

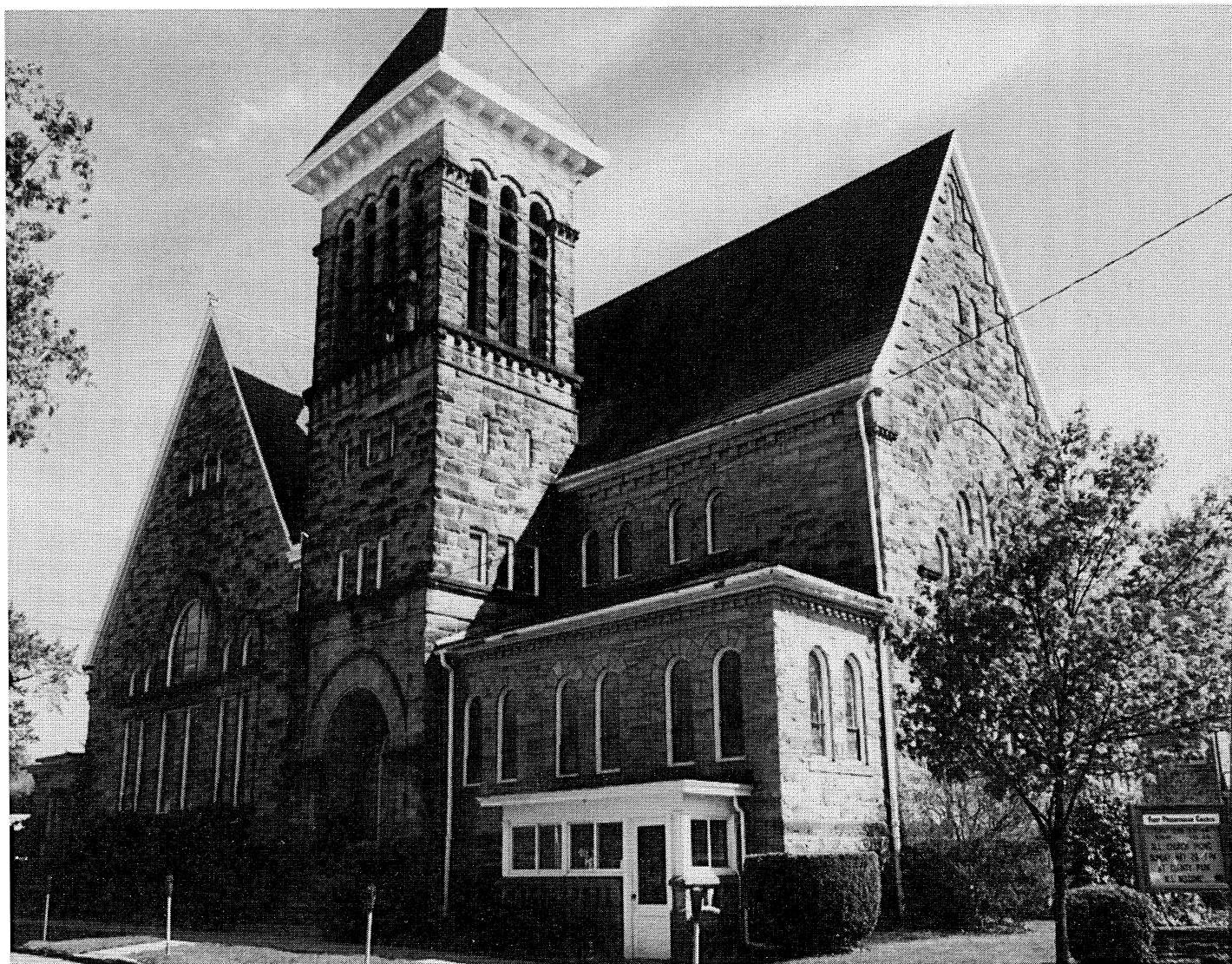
# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*3rd Sunday after Pentecost*

*June 26, 2022*



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.**

PER THE SESSION, MASKS ARE NOW OPTIONAL UNLESS YOU HAVE AN UPPER RESPIRATORY AILMENT.

