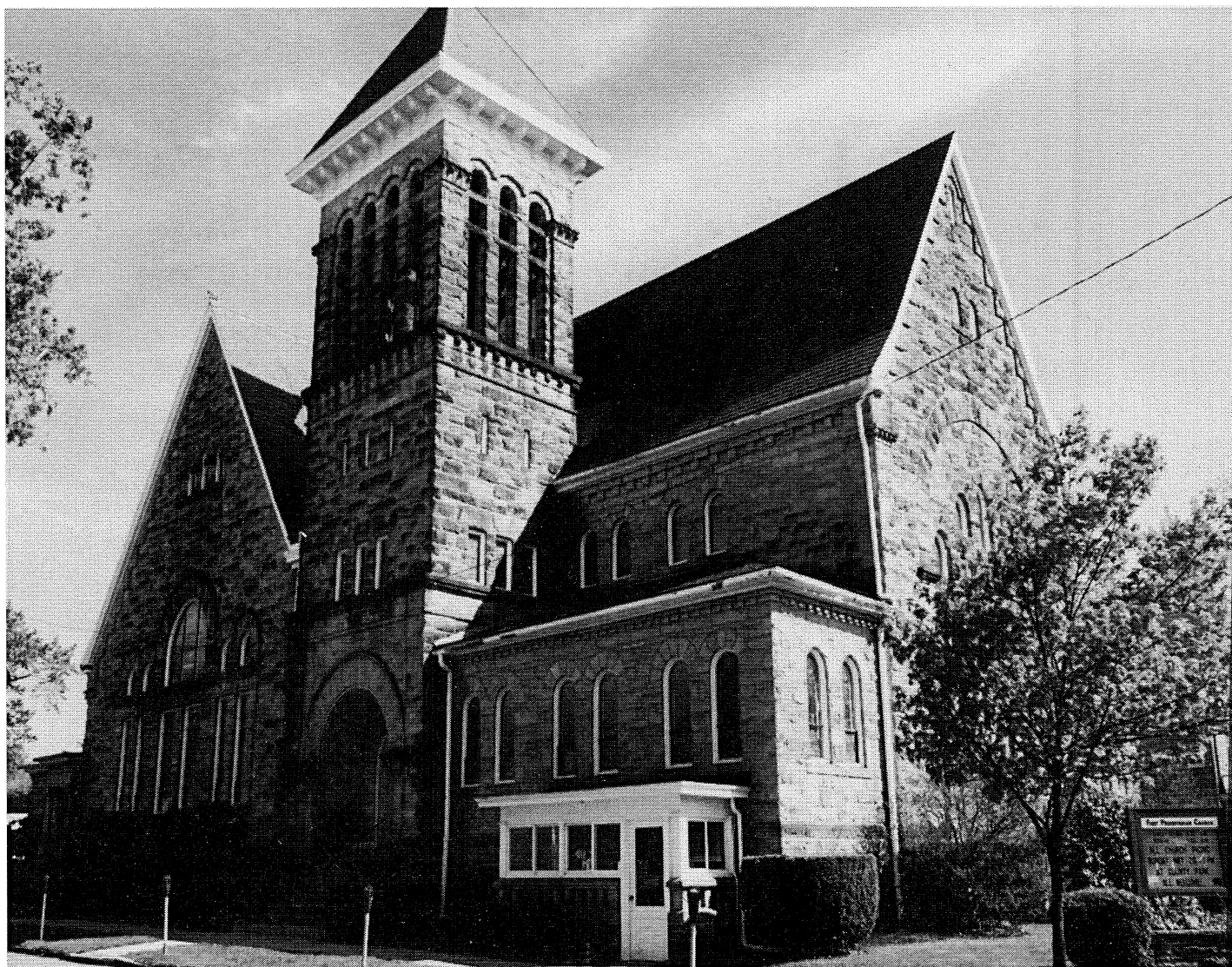


# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*14th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 11, 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)

## Welcome and Announcements

Lector, John Joy

## Prelude

*The Prayer*

Carole Sager and David Foster

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

## Chiming of the Trinity

## Introit

*Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place*

Lanny Wolfe

## Call to Worship

Adapted from 1 Tim. 1:12-17

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

Christ Jesus our Lord has strengthened us. He judged us faithful and appointed us to his service.

