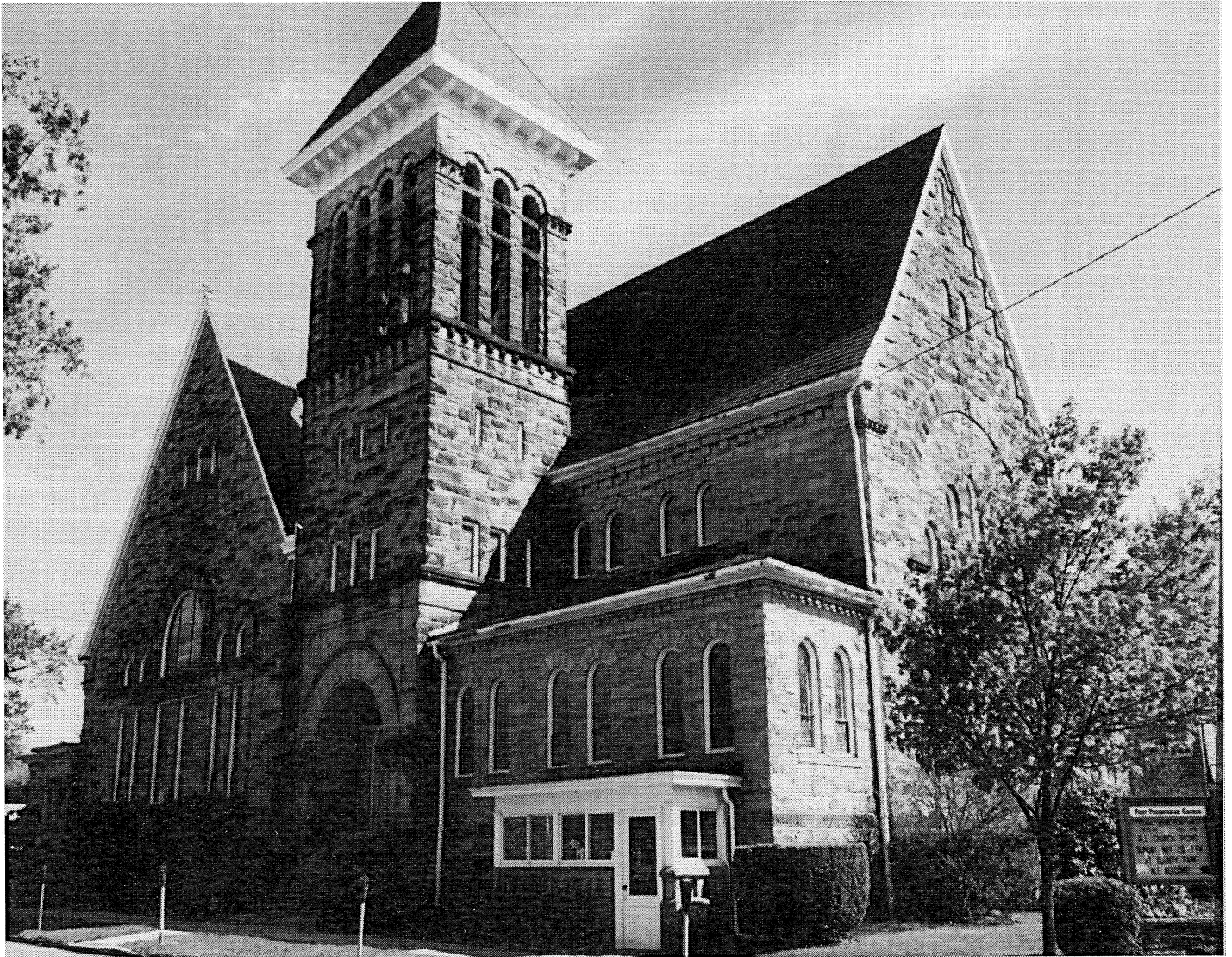


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*12th Sunday after Pentecost  
August 28, 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, Bert Louder

### Prelude

*Prayer*

Ethel B. Clarke

### Chiming of the Trinity

### Call to Worship

God calls us to service,  
**rather than honor.**  
God calls us to love the unknown,  
**Rather than the familiar.**  
We come to this time of worship,  
**Trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ,**  
Who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

