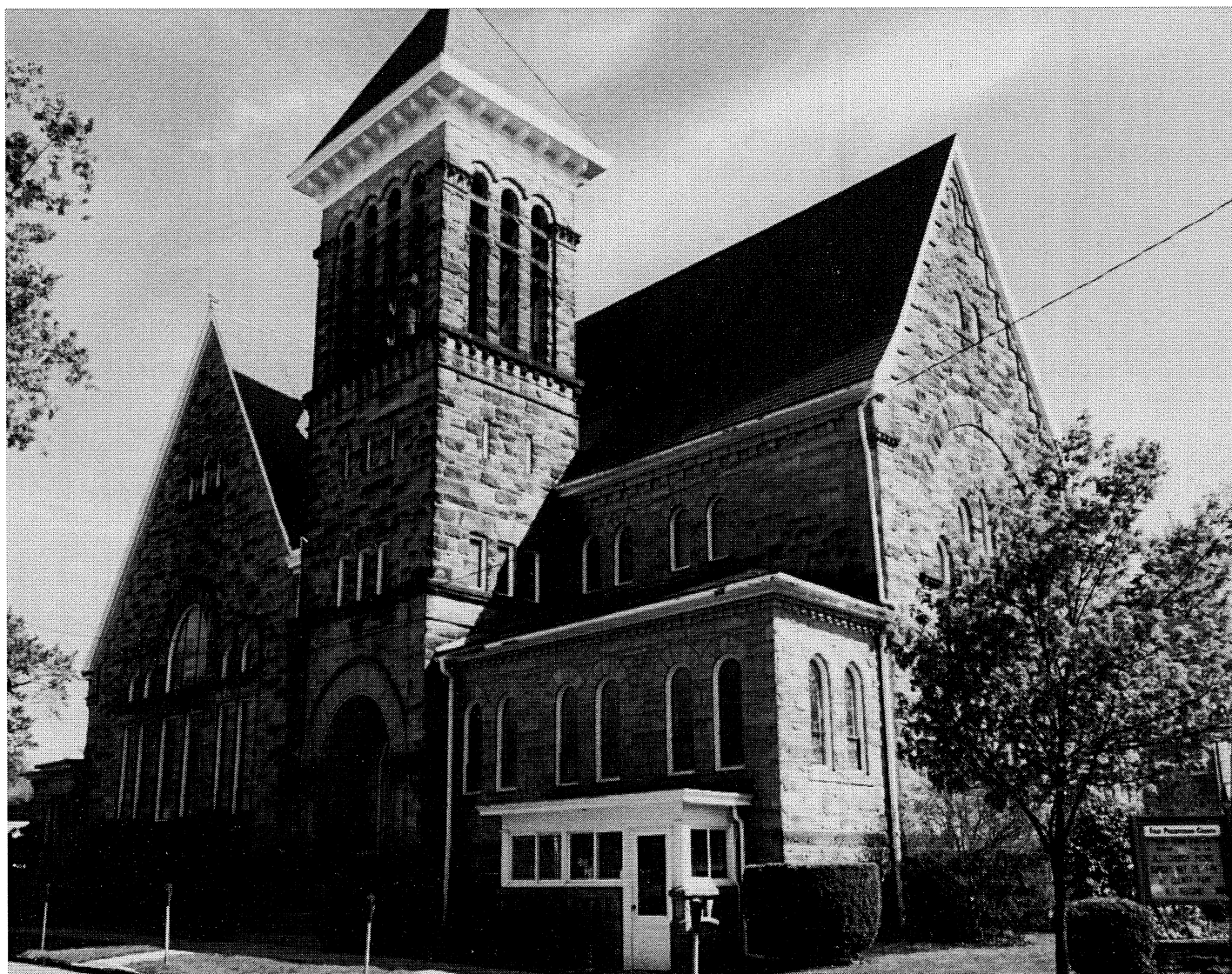


# *First Presbyterian Church*

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*Third Sunday After Pentecost*  
*June 18, 2023*



700 Wood Street, Clarion, PA 16214

814-226-8145

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[www.clarionfirstpresby.org](http://www.clarionfirstpresby.org)

We come together to worship, grow, and serve as disciples of Christ.

# We Gather in God's Name

(Tune your car radio to 88.7 FM)

Third Sunday After Pentecost

## Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Jeff Kapp

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

## Prelude

*This is My Father's World*

Traditional English Melody,  
arr. Gilbert Martin

## Chiming of the Trinity

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

## Call to Worship

We come together in the sure knowledge:

**God does not pass us by.**

We gather to worship knowing this truth:

**God fulfills promises.**

Even when we cannot muster belief:

**God is faithful to us.**

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

## ✠ Hymn No. 370

*This is My Father's World*

Text: Babcock, 1901  
Music: Sheppard, 1915

## ✠ Call to Confession

God hears our voices and our supplications. We can call on God in all our joys, doubts, successes, and failures. Knowing that God will listen, let us confess.