**The grace of our Lord overflowed for us with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.**

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners and we received his mercy.

**To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## Morning Prayer

Merciful God, your desire to bring us into your commonwealth is so great that you seek us in the places of our ignorance, and the forgotten corners where we hide in despair. Gather us into your loving embrace, and pour upon us your wise and holy Spirit, so that we may become faithful servants in whom you rejoice with all the company of heaven. Amen.

## ✠Hymn No. 616

*Awesome God*

Text & Music: Mullins, 1988

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

## Call to Confession

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

## Prayer of Confession (Unison) (Henrietta Stith Andrews <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>)

**O Most Patient God, we recognize how much we need you for life itself. But how often have we behaved as if we did not know or even care about you? How often have we become the ones who do not carry out justice? How often have we tried to dominate others even as you stand with them? How often have we participated in the desolation of your creation by our treatment of the heavens, the earth and its waters. Forgive us for these times when we have lost our way. All loving God, we want to be among those whom you seek. Shower your mercy upon us. Find us, and lead us safely home to faithfulness.**

## Affirmation of Forgiveness

My friends, when we are lost, all is not lost. God is seeking us, ready to turn our lives around, Gathering us in to the people of God. **Let us rejoice in God's mercy! Amen.**

## ✠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

## ✠Passing of the Peace

# We Share God's Word

## Time with the Children

Kara Willy

## Presentation of Bibles

## Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. **Amen.**

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” <sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>“Which one of you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ <sup>7</sup>Just so I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. <sup>8</sup>“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

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

Sermon

“The Joy of Lost-and-Found”

Tamalyn Goble

✦Hymn No. 722

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

Text: Havergal, 1872, alt.  
Music: Schumann, 1839, alt.

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

Feed My Sheep

arr. by Robert Sterling

✦Doxology

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Compassionate Father, thank you that you are our strength and our song, you fill our hearts with joy. May we give our offerings to you with gladness and joy. Everything we have belongs to you and we rejoice to give some of your abundant gifts back to you. Bless the tithes and offerings we give today. Let the majesty of the Father be the light that guides us, the compassion of the Son be the love that inspires us and the presence of the Spirit be the power that empowers us. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✦Hymn No. 418

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

Text & Music: Thompson, 1880

✦Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise  
(Tune: St. Denio)

arr. Marilyn Thompson

**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.

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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).

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Guest Preacher:** Tamalyn Goble  
**Lector:** John Joy  
**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:** Marianne Reynolds, Monta Rader, Doug Bills

**We warmly welcome Tamalyn Goble to our pulpit this morning.** She is a lay preacher authorized by the Kiskiminetas Presbytery. She is a ruling elder of our church and is currently serving as a deacon. Tamalyn and Tom have been members of First Presbyterian Church for almost 40 years. Their daughter, Jessica, and granddaughter GiGi live in Charleston, SC. She expresses her sincere appreciation for the blessing of being with you today.

**Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Kurt and Brenda Nesbitt, by Pauline Henry.**

## CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

**Organist:** Jean Mitrosky  
**Director of Music:** Bonnie Champion  
**Treasurer:** Brenda Nesbitt  
**Secretary:** Debra Owens  
**Sexton:** Jeff Kapp/Cindy Kapp  
**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  
 11:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Adult Vocal Choir

## WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

9/6/2022

Envelope Contributions	\$3,170.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$61.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$3,231.00</b>
Men's Fellowship	\$45.00
Food Bags	\$625.00
PMEF Distribution	\$20,512.15
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>\$24,416.15</b>

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

### Monday, September 12

7:00 p.m. Worship, Zoom

### Tuesday, September 13

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

### Wednesday, September 14

10:00 p.m. Morning Circle, Parlor

3:30 p.m. Deacons, Chapel

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

### Thursday, September 15

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

5:00 p.m. Echoes of Joy Bells, Choir Room

6:00 p.m. Joyful Bells, Choir Room

### Saturday, September 17

8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Social Hall

### Next Sunday, September 18

9:30 a.m. Adult Choir Practice

10:00 a.m. Worship—Rev. Mark Davis

11:00 a.m. Sunday School (Children, CE Building)

11:00 a.m. Adult Choir Practice

## ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

**Deacons Meeting, Wednesday September 14th at 2:30 p.m. in the Chapel.**

**September Food Bag Distribution is Thursday, September 15, from 2:00—4:00 p.m. or supply runs out, whichever happens first.**

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast at 8:00 a.m., September 17th.** Breakfast in the Social Hall will be followed by a speaker. All men are welcome to attend.

