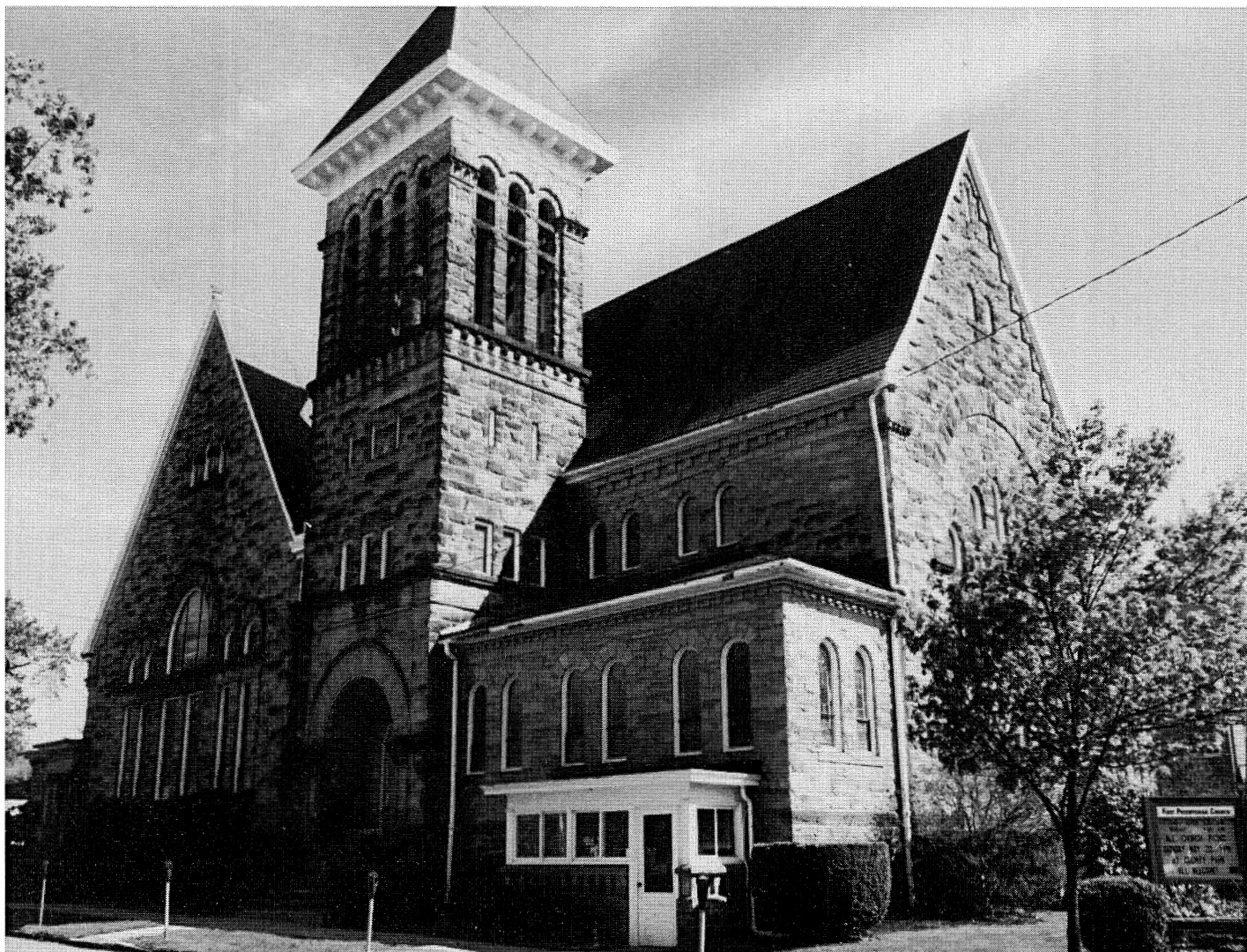


First Presbyterian Church



Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 7, 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)

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Jeff Kapp

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

Prelude

Improvisation on "Bunessan"

Hal H. Hopson,
Arr. Jean Mitrosky

Chiming of the Trinity

Call to Worship

We ponder your steadfast love, O God,
and our praise reaches the ends of the earth.

Tell the next generation:

Our God will be our guide forever.

Come, let us rejoice.