# We Gather in God's Name

(Tune your car radio to 88.7 FM)

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

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

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

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

## Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Michelle Deitz

## Prelude

*Jesus Loves Me*

Arr. by Teresa Whilhelmi

## Chiming of the Trinity

## Call to Worship

Jesus calls to the crowds with warnings. Jesus calls to the converts to follow him. Jesus calls to the resisters with parables of rejection. Jesus calls to you: "Proclaim the kingdom of God."

And the people answer:

**Thanks be to God for life and health and all goodness.**

## Prayer of the Day

Holy and gracious God, you call us to ventures that cannot be foretold, to paths we do not know. Be our guide, through your word, and feed us with your assurance that your way is truly the path of love, joy, and peace. **Amen.**

## ✠ Hymn No. 628

*Praise, I Will Praise You Lord*

Text & Music: Frayssé, 1975

## Call to Confession

Clothed with the mantle of baptism and protected by God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sins to God and to one another.

## Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, we confess that we desire what is not your will. We fear failure and cling to unquestioned habits. We are truly sorry and repent of what we have done and what we have not done. Show us the path of your prophetic way. Open our eyes to new ventures. Help us love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us and renew us, in the name of life abundant, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Declaration of Forgiveness

The fruits of the spirit are love, joy, and peace given to you through God's grace. By the power vested in me as a minister of the church of Jesus Christ, I proclaim that you are forgiven. Live in the word of the Lord and be made new.

## ✠ Gloria Patri

## ✠ Passing of the Peace

# We Share God's Word

## Time with the Children

Rev. Edd Myers

## Prayer for Illumination

Your word, O God, reveals your will for our lives. By the power of your Holy Spirit, give us each the wisdom to attend to your call every day, and make us ready to hear and obey. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## First Scripture

Acts 11:1-18

The Message

Second ScriptureJohn 13:34-35The Message

The words of scripture, inspired by God.  
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“We Serve a Living God”Rev. Edd Myers

✦Hymn No. 716God, Whose Giving Knows No EndingText: Edwards, 1961  
Music: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844

SERMONETTE  
“If they don’t give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair.”  
—Shirley Chisholm,  
U. S. Congresswoman

We Give Thanks to God

✦Affirmation of FaithA Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone, we live in God’s world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God’s presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Call for the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Offering and OffertoryHe Touched MeArr. by Harold DeCue

(Trio: Merri Carter, Bonnie Champion, 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.

✦Doxology

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

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. 299You Servants of God, Your Master ProclaimText: Wesley, 1744, alt.  
Music: Anonymous

✦Charge and Benediction

PostludeLeaning on the Everlasting ArmsArr. by Carol Tornquist

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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 Facebook page.

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 Congregational Care, please reach out to Elders Bert Louder (814) 758-0455 or Robin Cable (814) 221-1528.

For more information visit our website at [www.clarionfirstpresby.org](http://www.clarionfirstpresby.org).

Find us on Facebook! (First Presbyterian Church of Clarion)

**Radio Broadcast**-WWCH 1300AM and 94.1 FM every third Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m.

**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).

## CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

**Organist:** Jean Mitrosky  
**Director of Music:** Bonnie Champion  
**Treasurer:** Brenda Nesbitt  
**Secretary:** Debra Owens  
**Sexton:** Mike Hetrick  
**Sound Engineer:** Josh Deitz  
**Video Engineer:** Dan Willy

### Ruling Elders:

<u>Class of 2022:</u>	<u>Class of 2023:</u>	<u>Class of 2024:</u>
Joe Burns	John Joy	Kathy Larimer
Robin Cable	Bert Louder	Elaine Matticks
Michelle Deitz	Jim McConnell	Pam Reid
Cindy Stants		

### Deacons:

<u>Class of 2022:</u>	<u>Class of 2023:</u>	<u>Class of 2024:</u>
Tamalyn Goble	Suellen Gourley	Bonnie Champion
Mike Hetrick	Cindy Kapp	Marianne Reynolds
Carolyn McFarland	Norma Kooman	Mary Swanger
Debra Owens		

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Guest Preacher:** Rev. Edd Myers  
**Lector:** Michelle Deitz  
**Time with Children:** Rev. Edd Myers  
**Director of Music:** Bonnie Champion  
**Organist:** Jean Mitrosky  
**Sound Engineer:** Josh Deitz/Jeff Kapp  
**Video Engineer:** Dan Willy  
**Ushers in Charge:** Norma Kooman, Doug Bills, Carol Roth, and Kevin Roth

