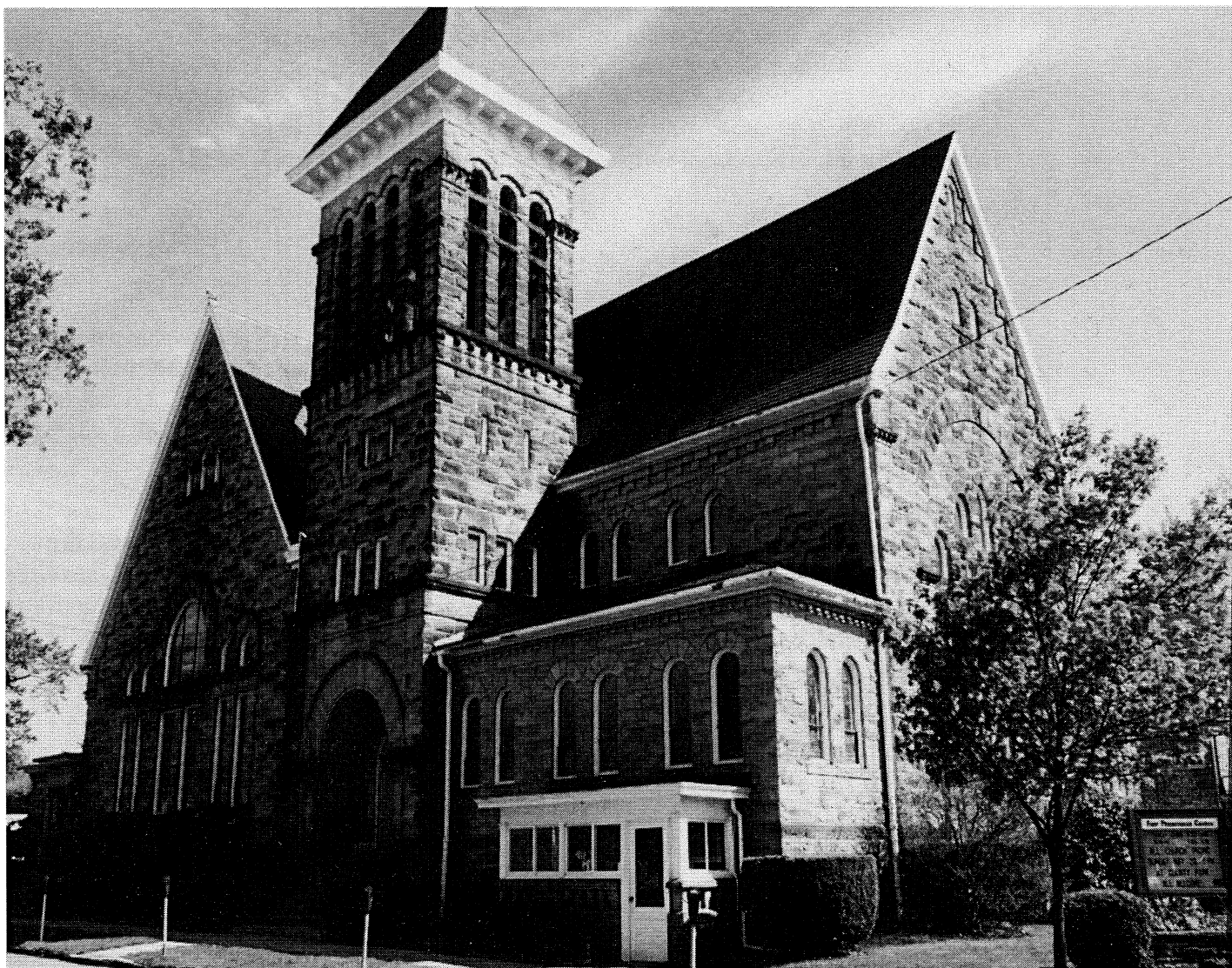


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*10th Sunday after Pentecost
August 14, 2022*



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.

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, Kathy Larimer

Prelude

Medley of Children's Hymns

Phyllis Howard

Chiming of the Trinity

Call to Worship

Long ago a vineyard was planted. The ground was prepared, and all was made ready.

But the vines grew wild, the ground was unable to support the wild grapes.

What happened in that place of promise?

People forgot the One who planted the vineyard. They chose their own ways and failed.

Let us again turn to the Lord, who will again plant, prune, and cause us to grow in faithfulness.

Let us open our hearts to God, trusting in God's ways and God's word. AMEN.

