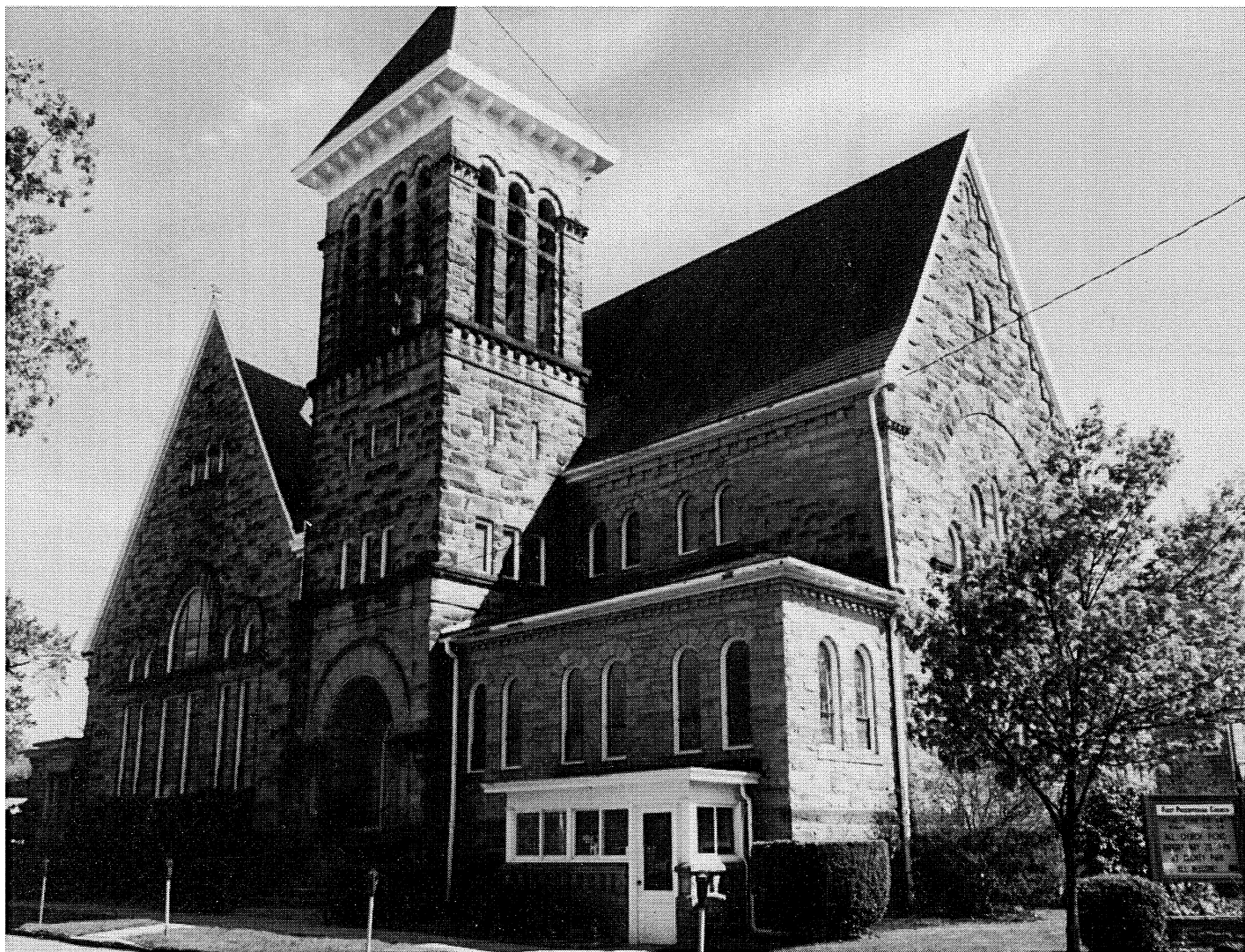


First Presbyterian Church



*Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 21, 2024*



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.

We Gather in God's Name

(Tune your car radio to 88.7 FM)

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Jeff Kapp

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

Prelude

Traditional Ukranian Lullaby
(Phyllis Howard on Dulcimer)

Arr. Carol Kappus

Chiming of the Trinity

Call to Worship

Christ calls to us:

"Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest awhile."

O God, you prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

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. 309

Come, Great God of All the Ages

✠ Call to Confession

God has called us to follow him faithfully. God's path is filled with life, joy, peace, and love. But we falter from our allegiance. So, let us seek to renew our intentions of following the Lord of light and love, grace and peace.