**We warmly welcome Rev. Edd Myers to our pulpit.** It is always a blessing when Edd is with us.

**Special thanks to Merri Carter, Bonnie Champion, and Debra Owens for presenting today's Offertory.**

**Flowers today are in honor of Cindy & Jeff Kapp, by Pauline Henry.**

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship

## WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

6/20/2022

Envelope Contributions	\$1,115.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$150.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$1,265.00</b>
Men's Fellowship	\$20.00
Food Bags	\$120.00
Sound System Memorial Donations	\$175.00
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>\$1,580.00</b>

## NOTES:

*Feel free to use this space to take notes on the sermon, the service, or for any personal reminders that may help you in your walk with God this week.*

**First Scripture**

Acts 11:1-18

(The Message)

<sup>1-3</sup> The news traveled fast and in no time the leaders and friends back in Jerusalem heard about it—heard that the non-Jewish “outsiders” were now “in.” When Peter got back to Jerusalem, some of his old associates, concerned about circumcision, called him on the carpet: “What do you think you’re doing rubbing shoulders with that crowd, eating what is prohibited and ruining our good name?” <sup>4-6</sup> So Peter, starting from the beginning, laid it out for them step-by-step: “Recently I was in the town of Joppa praying. I fell into a trance and saw a vision: Something like a huge blanket, lowered by ropes at its four corners, came down out of heaven and settled on the ground in front of me. Milling around on the blanket were farm animals, wild animals, reptiles, birds—you name it, it was there. Fascinated, I took it all in. <sup>7-10</sup> “Then I heard a voice: “Go to it, Peter—kill and eat.’ I said, ‘Oh, no, Master. I’ve never so much as tasted food that wasn’t kosher.’ The voice spoke again: ‘If God says it’s okay, it’s okay.’ This happened three times, and then the blanket was pulled back up into the sky. <sup>11-14</sup> “Just then three men showed up at the house where I was staying, sent from Caesarea to get me. The Spirit told me to go with them, no questions asked. So I went with them, I and six friends, to the man who had sent for me. He told us how he had seen an angel right in his own house, real as his next-door neighbor, saying, ‘Send to Joppa and get Simon, the one they call Peter. He’ll tell you something that will save your life—in fact, you and every one you care for.’ <sup>15-17</sup> “So I started in, talking. Before I’d spoken half a dozen sentences, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as he did on us the first time. I remembered Jesus’ words: ‘John baptized with water; you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ So I ask you: If God gave the same exact gift to them as to us when we believed in the Master Jesus Christ, how could I object to God?” <sup>18</sup> Hearing it all laid out like that, they quieted down. And then, as it sank in, they started praising God. “It’s really happened! God has broken through to the other nations, opened them up to life!”

**Second Scripture**

John 13:34-35

(The Message)

<sup>34-35</sup> “Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other.



## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

### Tuesday, June 28

6:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous, Step Down Room

### Wednesday, June 29

Jefferson-Clarion Head Start Registration

8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous, Step Down Room

### Next Sunday, July 3

10:00 a.m. Worship—Rev. R. James Dietrich

### Monday, July 4 Independence Day

The Church Office and Building will be closed

The majority of committees/teams do not meet in July. If you are unsure, contact the chair for details.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

provided in your bulletin to suggest nominees. There is a shoe box in the Ramp Room for completed forms.

**If you are interested in serving beyond the local church at Presbytery level**, there are application forms (with instructions) in the Narthex and at the Ramp Room entrance.

**We have openings for Sunday morning flowers** for July 3, 10, 24, and 31. Please call (226-8145) or email Deb (churchoffice@clarionpresby.org) the church office if you would like to place flowers in memory or honor of a loved one.

**Isaac Solida is at Army Basic Training** in Georgia. He's the son of Dana & Joel Solida, grandson of Bert Louder. He is now allowed to receive letters. Help him get through the remaining 9 weeks of basic by sending him letters. No packages are allowed:

PVT Solida, I. #324

C Co, 3-47 INF

9240 Treadwell Way, Bldg 3405

Ft. Benning, GA 31905

**Our deepest sympathies** to Shirley McKinley & her family on the death of her brother, John Daugherty, this past week.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Per the Session, masks are now optional unless you have an upper respiratory ailment. Please note that CDC guidance may result in future changes.**

**Matters of congregational care are being handled by Elders Bert Louder (814) 758-0455 and Robin Cable (814) 221-1528.**

**The Food Bag Ministry Team** has several hams for sale. The hams weigh approximately 10 (ten) pounds each and are frozen. They can be purchased for a donation of \$20 each. Please contact Elaine Matticks (814) 229-5245 (cell) or the Church Office if you wish to purchase one. The proceeds will benefit the Food Bag Ministry.