✦ Hymn No. 714

God of the Fertile Fields

Text: Harkness, 1955, alt.
Music: de Giardini, 1769, alt.

Call to Confession

Divine God, we try to grow happily, patiently, and faithfully in the soil you have prepared for us. You feed us, shelter us, and provide for our daily needs. Yet, we often fail to offer you the fruit of our harvest. We act as though we were abandoned children, trying to make it on our own. We feel forsaken, cut down by our enemies, and neglected in the wilderness of our lives. Yet through it all, you remain faithful. Renew our lives once more, and we will call your name on high.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

What more can we say, Expectant God, that you don't know already? You long for justice for all people, but it is washed away by the flood of violence in our world. You hope that righteousness will walk with us, but you hear the clear cries of those we mistreat. You ask us to speak up for those in need, but we shut our mouths and turn away. Forgive us, Righteous God. Have mercy when we do not bear the fruit we could. Even though we have not lived our faith to the fullest, may we receive the promises of hope and grace you have given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Shhh, listen! Can you hear them? The saints of heaven—those who have gone on before us—are cheering us on as we run towards the finish line of our faith.

Thanks be to God! The victory has already been won for us in Jesus Christ. We are forgiven. Amen.

✦ Gloria Patri

✦ Passing of the Peace

We Share God's Word

Time with the Children

Brenda Haws

Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

Holy, holy, holy, Creator of the Vineyard. By faith, all creation cries out for your salvation. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes to run with perseverance the race which is set before him. Hosanna in the highest! Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

(NIV) (see scripture insert)

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 12:49-56

(NIV) (see scripture insert)

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

Sermon

Brenda Haws

“There’s a Storm Coming”

✠ Hymn No. 344

Where Armies Scourge the Countryside

Text: Stuempfle, Jr., 1995

Music: Nelson, 1996

We Give Thanks to God

✠ Affirmation of Faith

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.

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory

Ukrainian Lullaby

Arr. by Carol Kappus

(Hammered Dulcimer Soloist: Phyllis Howard)

✠ 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. 346

For the Healing of the Nations

Text: Kaan, 1965

Music: Wade, c. 1750

✠ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

To God Be the Glory

William H. Doane

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.

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 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).

WORSHIP NOTES

Guest Preacher: Brenda Haws
Lector: Kathy Larimer
Time with Children: Brenda Haws
Director of Music: Bonnie Champion
Organist: Jean Mitrosky
Sound Engineer: Josh Deitz/Jeff Kapp
Video Engineer: Dan Willy
Acolytes: Emma Willy, Aubrie Scovel, and Gavin Kunselman
Ushers in Charge: Norma Kooman, Cindy Stants, Kristen Maze

We warmly welcome Brenda Haws to our pulpit this morning. Brenda is a lay minister and completed her training through the United Church of Christ. She and her husband Greg live in Rimersburg and are Clarion County natives. Their daughter, Karri, and her husband Steven live in Maryland with their children Lincoln, Harrison, and Emerie. Brenda and Greg work in the family insurance business. Brenda enjoys antiques and time with her parents. Greg enjoys tormenting Brenda about his affection for motorcycles!

Special thanks to Phyllis Howard for providing today's special music on the hammered dulcimer.

Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Dave Louder, by Rick McFarland.

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		

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship

WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

8/8/2022

Envelope Contributions	\$2,755.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$133.00
Per Capita	\$34.38
Total Contributions	\$2,922.38

Men's Fellowship	\$20.00
Food Bags	\$546.00
Purchased Hams	\$60.00
Rent: AA, NA, Head Start	\$20.00
Total Deposit	\$3,568.38

Online Donations

Offering	\$250.00
Food Bags	\$75.00
Men's Fellowship	\$25.00
Total July End	\$350.00

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

(NIV)

¹ I will sing for the one I love as song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. ² He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit. ³ “Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? ⁵ Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it.” ⁷ The vineyard of the Lord Almighty is the nation of Israel, and the people of Judah are the vines he delighted in. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 12:49-56

(NIV)

⁴⁹ “I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you but division. ⁵² From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. ⁵³ They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.” ⁵⁴ He said to the crowd: “When you see a cloud rising in the west, immediately you say, ‘It’s going to rain,’ and it does. ⁵⁵ And when the south wind blows, you say, ‘It’s going to be hot,’ and it is. ⁵⁶ Hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky. How is it that you don’t know how to interpret this present time?

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Tuesday, August 16

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

Wednesday, August 17

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting, Zoom

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

Thursday, August 18

2:00 p.m. Food Bag Distribution, CE Lobby

Next Sunday, August 21

10:00 a.m. Worship—Tamalyn Goble

11:00 a.m. PW Meeting for all women, Chapel

11:00 a.m. Pre-recorded Worship Broadcast
WWCH 1300 AM and 94.1 FM

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.