✠ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

We love you, O Lord, with our prayers and our songs. Forgive us when we do not love you with our actions. You have called us to tend your sheep: to care for your people around the world, to share what we have, and to reflect your love. Forgive us, O Lord, when our love for you is shallow, when our love for our neighbors is empty, and when our love for ourselves is hard to find. Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short, and by your forgiveness, free us to try again. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

✠ Declaration of Forgiveness

The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God's love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

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

Debra Owens

Prayer of Illumination

Jeff Kapp

First Scripture

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

(p. 281)

Second Scripture

Ephesians 2:11-22

(p. 192)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "We All Belong" Rev. Rebecca Mihm

Organ Interlude

✦ Hymn No. 321 *The Church's One Foundation*

We Give Thanks to God

✦ Affirmation of Faith *5.125 The Second Helvetic Confession*

The Church is an assembly of the faithful called or gathered out of the world; a communion, I say, of all saints, namely, of those who truly know and rightly worship and serve the true God in Christ the Savior, by the Word and Holy Spirit, and who by faith are partakers of all benefits which are freely offered through Christ.

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory *Medley of "I Need Thee Every Hour" and "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*
(Phyllis Howard on Dulcimer)

✦ Doxology

✦ Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✦ Hymn No. 761 *Called As Partners in Christ's Service*

✦ Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* L. van Beethoven, arr. Lani Smith

COPYRIGHTS:

Prelude: "The Dream Passes by the Windows (Traditional Ukrainian Lullaby)" arr. Carol Kappus. © 2022 *Carol Kappus* (Admin. by *Music Services, Inc.*) Livestreamed with permission of Carol Kappus.

1st Hymn: "Come, Great God of All the Ages" from *Glory to God* #309. Text: Mary Jackson Cathey, 1987. Music: Robert Schumann, 1839, alt. Livestreamed and reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727612, Public Domain.

2nd Hymn: "The Church's One Foundation" from *Glory to God* #321. Text: Samuel John Stone, 1866, alt. Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864. Text and Music: Public Domain. Livestreamed and reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727612, all rights reserved.

Offertory: "Medley 'I Need Thee Every Hour' and 'Great Is Thy Faithfulness'" Arr. Phyllis Howard. Thomas Obediah Chisholm, William Marion Runyan; Anne Sherwood Hawks, Robert Lowry. Words and Music for both songs: Public Domain. Livestreamed with permission under CCLI Streaming Plus License™ A-21963048, Public Domain.

3rd Hymn: "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" from *Glory to God* #761. Text: Jane Parker Huber, 1981. Music: John Zuneil, 1870. Livestreamed and reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727612, Public Domain.

Postlude: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee," from *The Organist*, OP-7-03-13. Ludwig van Beethoven, arr. Lani Smith. © 2003 *Lorenz Publishing Company*, a divisions of the *Lorenz Corporation*. Livestreamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727612, all rights reserved.

New Revised Standard Version Bible (NSRV) copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

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.

Find us on Facebook! (First Presbyterian Church of Clarion)

Radio Broadcast-WWCH 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).

All rights reserved. All sheet music uploaded to our website (clarionfirstpresby.org) for use with this worship service has been reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-727612.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE License #A-727612. All rights reserved.

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:

Class of 2024:	Class of 2025:	Class of 2026:
Kathy Larimer	Jeff Deitz	Norma Kooman
Elaine Matticks	Jeff Kapp	Dave Larimer
Pam Reid	Kurt Nesbitt	Cindy Stants

Deacons:

Class of 2024:	Class of 2025:	Class of 2026:
Bonnie Champion	Kim Lewis	Robin Cable
Marianne Reynolds	Lee Seitz	Tamalyn Goble
Mary Swanger	Lori Smith	Joey Kunselman

WORSHIP NOTES

Pastor: Rev. Rebecca Mihm
Lector: Jeff Kapp
Time with Children: Debra Owens
Director of Music: Bonnie Champion
Organist: Jean Mitrosky
Sound Engineer: Josh Deitz/Jeff Kapp
Video Engineer: Dan Willy/Kurt Nesbitt
Acolytes: Gavin Kunselman, Clara Stants, Jeremy Willy
Ushers in Charge: Robin Cable, Lee Seitz, Cindy Kapp

The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in honor of Bert Louder, by Pauline Henry.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship

WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

7/15/2024

Weekly Contributions

Envelope Contributions	\$3,250.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$152.00
Per Capita	\$37.00
Total Contributions	\$3,439.00

Weekly Donations

Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$25.00
Men's Fellowship	\$20.00
Total	\$45.00

Total \$3,484.00

NOTES:

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Tuesday, July 23

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

Wednesday, July 24

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

Next Sunday, July 28

10:00 a.m. Worship

Tuesday, July 30—Aug 2

6:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School—"All God's Creatures!"
Children and Adults

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Sunday, July 28, *Alium Spiritum* will join us for worship. They are a classical vocal quartet founded in 2018 by Brookville native Sean Taylor and his wife, Diane, who now live in Brownsville, Texas. They are joined by Lara Alami, from Detroit, Michigan, and Daniel Parks, from Williamsburg, Virginia. The quartet will sing four pieces during worship. Please come join us as they help us worship God that day.