**The Clarion Area Agency on Aging** has Farmers Market vouchers worth \$24 available (4 vouchers worth \$6 each). They will be distributed to Clarion County senior citizens who are 60 years old or more & meet the annual income requirements. You must provide proof of age and residency by completing an application. Vouchers will be available at a variety of locations this year. The Distribution Schedule is posted in the Ramp Room. You may pick up an application in the Church Office or call and we will email one. You can also stop by the Clarion Area Agency on Aging at 16 Venture Lane, Clarion, PA 16214.

**The Nominating Committee has begun working to identify officers for the Class of 2025.** You can use the form

## MEMBER CARE

**Please pray for:**

- *Members with known health concerns:* Ruth Showers, Fred Port, Randy Cable, and Tom Wenner.
- *Our family and friends in need of prayer:* Shirley McKinley's niece, Mary Biser; Shirley's daughter, Charlotte Hartman and nephew, Kenneth Daugherty Jr.; Shirley's son, Ben; John McKinley's great-nephew, David Mahle; Carolyn McFarland's brother and his wife, Rick and Janelle Moore; Bill and Bonnie Champion's sister-in-law, Norma Stahlman Champion; Mary Kay Arth; Bert Louder's grandson, Anthony Louder; Bill & Laurie Dickey, neighbors of Kristen Maze; former Clarion teacher, Bob Bowersox and wife Paula; Beverly Wentling's daughter, Rebecca Irwin; and Pat and Jim McConnell's friend, Pat Hargest.
- *And all of those serving in the US Military* including members and friends of our own faith family.

**Caring Caller members of the week:** Please remember Ruthie Showers at Clarion Healthcare & Rehab, 999 Heidrick Street, Clarion, PA 16214. Her Birthday is July 1st.

JUNE 26, 2022  
THIRD SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

# taking faith home

*We are set free to love our neighbor.*

## 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	Philippians 2:1-11	Christ shows us true humility
Thursday	Deuteronomy 15:7-11	How to treat the poor
Friday	1 John 3:11-24	Love one another
Saturday	Psalms 16	Trust and security in God
Sunday	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20	Jesus sends out the seventy

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Galatians 5:1 (NRSV)*

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### A Prayer for the Week:

Loving God, thank you for setting us free to love all of creation, our neighbors, and those we have not yet met, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may this food remind us that you give us joy and that you hold in your hand true pleasures for us, now and always. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May the God of true joy and peace free you to love.



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JUNE 26, 2022

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*I Love to Tell the Story*

# 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:

- When have you used your free will in a way that did not help you or others?
- Give an example or think about how you used your freedom to help or be kind to someone.

## DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Galatians 5:1, 13-25.

We like the idea of personal freedom; we are just not sure what to do with it. Should we take art classes to become an accomplished artist? Should we use our freedom to explore the world and delight in all of God's creation? Freedom gives us options that can make us dizzy. Paul has been telling the Galatians what it means to be justified (made right with God) by grace through faith. Here's the answer: it is to be set free. Contrary to many cultural and whimsical ideas of freedom, Christian freedom is quite simple: love your neighbor. You can't do that by feeding your own desires while being insensitive to others. You love your neighbor with the fruit of the Spirit that is "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." That is what being made right with God looks like. It is the freedom to be a slave of—to be captive to—love, and only to love.

*Discuss:* How does self-indulgence get in the way of loving one another?

*Pray:* Liberating God, fill our lives with the fruit of the Spirit, that we may love others with joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Amen.

## SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who is someone to whom you could show kindness and generosity?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Make a tree shape out of cardboard or colored paper and cut-out nine fruit shapes. Write one of the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23 on each of the cut-out fruit. Take time each day this week to talk about and pray for one or two fruit in your life. As you do, place the fruit shapes on your tree. Display it in a visible place in your home as a reminder of the fruits of the Spirit.



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)