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. 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

✠ Call to Confession

We come not only to worship God, but also to receive our marching orders for the week. Where is it that God wants us to go? What is it that God wants us to say or do? What do we need to change in our lives in order that others will know God's love in and through our lives? Let us unburden ourselves in confessing our sin and seek to display God in all we say and do.

✠ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

You are love, O God, and you have loved us from the beginning. Forgive us when we do not share your love with the world: when we choose selfishness over compassion; what feels comfortable instead of faithfulness; when we value independence over community. Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short. Free us to try again, and let your love lead the way. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

✠ Declaration of Forgiveness

God loves us even when we fail to love. God claims us and invites us to become more and more like Jesus, reflecting the love and grace of God. We know this because Christ died for us even while we were still sinners.

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 Corinthians 12:2-10

(p. 185)

Second Scripture

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

(p. 279)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

Thanks be to God.

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:

| <u>Class of 2024:</u> | <u>Class of 2025:</u> | <u>Class of 2026:</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Kathy Larimer | Jeff Deitz | Norma Kooman |
| Elaine Matticks | Jeff Kapp | Dave Larimer |
| Pam Reid | Kurt Nesbitt | Cindy Stants |

Deacons:

| <u>Class of 2024:</u> | <u>Class of 2025:</u> | <u>Class of 2026:</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 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: Lee Seitz, Robin Cable, Cindy Kapp

The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in honor of Audrina Champion, by Bill and Bonnie Champion.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship

WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

6/30/2024

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Weekly Contributions | |
| Envelope Contributions | \$2,060.00 |
| Miscellaneous Cash Contributions | <u>\$423.25</u> |
| Total Contributions | \$2,483.25 |
| Weekly Donations | |
| Food Bag | \$400.00 |
| Caring Callers | <u>\$25.00</u> |
| Total | \$425.00 |
| Total | \$2,908.25 |

NOTES:

Sermon

“Faithful Through It All”

Rev. Rebecca Mihm

Organ Interlude

✠ Hymn No. 42

Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure

We Give Thanks to God

✠ Affirmation of Faith

6.088 The Westminster Confession of Faith

Good works, done in obedience to God’s commandments, are the fruits and evidences of a true and lively faith: and by them believers manifest their thankfulness, strengthen their assurance, edify their brethren, adorn the profession of the gospel, stop the mouths of the adversaries, and glorify God, whose workmanship they are, created in Christ Jesus thereunto, that, having their fruit unto holiness, they may have the end, eternal life.

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory

I Shall Not Want
(Soloist: Dana Solida)

Audrey Assad

✠ Doxology

✠ Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✠ Hymn No. 620

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

✠ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Variations “National Hymn” George H. Warren, John R. Peacey,
Arr. Jean Mitrosky

COPYRIGHTS:

Prelude: “Improvisation on ‘Bunessan’,” Hal H. Hopson, arr. Jean Mitrosky. © 2016 *Hope Publishing Company*. Livestreamed with permission under CCLI Streaming Plus License™ A-21963048, all rights reserved.

1st Hymn: “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past” from *Glory to God* #687. Text: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt. Music: Attr. William Croft, 1708. Livestreamed and reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727612, all rights reserved.

2nd Hymn: “Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure” from *Glory to God* #42. Text: Joy F. Patterson, 1989. Music: *Musikalisches Handbuch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Havergal, 1847, alt. Text: © 1990 Joy F. Patterson, 1990 *Selah Publishing Co., Inc.* Livestreamed and reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727612, all rights reserved.

Offertory: “I Shall Not Want” Audrey Assad, Bryan Brown. © 2013 *worshiptogether.com songs* (Admin. by *Capital CMG Publishing*), *Fortunate Fall Music* (Admin. by *Music Services, Inc.*). Livestreamed with permission under CCLI Streaming Plus License™ A-21963048, all rights reserved.

3rd Hymn: “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven” from *Glory to God* #620. Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1834, alt. Music: John Goss, 1869. Livestreamed and reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727612, all rights reserved.