**Evening Circle meets Tuesday, September 20th at 7:00 p.m.** We will meet at Bonnie Champion's home to determine what direction to go in our Bible study and to enjoy fellowship around an evening fire!

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

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

## 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.**

**Don't forget! Sunday School resumes today immediately after Worship.**

**Peacemaking Offering** As Presbyterians, we view peace as a core part of our identity and calling as believers. It is a central declaration of the gospel, calling us to model our lives in the pattern of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. This special PC USA offering will be collected until Oct. 2; envelopes will be provided in a future bulletin and on the Usher's table at worship. Together, we can transform cultures of violence into communities of peace.

**Worship Team will meet via Zoon at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 12th.** The Zoom invitation will go out via email.

**Morning Circle meets Wednesday, September 14th at 10:00 a.m.** in the Parlor.

## MEMBER CARE

**Please pray for:**

- *Members with known health concerns:* Fred Port, Randy Cable, Jim & Pat McConnell, Carol L'Insalata, Judy Montgomery, and Mike Hetrick.
- *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; Bert Louder's grandson, Anthony Louder; and Ron Alberta.
- *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 Mary McCamant, Clarion Health Care & Rehab, Rm. 189-B, 999 Heidrick Street, Clarion, PA 16214

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022  
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

## taking faith home

*God's promises overcome God's righteous judgment.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 15:1-10	The lost sheep and the lost coin
Monday	Exodus 32:7-14	Moses pleads for the people
Tuesday	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Gratitude for mercy
Wednesday	James 5:13-16	The prayer of faith
Thursday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	A new covenant
Friday	Ephesians 5:25-32	Rules for the new life
Saturday	Psalms 51:1-10	A prayer for forgiveness
Sunday	Luke 16:1-13	Parable of the shrewd manager

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I [the Apostle Paul] am the foremost. 1 Timothy 1:15 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### A Prayer for the Week:

God of divine justice, we thank you for remembering your promise of mercy and forgiveness and bringing us back to you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, just as we need this gift of food to survive, help us always to remember that we need your love to survive as well. Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May the God who remembers you with love bless you with peace and joy.



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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)

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

### HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

## 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:

- Some people feel that when something bad happens, it is God's judgment. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to know that God's mercy endures beyond God's judgment?

### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Exodus 32:7-14.

There is plenty of wrath, divine repentance, even humor in this Old Testament Story. God wants to destroy the people who have turned away to worship a golden calf and won't even acknowledge them as God's people. God refers to them as Moses' people, the people whom Moses led out of Egypt. Moses refutes this and says they are God's people and God led them out of Egypt. Moses stands as a prophet speaking not to the people about God's word, but to God about God's promises that go back to Abraham, Isaac, and Israel (Jacob). Fortunately, Moses wins the debate and God repents, turning from the divine anger planned for the obstinate and unfaithful people. God saves the people by not destroying them. What is at stake? God's passion and mercy for the people does battle (through Moses) and wins the day by not letting God's judgment get the last word. Thanks be to God for promises to us that are from everlasting to everlasting.

*Discuss:* What do you find surprising about God's actions in this reading?

*Pray:* God of justice and mercy, we thank you that you know our weaknesses and failings and yet love us still through Christ Jesus 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 might you help and encourage others who feel the weight of their regrets?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Luke 15:1-10 Jesus tells parables about the lost being found. Our sin is a condition of being lost and apart from God. God rejoices when, through faith in Christ, we, as the lost, are found and restored to a relationship with God. Hide chocolate coins or other candies and have others find them. After the treats are found, talk about the joy of finding them and then about God's joy at searching for and finding us. *Pray: Thank you, God, for searching for us when we stray from you. Thank you for finding us and forgiving us. Amen.*



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