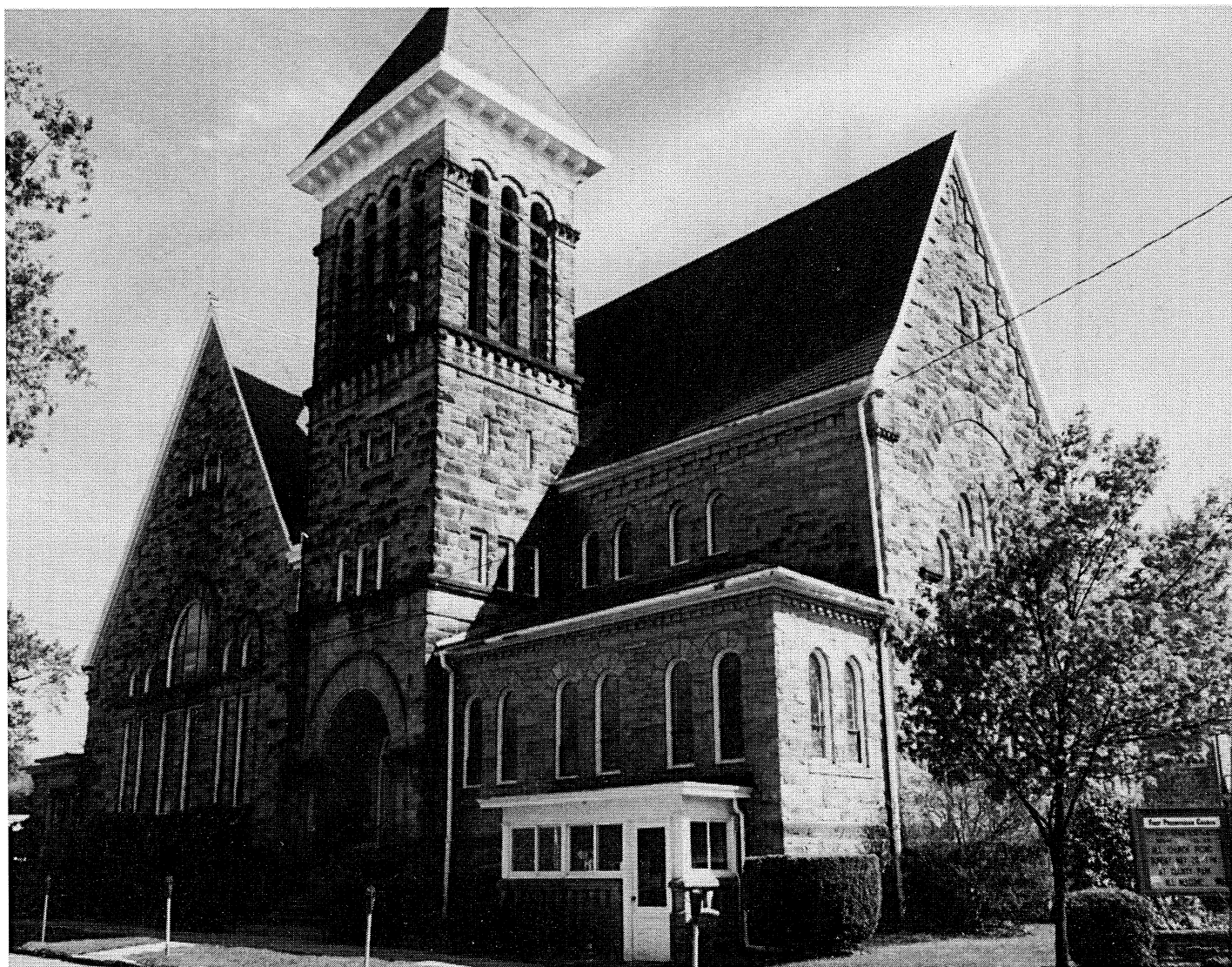


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 18, 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)

Welcome and Announcements

Lector, John Joy

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

Prelude

Adagio in G Minor

Tomaso Albinoni

Chiming of the Trinity

Introit

God, We Honor You

James E. Clemens

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

Call to Worship

Here in this place, God welcomes dreamers and doubters.

Here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.

Here, in this time, we remember the ways God has graced us.

Here, in these moments we remember that God is always with us.

Here, we are gathered, daring to step out of our comfort zone into the unknown.

Here, in this space, we find courage to praise and to pray.

Here, in this space, let us worship God.

Prayer of the Day (Unison)

Life-giving God, we gather in your presence to offer you thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. May your Holy Spirit inspire our praise and our prayers. Open our hearts and minds to your presence among us and within us, and to the Word you have for us today. Amen.

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

✦ Hymn No. 756

O God of Every Nation

Text: Reid, Jr., 1958, alt.

Music: Welsh folk melody: *Llwybrau Moliant*, 1872

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious and ever loving God, we confess to you our sins, for they are too heavy to carry any further, too real to hide and too deep to undo. Forgive us, Lord, for what our lips tremble to name and our hearts can no longer bear. Set us free from a past that we cannot change and give to us a future in which we will be changed. Grant us your grace to grow in love and in service to you O Lord, our God. And now hear us as we lift our silent confessions before you now.

Declaration of Forgiveness

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

✦ Gloria Patri

✦ Passing of the Peace

We Share God's Word

Time with the Children

"What is the Value?"

Rev. Mark Davis

Prayer for Illumination

As we gather here today, we ask you, our living God, to shower upon us your wisdom and knowledge. We pray that as we listen to your Word, we may have the ability to clearly see what you have called us to do and who you have called us to be. Illuminate our eyes and reveal to us your glory. Amen.

