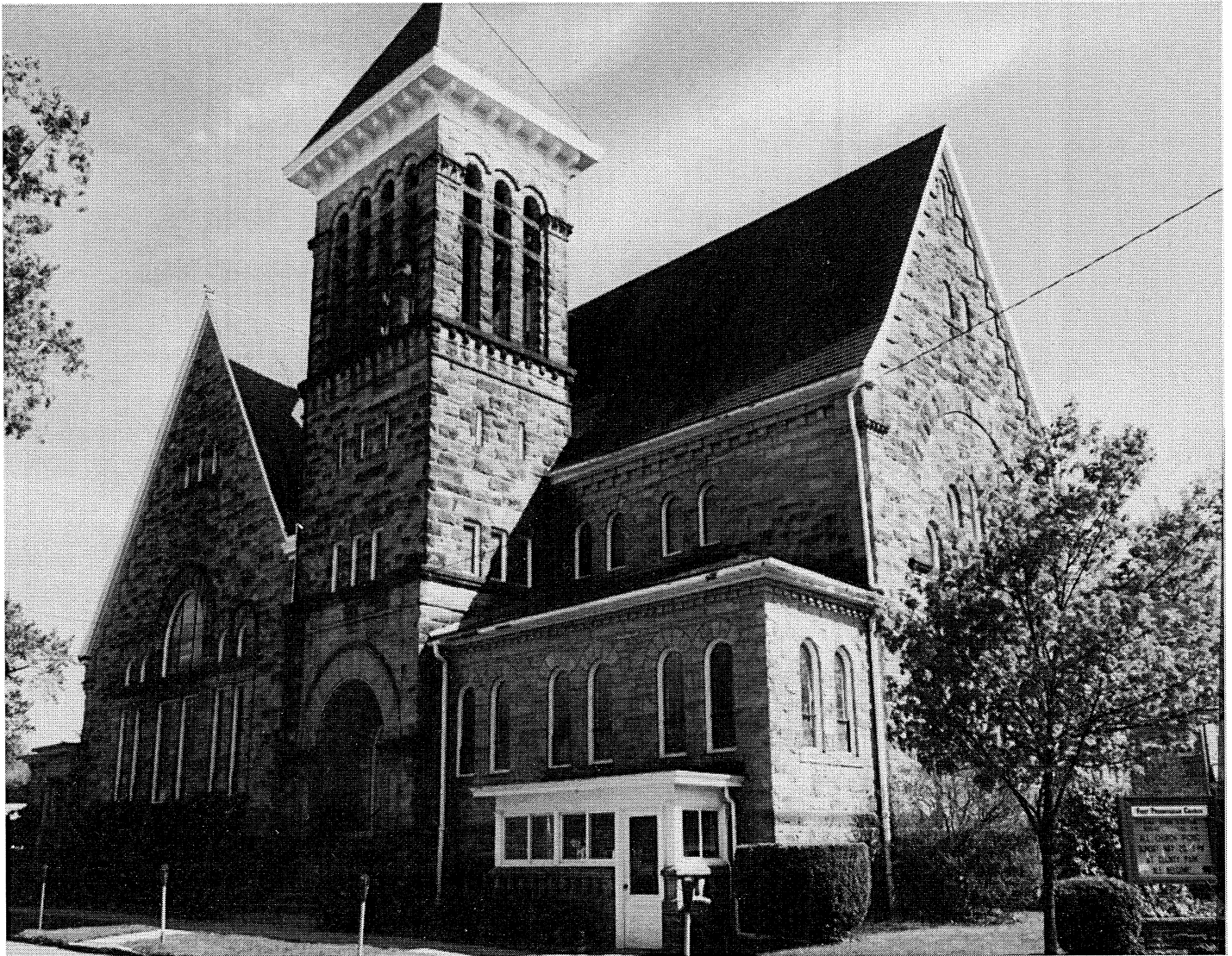


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*16th Sunday after Pentecost
September 25, 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

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Adinoram J. Gordon,
arr. Robert Powell

Chiming of the Trinity

Introit

Heaven Shall Not Wait

John L. Bell and Graham Maule

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

Call to Worship

You who live in the shelter of the Most High will say, "My God, in whom I trust."

No evil shall befall those who make the Lord their refuge, the Most High their dwelling place.

God will deliver those who love the Lord and call on God's name.

When they call, God will answer, be with them in trouble, and show them salvation.

Let us worship God!

Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Your goodness goes before us, O Holy Redeemer, and the upright rejoice in your radiant splendor. Your touch turns deserts into pools of living water. As you embrace the land, its yield abounds. With wisdom you implant, we shall proclaim your virtue. Through our Savior Christ Jesus we shall sing your praise without ceasing.

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

✦ Hymn No. 711

Lord of All Good

Text: Bayly, 1962, alt.
Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551

Call to Confession

The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus who came into the world to save sinners. Let us confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of grace, we stand in need of your forgiveness. Desiring to be rich, we fall into temptation. Love of money ensnares us. Enough does not satisfy. The more we acquire, the greater our greed becomes. We become prosperous in our own eyes, and poor in your sight. Through Christ the Giver of life, rescue us from self-destruction.

Assurance of Pardon

Brothers and sisters, fight the good fight of faith. Aim at righteousness, godliness, love, and gentleness. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. And Christ, who alone can keep you from falling, will deliver you blameless before the throne of God. In Christ we are forgiven.

