

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*Christ the King Sunday*  
*November 20, 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, Jim McConnell

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

## Prelude

*Jubilate Procession*

Arr. by Linda McKechnie

## Chiming of the Trinity

## Call to Worship

God has looked favorably on all of God's people and has redeemed them.

**God has given us a mighty Savior, the Lord whose reign we celebrate.**

We gather to offer our thanks and praise to almighty God.

**Let us worship God.**

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.

## ✠Hymn No. 268

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

Text: Bridges, 1851

Music: Elvey, 1868

## Call to Confession

In humility we are called to confess our sin, reaching out repentantly to our Lord and Savior. Trusting in the merciful love of God, let us pray together.

## Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious Lord, we are quick to identify our enemies and slow to name the ways we hurt others. You lead us in the ways of righteousness, and yet we prefer to walk our own path. We are called to follow your lead in creating a beloved community, yet we idolize wealth and power. Heal us and help us, O God. Turn us from the ways of sin, the means that create unjust ends. Grant that we may seek to be for others what you are for us: a source of light on the way to peace. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## Declaration of Forgiveness

The Lord gives light to those who dwell in darkness and guides our every step in the path of salvation.

Friends, believe the Good News:

**In Jesus 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

Rev. Rebecca Mihm

## Prayer of Illumination

## First Scripture

Jeremiah 23:1-6

(p. 725)

## Second Scripture

Luke 23:33-43

(p. 89)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

**Thanks be to God.**

We Give Thanks to God

✠Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed 1.2

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory

Thanksgiving Celebration

Arr. by Linda McKechnie

✠Doxology

✠Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✠Hymn No. 273

He Is King of Kings

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: arr. Jones, 1961; adapt. Costen, 1989

✠Charge and Benediction

Postlude

O Worship the King

J. Michael Hayden,  
arr. Lani Smith

**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.

**POSTLUDE**  
Please remember at the close of the service to remain quiet and seated until the conclusion of the Postlude, which marks the end of the worship service.

## 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 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).

## CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

**Pastor:** Rev. Rebecca Mihm  
**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

**Pastor:** Rev. Rebecca Mihm  
**Lector:** Jim McConnell  
**Time with Children:** Rev. Rebecca Mihm  
**Director of Music:** Bonnie Champion  
**Organist:** Jean Mitrosky  
**Sound Engineer:** Josh Deitz/Jeff Kapp  
**Video Engineer:** Dan Willy  
**Acolytes:** Ruby Collett, Gavin Kunselman, Aubrie Scovel, Emma Willy  
**Ushers in Charge:** Tamalyn Goble, Todd & Kim Glenn

**Flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in memory of Ellen Lawrence, by her daughter Suellen Gourley.**

**Thank you to Joyful Bells for providing today's special music.**

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m.	Worship
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal
12:00 p.m.	Cantata Rehearsal

## WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

**11/14/2022**

Envelope Contributions	\$1,930.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$240.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$2,171.00</b>
Christmas Flowers	\$54.00
Food Bags	\$10,225.00
Men's Fellowship	\$20.00
AA Rent—Oct, Nov, Dec 2022	\$60.00
<b>Total Deposit</b>	<b>\$12,530.00</b>

## 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, November 22

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

### Wednesday, November 23

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

### Thursday, November 24 Thanksgiving Day

Church Office and Building Closed

### Friday, November 25

Church Office and Building Closed

### Next Sunday, November 27 First Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Choir Practice

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:00 a.m. Sunday School

No Choir or Cantata Practice after Worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

**The Adult Choir will present the cantata, "God With Us!" during worship on December 11th.**

**The Echoes of Joy Bell Choir will play during Worship on Sunday, December 18th.**

## 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.**

**Preparing for Jesus (aka Hanging of the Greens) is happening this afternoon at 4:00 p.m.!!** The Chancel trees have been pre-assembled but need decorated with ornaments. The candles and greenery need placed in the windows. The other wreaths and greenery need to be placed around the sanctuary and church. Come join us and afterward enjoy pizza together!!!!