Scripture	Luke 16:1-13	(p. 79)
The Gospel of Christ. Praise be to you, O Christ!		
Sermon	“What It Takes”	Rev. Mark Davis
✦Hymn No. 340	<i>This Is My Song</i>	Text: Stone; Harkness, alt. Music: Sibelius, 1899; arr. <i>The Hymnal</i> , 1933, alt.

We Give Thanks to God

✠Affirmation of Faith	Adapted from the Confession of 1967, Presbyterian Church USA	
God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God gifts of power, wisdom and goodness. But God reveals love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Ruler and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of love, Amen.		
Call for the Offering		
Offering and Offertory	<i>Kyrie</i>	Matthew Armstrong
✠Doxology		
Prayer of Dedication		
Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer		

We Go Forth to Serve

✦Hymn No. 331	<i>God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand</i>	Text: Roberts, 1876, alt. Music: Warren, 1892
✦Charge and Benediction		
Postlude	<i>Praise Ye the Father</i> (“Romaine”)	Charles F. Gounod

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.

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).

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		

WORSHIP NOTES

Guest Preacher: Rev. Mark Davis
Lector: John Joy
Time with Children: Rev. Mark Davis
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: Mary Swanger, Monta Rader, Lori Smith

We warmly welcome the retired Rev. Mark Davis to our pulpit.

Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Edith Deitz, by Jeff and Michelle Deitz.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Adult Vocal Choir

WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

9/14/2022

Envelope Contributions	\$1,505.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	<u>\$255.00</u>
Total Contributions	\$1,760.00
Men's Fellowship	\$50.00
Food Bags	\$350.00
Global Peace	<u>\$120.00</u>
Total Deposit	\$2,280.00

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.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Monday, September 19

7:00 p.m. Property, Pavilion

Tuesday, September 20

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

7:00 p.m. Evening Circle, Bonnie Champion's

Wednesday, September 21

12:00 p.m. Adult Lunch Study, Chapel

7:00 p.m. Session, Zoom

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

Next Sunday, September 25

9:30 a.m. Adult Choir Practice

10:00 a.m. Worship—Rev. Edd Myers

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

11:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School, Chapel

11:00 a.m. Adult Choir Practice

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

because you have commitments in the choir, bells, or teaching Children's Sunday School, here is your chance to and meet study Hope with other adults. Please contact the Church Office (814) 226-8145 to register so we can have material for everyone. If you cannot meet at noon on Wednesdays, please request a home study packet.

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.

Our deepest sympathies to Charlie and Jill Siegel on the death of their niece, Julie Ann Carroll (Siegel) on Friday, September 2, 2022.

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.

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 are available the Usher's table in the Ramp Room. Together, we can transform cultures of violence into communities of peace.

Property Team will meet at 7:00 p.m., Monday, September 19th, in the Pavilion.

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!

Adult Lunch Study begins this Wednesday, September 21st at noon. If you can't attend Sunday School after worship

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 Dorothy Jean Foreman, Clarion Health Care & Rehab, Rm. 207, 999 Heidrick Street, Clarion, PA 16214.

taking faith home

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

God cares for the poor and the needy.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 16:1-13	Parable of the shrewd manager
Monday	Amos 8:4-7	Judgment on Israel
Tuesday	1 Timothy 2:1-7	Instructions concerning prayer
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 15:7-11	How to treat the poor
Thursday	James 2:1-13	Warning against having favorites
Friday	Isaiah 58:6-9	True religion
Saturday	Psalms 113	The Lord helps people in need
Sunday	Luke 16:19-31	Poor Lazarus and the rich man

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

He [God] raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people.

Psalms 113:7-8 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of glory and might, we thank you for your justice that is like no other and your mercy that reaches to the ends of the earth through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of abundance, help us to receive this food with a thankful heart and a living faith that prays for food for those who don't have enough to eat. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who cares for the poor bless you with a compassionate heart.



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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

taking faith home

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022
HYMN OF THE WEEK

Light Dawns on a Weary World

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:

- What are some of the things you thank God for?
- How is God's care for the poor and needy shown through your actions?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Psalm 113.

The psalm begins with an exhortation to praise God everywhere and for all time. The glory, the fame and preeminence of the LORD, extends beyond the heavens, beyond what anyone can imagine. There is clearly a sense of an all-encompassing grandeur here. The God of the Bible is like no other. Why? Because God created all things? Because of God's power that can conquer the gods of the enemies of Israel? No. At least, that is not the answer given in Psalm 113. God is great and to be praised because our God "raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap" (v. 7). God cares for a man in his poverty and a woman in her barrenness. God creates new realities for them and for those around them, like princes who now must welcome the poor as an equal. That is a God worth praising, says Psalm 113. And, in Christ, that is the God who changes all social equations to bring honor to those not honored and eternal hope for those who seem without hope.

Discuss: God is to be praised for caring for everyone in need. What does this mean to you?

Pray: God, you who use your power and justice to shine on those in need, we praise you now and always for your glory that shines on us through Christ Jesus our Lord. 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 support and honor the poor in your community and the world?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Paul encourages us to offer "supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings" for all those in positions of authority and leadership (1 Timothy 2:1-2). Think or talk about leaders in the world, the country, and your community. This week take time to pray for them: Lord God, we thank you for those in leadership positions and ask that you bless them in their work. May they use their positions to care for the poor and show honor to you. Amen.