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

Kara Willy

Scripture

Luke 16:19-31

(p. 79)

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Sermon

"A Rich Man Story"

Rev. Dr. Donald Wilson

✦ Hymn No. 773

Heaven Shall Not Wait

Text: Bell and Maule, 1987

Music: Bell, 1987

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

Come, Sing Unto the Lord

Joseph M Martin

✦ Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Merciful Provider, all that we have is a gift of your goodness; whatever we acquire we gain by your grace. You cause the rains to yield abundant harvest; you send the sun to nourish rich growth. We bring you gifts wrought by your handiwork and dedicate our lives to tending your creation. Accept us as stewards within your dominion and bless our efforts on your behalf.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✦ Hymn No. 250

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Text & Music: Sleeth, 1986

✦ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Rigaudon

Andre Campra, arr. Gustave Ferrari

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. Dr. Donald Wilson
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: Suellen Gourley, Tammy Slike, Lori Smith

We warmly welcome the Rev. Dr. Donald Wilson to our pulpit today. Dr. Wilson is the Executive Presbyter for Kiskiminetas Presbytery.

Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Joe and Anita Michael, by their three children.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

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

WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

9/19/2022

Envelope Contributions	\$1,410.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	<u>\$85.28</u>
Total Contributions	\$1,495.28
 PNC	 \$150.00
Food Bags	\$125.00
Men's Fellowship	<u>\$30.00</u>
Total Deposit	\$1,800.28

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

Tuesday, September 27

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

Wednesday, September 28

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

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

Thursday, September 29

5:00 p.m. Echoes of Joy Bell Rehearsal

6:00 p.m. Joyful Bells Rehearsal

Friday, September 30 ALF Craft Day

The Church Parking Lot will be ALF permit parking only.
The Church Building and Office will be closed.

Saturday, October 1 ALF Parade Day

The Church Parking Lot will be ALF permit parking only.

Next Sunday, October 2 Worldwide Communion

9:30 a.m. Adult Choir Practice

10:00 a.m. Worship—Rev. Rebecca Mihm

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

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 new Pastor, Rev. Rebecca Mihm, will be with us starting Sunday, October 2nd, Worldwide Communion Sunday. We are happy she has arrived and look forward to her pastoral presence. We will announce her formal installation date, once it has been scheduled.

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

Adult Lunch Study this Wednesday, September 28th at noon. If you can't attend Sunday School after worship because you have commitments in the choir, bells, or teaching Children's Sunday School, here is your chance! Meet and 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.

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 member of the week: Please remember Marianne Reynolds' mother, Alice Davis, 29 Emlow Road, Imperial, PA 15126. Alice's birthday is September 30th.

SEPTEMBER 25, 2022
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

Real life is filled with faith and generosity.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 16:19-31	Poor Lazarus and the rich man
Monday	Amos 6:1a, 4-7	Judgment for a self-indulgent life
Tuesday	1 Timothy 6:6-19	The good fight of faith
Wednesday	Proverbs 11:24-25	Be generous
Thursday	Luke 21:1-4	The widow's offering
Friday	Acts 20:32-35	Paul says goodbye to the church
Saturday	Psalms 146	Praise for God's help
Sunday	Luke 17:5-10	Faith the size of a mustard seed

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

They [the rich] are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life. 1 Timothy 6:18-19 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to be sensitive to the hurts and pains of others that we may lead content lives, generous with what we have for the sake of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

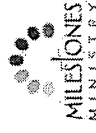
Bless, O Lord, this food to our use and us to your service. And keep us ever mindful of the needs of others. In Jesus name, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who watches over the needy, watch over you with generosity. (Psalm 146:9)



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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.milestonestonesministry.org

SEPTEMBER 25, 2022
HYMN OF THE WEEK

*O God of Love,
O King of Peace*

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 helped a stranger in need? What did you do?
- What gets in the way of reaching out to others with compassion and generosity?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 16:19-31.

Why could the rich man not see and respond to the poor and diseased Lazarus who lies at the rich man's gate? What is it about consumption and wealth (v. 19) that can lead to complacency and a lack of concern at the demise of others? Amos calls it out and judges the people of Judah who were not grieved by the destruction of the northern kingdom of Israel (Amos 6:6). Like the rich man, the people of Judah did not seem to care about the destruction of Israel. The people were content with their life of leisure. The rich man in Luke could not see—or at least care about—the needs of Lazarus nor, it appears, to “*listen to Moses and the prophets*” (v. 31). The good news is that what is needed for life and faith is not wealth but the word of God that is already in front of us. A living faith receives and responds to God's message of compassion and care for the needy. Jesus embodies and lifts up a life that is able to show the love that the rich man was unable to provide Lazarus. The rich man's insensitivity created a loss for him as well as for Lazarus.

Discuss: How does God open your eyes to see the needs of others?

Pray: **Loving God, give us eyes of faith to see the needs of our neighbor and the desire to care for others as you care for us each and every day through Christ our Lord. 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 help and care for someone in need?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Giving is a response to God's generosity. Walk around your house and look in closets and drawers. Make a list of things you no longer use or need. Think or talk about who may appreciate and need them and consider taking them to organizations who can give them to those in need. Conclude your time reflecting on the theme for this week, and then pray: **Lord, fill me with faith and generosity. Amen.**