**The Church Office and Building will be closed November 24-25 for the Thanksgiving holiday.** Please enjoy time with your family. We'll resume our regular hours Monday, November 28th.

**GO TELL! is the adult lunch program on Wednesdays that will study Advent.** The program begins November 30th and runs through December 21st. We will meet from noon until 1:00 pm in the Chapel each Wednesday. Bring your lunch. To participate, contact the church office via phone (814) 226-8145 or email [churchoffice@clarionpresby.org](mailto:churchoffice@clarionpresby.org) so we can order your book.

## MEMBER CARE

### Please pray for:

- *Members with known health concerns:* Fred Port, Randy Cable, and Ruth Showers.
- *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 Kristen Maze's neighbor, Laurie Dickey; Bob & Paula Bowersox; Beverly Wentling's daughter, Rebecca Irwin; Bert Louder's grandson, Anthony Louder; Michelle Deitz's sister, Roxanne Uplinger; and Jim & Pat McConnel's friend, Pat Hargest.
- *And all of those serving in the US Military* including members and friends of our own faith family.

**Homebound Member of the Week:** Please remember Gail Baptist, 42 E. 8th Avenue, Clarion, PA 16214.

NOVEMBER 20, 2022  
CHRIST THE KING  
SUNDAY

taking  
faith  
home

*The surprising path of the reign of Christ.*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 23:33-43	Christ the crucified king
Monday	Jeremiah 23:1-6	A message of hope
Tuesday	Colossians 1:11-20	The supremacy of God
Wednesday	Psalms 68:1-10	Praise and thanksgiving
Thursday	Matthew 25:34-40	The final judgment
Friday	Isaiah 61:1-7	The good news of deliverance
Saturday	Psalms 46	God is our mighty fortress
Sunday	Matthew 24:36-44	The sudden coming of salvation

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Then he [the criminal] said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He [Jesus] replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise." Luke 23:42-43 (NRSV)*

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### A Prayer for the Week:

Creator God, give us joy that through your suffering our sins are forgiven and our lives are made whole through Christ Jesus, the firstborn of all creation. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food and that you are our strength and protection, nurturing us with love and mercy all our days. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May God make you strong and bless you with patience to endure all things.



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NOVEMBER 20, 2022

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Jesus Remember Me*

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 been surprised by another person's ability to forgive someone?
- Is there something that you could do that God would not forgive? Explain.

## DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Luke 23:33-43.

Luke's Gospel helps us to see as Jesus sees, to see the lowly lifted up and the mighty brought down, to see the lost found, the sick healed, and the rich and mighty sent away with empty hands. Luke helps us to understand how Jesus sees a criminal, not as a condemned person but as one needing and ready for salvation. In a world of power and wealth that dominates the masses, it never ceases to challenge our sensibilities that Jesus reigns as king from the place of condemnation, torture, and death. The power of God to rule the universe and to redeem people from their sins happens not with governmental powers or military might but through a path of vulnerability, humiliation, suffering, and death. Through Jesus, a condemned man, a criminal, sees and believes what the world cannot see in that moment.

*Discuss:* How does the surprising path of Christ's reign impact how we see others?

*Pray:* Almighty God, you who rule with mercy and grace, give us eyes to see those who are vulnerable and humiliated and a heart to believe in Jesus, our crucified and risen Lord. Amen.

## SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, pray for those in prison and the chaplains and others who serve in prison ministries.

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Christ the King Sunday is the last Sunday in the church year. Advent, the next Sunday, is the beginning of the new church year. Think about or make a list of how you were involved in the congregation's ministries in the last year. What were some highlights? How did you grow in your faith? Who did you get to know better? Then describe how you might be involved in the coming year. Conclude with a prayer: **Dear God, we ask that you work in and through our faith community as together we continue to grow in our faith. Through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**



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)