### Morning Prayer

Holy God, you alone are worthy of honor and praise. Open our eyes to see the world as you see it. Give us the wisdom to witness your presence in all people. Transform us in love, grow us in our faith, call us to love with a full heart and to share your promises with all people. **Amen.**

### ✠ Hymn No. 301

*Let Us Build a House*

✠Text & Music: Haugen, 1994

### Call to Confession

God invites us to mutual love. But to find that mutuality, we must release our need for honor, our desire for privilege. In humility let us seek forgiveness, trusting in the promises of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Merciful God, forgive us for we exalt ourselves and mock the humble. We choose to believe we are self sufficient rather than trust in your strength. Open us up to your spirit, that we might serve all people without regard to the outcome, devoting ourselves to your honor alone. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### Declaration of Forgiveness

God rejoices when we repent and return, offering us finest wheat and honey from the rock to sustain us in new life. Rejoice! For you have been reconciled to God and to one another. With joy, seek the honor of God's service. **Amen.**

### ✠ Gloria Patri

### ✠ Passing of the Peace

## We Share God's Word

### Time with the Children

Rev. Edd Myers

### Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

God of Wisdom, open us to the work of your Spirit, that we may hear and faithfully respond to your holy Word. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Luke 14:1-6

(The Message)

<sup>1-3</sup> One time when Jesus went for a Sabbath meal with one of the top leaders of the Pharisees, all the guests had their eyes on him, watching his every move. Right before him there was a man hugely swollen in his joints. So Jesus asked the religion scholars and Pharisees present, “Is it permitted to heal on the Sabbath? Yes or No?” <sup>4-6</sup> They were silent. So he took the man, healed him, and sent him on his way. Then he said, “Is there anyone here who, if a child or animal fell down a well, wouldn’t rush to pull him out immediately, not asking whether or not it was the Sabbath?” They were stumped. There was nothing they could say to that.

The Gospel of Christ.  
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Sermon

“Keeping the Sabbath Wholly”

Rev. Edd Myers

✠ Hymn No. 509

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*  
Text: Dunstan, 1990  
Music: Moore’s *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

We Give Thanks to God

✠ Affirmation of Faith

A 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

Offering and Offertory

*I Am Not Afraid*  
(Soloist: Janie Reynolds)

Lloyd Larson

✠ Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✠ Hymn No. 372

*O for a World*  
Text: Winter, 1987  
Music: Gläser, 1828; arr. Mason, 1839

✠ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

*Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken*  
Robert J. Hughes  
(based on composition by Franz J. Haydn)

SERMONETTE  
Eugene Peterson describes the Sabbath as the uncluttered time and space in which we can distance ourselves from our own activities enough to see what God is doing. If we are not able to rest one day a week, we are taking ourselves far too seriously.

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.

## 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).

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Guest Preacher:** Rev. Edd Myers  
**Lector:** Kathy Larimer  
**Time with Children:** Kara Willy  
**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:** Carolyn McFarland, Bill Champion, Amy Widmer, Sue Widmer

**We warmly welcome Rev. Edd Myers to our pulpit this morning.** His presence is always a blessing.

**Special thanks to Janie Reynolds for providing todays special music.**

**Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of: my parents Kendall & Dorothy Cyphert; and our granddaughter, Jaqueline Challener, by Judy Montgomery.**

## 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

8/22/2022

Envelope Contributions	\$930.27
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$173.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$1,103.27</b>
Men's Fellowship	\$20.00
Food Bags	\$25.00
Manse Rent—August	\$500.00
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>\$1,648.27</b>

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

### Tuesday, August 23

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

### Wednesday, August 24

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

### Next Sunday, September 4

10:00 a.m. Worship—Jeff Deitz

### Monday, September 5 Labor Day

The Church Building and Office will be closed.

## 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.**

**We still have a few weeks of Summer left to enjoy, but you may want to pencil in some dates for this Fall:**

- ♦ **Sunday School resumes on September 11th.** It will continue to be held after worship.
- ♦ **Vocal Choir rehearsal returns on September 4th.** We will rehearse after worship that Sunday and begin participating in worship on September 11.
- ♦ **Echoes of Joy handbell rehearsal begins Thursday, September 1st.** Rehearsal is from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- ♦ **Joyful Bells handbell rehearsal starts Thursday, September 1st.** Practice runs from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**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.

