Minich	Denny Hickman
Jeff Deitz	Elise Burns Pasles
Mary Ann Lees	Darlene
Greg Rhoads	Dan Stitt
Pat McConnell	Sara Riggins
Jill Siegel	Ralph Williams
Dave Steward	Jaden Siewicki
Sue Widmer	Jesse Siewicki
Josh Deitz	Logan Lutz
All our homebound members	Lindsay Schmader

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  
A 2-year-old with eye cancer  
A 4-year-old with kidney  
Cancer  
Terry Wensel  
Kathy Lahr  
Carolyn McFarland's son,  
Mike  
Nina Faust Joslin  
Mike Hiles  
Alec Booth

Bereaved: Please remember the friends and family of:

Bruce McClain  
Marsha Spencer  
Charles Cauvel  
Jennifer Eaker  
Dan Stitt

### Around the World

Everyone serving in the US Military

Gitwe Congregation in Rwanda, our faith partners

### Homebound Member of the Week

Kay Fye  
Purple Iris Personal Care  
103 North 13th St. Rm. 2  
Franklin, Pa. 16323  
(Tamalyn Gobel's mother)

AUGUST 24, 2025  
ELEVENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

taking+  
faith  
home

Jesus heals on the Sabbath.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 13:10-17	Jesus heals on the Sabbath
Monday	Isaiah 58:9b-14	Delight in the Sabbath
Tuesday	Hebrews 12:18-29	Kingdom that can't be shaken
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 5:12-15	Remember you were slaves
Thursday	Mark 2:23-28	A question about the sabbath
Friday	Exodus 20:8-11	Remember the sabbath day
Saturday	Psalms 103:1-8	Praise for God's benefits
Sunday	Luke 14:1, 7-14	Humility and hospitality

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the LORD. " Isaiah 58:13-14a (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Loving God, you give us the sabbath for rest that renews our lives; may we delight in the life you intend for us through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

For life and health and daily food we give you thanks, O Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with steadfast love and mercy. (Psalm 103:4)



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AUGUST 24, 2025  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
O Christ, the Healer,  
We Have Come

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:

- Do you feel it is important to follow rules? Explain.
- How does God free you to do what is good and just and loving?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 13:10-17.

People responsible for leading communities can hide behind rules, traditions, or precedents that can keep them from doing the right thing. Jesus steps out and does the right thing at the right time. The sabbath is meant to free those enslaved and Jesus understands that. The woman was set free. The leader in the synagogue wanted to free the woman on another day, but obviously, it had not happened over the last 18 years. For the crippled and bent-over woman, her physical limitation not only brought her pain but likely isolation. Her restricted mobility limited her connectedness to others. For us, it could be some addiction, ailment, pained relationship, or a sense of powerlessness. Jesus made it the best sabbath ever for the crippled woman and for us. His actions brought joy to the woman and the community. Together they praised God. We are also called to care for the lives of others no matter what day it is.

Discuss: When is a time that you or someone you know has been set free from pain?

Pray: Liberating God, you desire freedom, not enslavement, pleasure, not pain; give us courage to set people free from heavy burdens that we all may rejoice at your grace and mercy through Jesus Christ. 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 help someone to be set free from a burden?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The word sabbath in Hebrew means "to stop." Sabbath is a time of rest. It is a time when you take a break and do not work. Take a moment during your day to "take delight in the Lord" (Isaiah 58:14) by observing a mini-sabbath. Set all electronic devices to the side, turn off the TV, and sit down in a comfortable position. Take a few deep breaths, close your eyes, and rest. After your mini-sabbath, thank God for this rest that gives health to your body, mind, and soul.



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)