## ✠ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**God of our salvation, incline your ear to us. You have given us power: power to heal, to bring hope, to comfort, to restore. But we ignore that power, choosing to live our own lives. At worst, we abuse that power, storing up riches for ourselves without an eye for the needs of others. Forgive us. Remind us of our call to proclaim your good news, and to welcome each other as we would welcome you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

## ✠ Declaration of Forgiveness

The ancient words still bring truth today: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Praise be to God for this abounding love!

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

# We Share God's Word

## Time with the Children

Rev. Rebecca Mihm

## Prayer of Illumination

Jeff Kapp

## First Scripture

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

(p. 564)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.  
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“The 2 Lost Sons”

Rev. Rebecca Mihm

Piano Interlude

✦Hymn No. 693

Though I May Speak

Text: Hopson, 1972

Music: English folk melody; adapt. Hopson, 1972

We Give Thanks to God

✦Affirmation of Faith

6.097 The Westminster Confession of Faith

Such as truly believe in the Lord Jesus, and love him in sincerity, endeavoring to walk in all good conscience before him, may in this life be certainly assured that they are in a state of grace, and may rejoice in the hope of the glory of God: which hope shall never make them ashamed.

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory

Father’s Eyes

Gary Chapman

(Soloist: Debra Owens)

✦Doxology

✦Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✦Hymn No. 306

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Text: Fawcett, 1782

Music: Nägeli, 1828; arr. Mason, 1845

✦Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Fanfare on “Nicaea”

John Bacchus Dykes,  
arr. Nancy Hill Cobb

**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, the Postlude is a time to silently reflect on God and the mission to which we are called. We ask that you please remain silent and seated until the music has ended.

## 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).

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## CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

**Pastor:** Rev. Rebecca Mihm  
**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 2023:</u>	<u>Class of 2024:</u>	<u>Class of 2025:</u>
John Joy	Kathy Larimer	Jeff Deitz
Bert Louder	Elaine Matticks	Jeff Kapp
Jim McConnell	Pam Reid	Kurt Nesbitt

### Deacons:

<u>Class of 2023:</u>	<u>Class of 2024:</u>	<u>Class of 2025:</u>
Suellen Gourley	Bonnie Champion	Kim Lewis
Cindy Kapp	Marianne Reynolds	Lee Seitz
Norma Kooman	Mary Swanger	Lori Smith

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Pastor:** Rev. Rebecca Mihm  
**Lector:** Jeff Kapp  
**Time with Children:** Rev. Rebecca Mihm  
**Director of Music:** Bonnie Champion  
**Organist:** Jean Mitrosky  
**Sound Engineer:** Josh Deitz/Jeff Kapp  
**Video Engineer:** Dan Willy/Kurt Nesbitt  
**Acolytes:** Ruby Collett, Gavin Kunselman, Aubrie Scovel, Emma Willy  
**Ushers in Charge:** Cindy Kapp, Jeff & Michelle Deitz

**The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in memory of his grandparents Richard and Vesta Moore, by Rick McFarland.**

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship

\*\* Mission Team meeting immediately after Worship

## WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

6/12/2023

Our Treasurer is on vacation from 6/9 through 6/18. The deposit will be made after her return and printed in the bulletin on 6/25.

## NOTES:

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

### Monday, June 19

6:30 p.m. Community Committee  
7:00 p.m. Session, Chapel

### Tuesday, June 20

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

### Wednesday, June 21

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

### Next Sunday, June 25

10:00 a.m. Worship  
11:00 a.m. Not Your Mother's Salad Luncheon,  
Social Hall

## ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Pam Reid, CE Chair, at 227-5410 cell or 226-5820.

**August 11th—Ice Cream Social.** We'll be outside in the Aharrah Pavilion. Rumor has it there may be a blessing of the animals.

### Other Local Events:

**Pisgah Blood Drive, June 22nd:** Pisgah Presbyterian Church is hosting the American Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, June 22nd, from 12:00-5:30 pm. You are invited to join them in this life-saving effort. You can register at [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or by calling (800) 733-2767. Refreshments will be provided and the event is ADA accessible. The church is located at 36 Church Street, Corsica, PA.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**June 25th—Not Your Mother's Salad Luncheon!** Bring your salads and soups to a luncheon after church, sponsored by the Community Committee. Enjoy good food and fellowship with your church family! You are also asked to bring a donation to put in the collection box, proceeds of which will go to the Blessing Box.