**Presbyterian Women are transitioning to Women's Fellowship.** The PW met briefly after church on August 21st and decided to dissolve our membership with Presbyterian Women and form Women's Fellowship. While our circles will continue to meet for Bible study, we will focus on local missions.

- ♦ **Evening Circle will resume meeting on Tuesday, September 21st at 7:00 p.m.** We will meet at the home of Bonnie Champion to determine what direction to go in our Bible study and to enjoy fellowship around an evening fire!
- ♦ **Morning Circle** meets on the second Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor; and

## ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

- ♦ **Afternoon Circle** meets the second Thursday at 12 noon in the Chapel (bring your own lunch).

**Men's Fellowship is back!!!!** The Men's Fellowship/Breakfast will resume in September. Meetings will be held in our Social Hall in the third Saturday of the month: September 17, October 15, and November 19. Breakfast is at 8:00 a.m., followed by a speaker. If you have an idea for a speaker, please contact Bill Champion. There will not be a breakfast meeting in December.

**Fall Parking Permits** for weekday student parking are still available in the church office, Mon.-Thurs., 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and Fridays 9:00 a.m. to noon. Free to church members and their children, \$100.00/semester for non-members the first semester, \$75.00/semester thereafter. Guaranteed space, no driving around before class!

**ALF (Autumn Leaf Festival)** is fast approaching. Men's Fellowship is seeking your help to park cars during Craft Day on Friday, September 30th and to work in the concession stand on Saturday, October 1st. Contact Bill Champion to volunteer. Also, on Saturday, October 1st, Food Bags/Mission needs volunteers to park cars. Contact Deb Owens in the Church Office to sign up.

**ALF Parking Passes for Craft Day and Parade Day will go on sale September 1st!!** Parking is still \$10 for the entire day. Passes will be available for purchase in the Church Office for both days.

## 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; Pat & Jim McConnell's friend, Pat Hargest; and Bert Louder's grandson, Anthony Louder.
- *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 Sam Spencer, Edgewood Heights, 612 Keck Avenue, New Bethlehem, PA 16242

# AUGUST 28, 2022 TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## taking faith home

*Our faith needs community support.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 14:1, 7-14	Humility and hospitality
Monday	Proverbs 25:6-7	Wise sayings of Solomon
Tuesday	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Service that pleases God
Wednesday	1 Peter 4:7-11	Love wipes away many sins
Thursday	Acts 2:43-47	Life among believers
Friday	Leviticus 19:32-34	Living a holy life
Saturday	Psalms 112	Blessings of the righteous
Sunday	Luke 14:25-33	The cost of being a disciple

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:2 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Holy God, help us during difficult times to trust in you and love our neighbor, whoever that neighbor may be, through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food. May we give generously to others as you have given this food to us through Jesus who brings us to your heavenly feast. Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with abundant joy as you honor others in love.



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# AUGUST 28, 2022 HYMN OF THE WEEK All Are Welcome

## 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 felt insecure and in need of support from others?
- Give an example of how the faith community has cared for you or someone you know.

### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16.

The church was experiencing internal and external challenges. The faith community itself was facing the challenge of not meeting together (Hebrews 10:25). During unsettling times, we need one another for comfort and guidance. Just as Jesus is an example (Hebrews 12:1-4) to strengthen our faith, so are those around us who have spoken the word of faith to us, including loved ones like family, friends, and other elders. With the consistency of Jesus who is the same “yesterday and today and forever,” we show our faith within the community by sharing affection, welcoming strangers, and seeking purity of life for the sake of love and mutual well-being. All of this demonstrates an empathy, an acceptance, and an understanding of others that seeks oneness with those in need. This pleases God and shows our praise to God. *Discuss:* How has someone in your faith community shown the love of God and love for others? *Pray:* God of yesterday, today, and forever, give us models of faith through other disciples that we may be encouraged in our faith and faithful in our love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and the theme for this week, how can you help and contribute to the well-being of your faith community?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In the biblical world, showing hospitality was a matter of life and death. There were not the reliable and safe hotels and highways to travel in the ancient world. The Christians needed to rely on each other in their travels. It is still true today. Welcoming one another is as vital to our spiritual well-being as it is to our physical health. Through it we experience God’s holy presence. Reach out and have a meal and caring conversation with someone, especially someone with whom you have not exchanged hospitality before.



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)