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 30th through August 2nd. This year's theme is "All God's Creatures!" VBS will run for four evenings: 6:30—8:15 p.m. The first evening will start at 6:15 pm to allow for Registration. There will be crafts, music, snacks, games, and lessons. Puppets will also be appearing this year! **All children and adults are welcome as there will be lessons for both!**

Part-Time Treasurer Needed. Requires knowledge and experience with Quickbooks, payroll, bookkeeping, accounting, budgets, banking & financial reporting. Treasurer will work collaboratively with staff members, church boards & organizations. Approximately 8-10 hours per week. Submit cover letter and resume to First Presbyterian Church, 700 Wood Street, Clarion, PA 16214 or email to churchoffice@clarionfirstpresby.org or through clarionfirstpresby.org which is our website. Please share this with anyone you know who might be interested in the position.

Mission's Coat Project continues. The coat rack is on the walkway between the Ramp Room and the CE Building. Coats hung on the rack are for anyone who needs a coat. If you need a coat, please take one. If you have a coat or two that are new or still in great shape, hang them on the rack so someone else may be blessed with their warmth. New or gently-used tennis shoes are also needed.

PRAYER LIST

Randy Cable	<u>Bereaved</u>
Margy Port	The Jeri Reddinger family
Don McCord	
Shirley McKinley	<u>Around the World</u>
Pauline Henry	Everyone serving in the US
All our homebound members	Military
Mary Biser	
Charlotte Hartman	Gitwe Congregation in
Kenneth Daugherty, Jr.	Rwanda, our faith partners
Ben McKinley	
Laurie Dickey	<u>Homebound Member</u>
Anthony Louder	<u>of the Week</u>
Pat Hargest	Randy Cable
Alice Davis	450 Greenville Pike
Alexandra Sharrar	Clarion, PA 16214
Dr. Shannon Penland	His Birthday is July 27th.
Mary Kay Arth	
Tracey & Jody Hall	
Mason Martin and family	
Angelo Gehenio	
Joe Amato	
Tom Minich	
Rob Summerville	
Evie Renwick	
Richard Moore	
Bridget Mattson	
Cori	
Ellen DiBernardo	
Sam DiBernardo	
Chuck Reninger	
Sara Bennefield	
Edd Myers	
Bob McGregor	



JULY 21, 2024
NINTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

God cares for us like a shepherd.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56	Jesus teaches and heals
Monday	Jeremiah 23:1-6	God promises a righteous king
Tuesday	Ephesians 2:11-22	United by Christ
Wednesday	1 Peter 2:18-25	The example of Christ's suffering
Thursday	Matthew 9:35-38	Jesus talks about his suffering
Friday	Micah 2:12-13	A promise of hope
Saturday	Psalms 23	The Lord is my shepherd
Sunday	John 6:1-21	Jesus feeds the five thousand

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

As he [Jesus] went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. Mark 6:34 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Shepherding God, we thank you for supplying our wants with your healing touch that feeds us with your love through Christ Jesus our Shepherd and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, you care for us like a shepherd cares for the sheep; we thank you for this food, a gift of your loving care for us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God care for you and calm your fears through Christ our Lord.



© 2023 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.

JULY 21, 2024
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Have No Fear, Little Flock

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 you hear the word shepherd, what images come to mind?
- How does God act like a shepherd to calm your anxieties and give you hope?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Jeremiah 23:1-6.

The shepherds spoken of in this reading are the kings of Judah and Israel. These kings are recognized as shepherds, those who care for the people. Due to the injustices and unfaithfulness of most of the kings, the people have suffered. There is clearly prophetic judgment in this writing. The point of prophetic judgment is not scolding but hope. Through the prophet Jeremiah God gives hope to the people with the promise of a just and faithful shepherd king. The people will live without fear; they will not be appalled by events around them; they will not be abandoned or disappear from the face of the earth. Jesus, in the reading from Mark 6, is the one who comes as the Son of God, the true shepherd king. The people are in great need, fearful, and distressed. In Mark 6, Jesus comes with compassion to feed the five thousand, heal, and calm their anxieties and sicknesses.

Discuss: What needs to be shepherded with the goodness of God in our lives and in the world today?

Pray: Dear God, you shepherd us with your love that we may not live in fear or in want. We thank you for your compassion that touches our lives through Jesus Christ our shepherd. 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 help someone cope with their fears and anxieties?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalms 23 is one of the most familiar psalms in the Bible. Many people know this psalm by heart. A pattern of divine reading called *lectio divina* is a way to meditate and pray. Read Psalm 23 once, then pause. Read it again and then pick out a word or phrase that has meaning for you. Read it again and wonder how it speaks to you today. Consider highlighting or underlining the words or phrases you have chosen in your Bible. Pause and reflect on those words.

Pray: God of compassion and protection, give us peace and faith in knowing that you, our shepherd, pursue us with your goodness through 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