Newsletter Deadline: If you have not yet turned in your committee write up for the newsletter, please contact Deb in the church office by August 16 for inclusion in the Sept-Oct edition of The First Press.

Session Meeting is Wednesday, August 17th via Zoom.

2022 Vacation Bible School Mission Contribution: This year we are requesting items for the Back-to-School Bags for kids during our August 18th Food Bag Distribution. Items needed include: 24-Box Crayola Crayons, 2-pack Glue Sticks, small pkg. of Ticonderoga Pencils, small pkg. mechanical pencils, small pkg. Bic pens, pack of lined index cards. If you are able to contribute any of these supplies, please drop them in Ministry Central by Tuesday, August 16th. Monetary contributions are welcomed.

The next Food Bag Distribution is Thursday, August 18th from 2-4 pm. Bags will be passed out until we run out or it's 4 pm, whichever happens first. The only requirement is need.

Presbyterian Women is holding a meeting for all members on Sunday, August 21st. The meeting will start immediately after Worship in the Chapel.

If you are interested in serving beyond the local church at Presbytery level, there are application forms (with

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

instructions) in the Narthex and at the Ramp Room entrance.

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 3 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

MEMBER CARE

Please pray for:

- *Members with known health concerns:* Fred Port, Randy Cable, Jim & Pat McConnell, Carol L'Insalata, and Judy Montgomery.
- *Our family and friends in need of prayer:* Shirley & John McKinley's relatives: Mary Biser, Charlotte Hartman, Kenneth Daugherty Jr., Ben McKinley, and David Mahle; Carolyn McFarland's relatives: Rick & Janelle Moore; Mary Kay Arth; Kristen Maze's neighbor Laurie Dickey; Bob & Paula Bowersox; Beverly Wentling's daughter, Rebecca Irwin; and Pat & 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 Don McCord, 9 Maronee Street, Clarion, PA 16214-1657.

AUGUST 14, 2022 TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

Living a life of compassion for those in need.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 12:49-56	Following Jesus causes division
Monday	Jeremiah 23:23-29	God's word is like fire
Tuesday	Hebrews 11:29—12:2	Faith in God
Wednesday	Psalms 37:27-33	Trust the Lord
Thursday	Micah 6:6-8	What God requires
Friday	Isaiah 30:18-22	God's promise to Zion
Saturday	Psalms 82	Justice to the weak
Sunday	Luke 13:10-17	Jesus heals on the sabbath

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked. Psalm 82:3-4 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, you who want compassion and justice to guide our lives, give us faith and courage to live and speak truth with love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest; let these gifts to us be blessed. Let there be a goodly share on every table, everywhere. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of justice and mercy give you peace and good courage.



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AUGUST 14, 2022 HYMN OF THE WEEK

The People Walk

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 was there a time you felt you were treated unfairly?
- God demands a commitment to justice. What does this mean to you?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 12:49-56.

There is a history of domestic and global violence. Today's news reminds us that there are still divisions and violence. In this reading, Jesus' call for fire and division represents God's demand—not request—for justice. Biblical faith, both Old and New Testament, reveal a God who cares enough to judge, to condemn, to divide, yes, even to kill Egyptians in the Red Sea to protect God's people. Christianity stands for something. That means it stands against something, too. Jesus can be critical and outraged. He notes that people are able to read the signs of the weather, but what about the signs of discrimination around them? Everyone seems to have their own standards and their own causes. This can blind people who think they know God. Jesus will have none of it. Following Jesus does not permit a blind eye to violence and discrimination, whether it is in the first or twenty-first centuries. The good news is that God's kingdom promises to make all things new.

Discuss: How have you or someone you know experienced discrimination?

Pray: **God of justice, help us to see the times we live in and pursue compassion and fairness for all through Christ Jesus, the one who died that we may live for others. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what can you do to show compassion for those who are weak and needy?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Hebrews 12:1 speaks of being surrounded by a cloud of witnesses and encourages us to get rid of everything that slows us down from following Jesus. On a sheet of paper write a list of things people do or say that do not show ways Jesus would like us to act towards others. Some examples: belittling or bullying others, lying about something, stealing, or cheating. Take a moment to read over your list and then crumble it up and throw it away. Then pray:

Dear Jesus, please forgive us for those times when we are unkind and thoughtless about the needs of others; help us to follow you in love. Amen.



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