**Our summer services need special music.** That won't happen without YOU! If you would like to sing a solo, sing a duet, or play an instrument I would love to put you on the schedule. Call me and volunteer for a Sunday. I know there are hidden talents out there! Why not add your name to a Sunday of your choice Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Bonnie (814) 227-4302.

### Looking Ahead:

**The New Wilmington Mission Conference (NWMC) will be held July 21-26 at Westminster College.** Missionaries and church workers from all over the world come to this event to share what God is doing in the world and to worship together. It is a place of fellowship, learning, encouragement, and love. NWMC has programming for all ages. This year there will be speakers from Ghana, Sri Lanka, Ohio, South Africa, Italy, and Massachusetts. For more information either go to [nmwcmmission.org](http://nmwcmmission.org) or see information available in the Ramp Room.

**Vacation Bible School!** VBS will be held July 24-27 from 6:30-8:00 pm for all ages. Registration forms are on the church website Resources page. Volunteers welcome! To participate in any capacity, whether it be planning, helping during VBS week, or monetary & supply donations, contact

## MEMBER CARE

### Please pray for:

- *Members with known health concerns:* Randy Cable, Virginia Mohny, Dorothy Jean Foreman, Beverly Wentling, Ruth Ann Minich, Jean Mitrosky, and Jim McConnell.
- *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; Kristen Maze's neighbor, Laurie Dickey; Bob Bowersox; Beverly Wentling's daughter, Rebecca Irwin; Bert Louder's grandson, Anthony Louder; Jim & Pat McConnell's friend, Pat Hargest; Dana Solida's friend, Jeff Kreibel; Marianne Reynolds' mother, Alice Davis; Jeff Deitz's friend, Alexandra Sharrar; Daniel Manson, Kurt Nesbitt's brother-in-law; Peggy, Dee Wenner's sister-in-law; Brenda, Brian Summerville's cousin; the family and friends of Emily Franciose; and the family and friends of Joni, Kristen Maze's sister.
- *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 Herb Thrush, Highland Oaks at Water Run, Rm. 303, 300 Water Run Road, Clarion, PA 16214.

JUNE 18, 2023  
THIRD SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

# taking faith home

*Sent out to do the work of Jesus.*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 9:35–10:23	The sending of the twelve
Monday	Exodus 19:2-8a	Israelites go to Mt. Sinai
Tuesday	Romans 5:1-8	How to be acceptable to God
Wednesday	Galatians 5:22–6:5	Bear one another's burdens
Thursday	Deuteronomy 15:7-11	How to treat the poor
Friday	Hebrews 13:1-8	Service well-pleasing to God
Saturday	Psalms 100	The Lord is good
Sunday	Matthew 10:24-39	The call and cost of discipleship

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*"As you [the twelve apostles] go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons." Matthew 10:7-8a (NRSV)*

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, you have promised to do great things through us. Give us eyes to see, ears to hear, and hands to do your will through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we are the sheep of your pasture; we thank you for this food, a gift of your steadfast love and faithfulness through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen. (Psalm 100)

### A Blessing to Give:

May the love of God be poured into your heart through the Holy Spirit. (Romans 5:5)



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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)

JUNE 18, 2023

## HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Savior, like a Shepherd  
Lead Us*

## 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 do you do to help others, and what gets in the way of helping others?
- How is the care you offer to others doing the work of Jesus?

## DEVOTIONS

*Read: Matthew 9:35–10:8.*

Jesus asks his disciples (described here as "apostles," that is, those sent) to go out and do what he does. They are to go out and announce the good news of the nearness of the kingdom of heaven, to heal sick people, raise the dead, and cast out demons. This is also the work that Jesus did (Matthew 4:17, 23-24). Casting out demons meant freeing people from all powers that prevented them from living full lives as those created by God. What Jesus did, we will do. However, there is no mistaking our own brokenness. Peter will deny Jesus three times, Judas Iscariot will betray him, Matthew the tax collector collaborated with the Roman government, and Simon the Cananaean was a "zealot" who worked against the Romans. The fact is that this motley crew is not so different from the church of any age and yet capable of doing Jesus' work by the power of the kingdom of heaven that has also come near to us.

*Discuss:* When have you been surprised by the healing power given to you to bless other lives?  
*Pray:* **Healing God, give us courage to face the challenges of daily life with love and hope that reaches out to others with the kingdom that has come near to us through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others to give them hope in their daily lives?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In many countries around the world today, the third Sunday in June, is Father's Day. It is a special day to cherish the role of fathers and of those with whom we have had a paternal relationship. This day is set aside to honor fathers and provide an opportunity to celebrate fatherhood. Think or talk about the father(s) and other men in your life. Write a list of their names, read them aloud, and pray: **Dear God, thank you for the gift of fathers and all men who have made a difference in our lives. For the care they have given us and the guidance they have shared with us, we give you thanks. Amen.**