Postlude: “Variations on ‘National Hymn’,” George W. Warren, John R. Peacey; arr. Jean Mitrosky; adapt. Lowell Mason; arr. Marilyn Thompson. Words: © 1978 *Hope Publishing Company*. Music: Public Domain. Livestreamed with permission under CCLI Streaming Plus License™ A-21963048, 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.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Tuesday, July 9

Head Start Health Registration & Dental Day

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

Wednesday, July 10

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

Thursday, July 11

2:00 p.m. Food Bag Distribution, CE Lobby

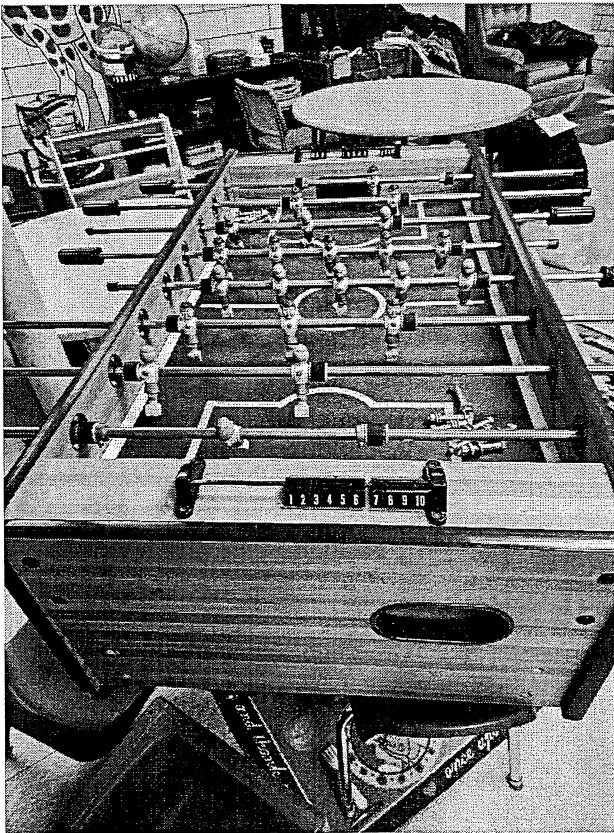
Next Sunday, July 14

10:00 a.m. Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Foosball Table Giveaway! The Property Committee is giving away a foosball table. To whomever would like to have it. It is in great condition. This is a "first come, first serve" basis. Please call this number and leave a message if you are interested: (814) 229-5836.



ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Looking Ahead:

- **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!

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 | Ellen DiBernardo |
| Margy Port | Chuck Reninger |
| Don McCord | Sara Bennefield |
| Shirley McKinley | Edd Myers |
| Pauline Henry | |
| All our homebound members | <u>Around the World</u> |
| Mary Biser | Everyone serving in the US |
| Charlotte Hartman | Military |
| Kenneth Daugherty, Jr. | |
| Ben McKinley | Gitwe Congregation in |
| Laurie Dickey | Rwanda, our faith partners |
| Anthony Louder | |
| Pat Hargest | |
| Michael McConnell | <u>Homebound Member</u> |
| Alice Davis | <u>of the Week</u> |
| Alexandra Sharrar | Don McCord |
| Dr. Shannon Penland | 9 Maronee Street |
| Mary Kay Arth | Clarion, PA 16214 |
| Tracey & Jody Hall | |
| Mason Martin and family | |
| Angelo Gehenio | |
| Jeri Reddinger | |
| Joe Amato | |
| Tom Minich | |
| Rob Summerville | |
| Evie Renwick | |
| Richard Moore | |
| Bridget Mattson | |
| Cori | |

JULY 7, 2024
SEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

**takingt
 faith
 home**

God's power is made perfect in weakness.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sunday | Mark 6:1-13 | Jesus sends the twelve |
| Monday | Ezekiel 2:1-5 | The Lord chooses Ezekiel |
| Tuesday | 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 | Paul's vision |
| Wednesday | 1 Peter 5:6-11 | Tending the flock |
| Thursday | Isaiah 43:1-3 | Restoration promised |
| Friday | Romans 8:26-27 | Spirit intercedes for us |
| Saturday | Psalms 123 | A prayer for mercy |
| Sunday | Mark 6:14-29 | The death of John the Baptist |

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Therefore I [Paul] am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:10 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious God, you who conquer all powers from the cross, guide us to a life of faith, hope, and love for the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this gift of food, and that you show us mercy and kindness each day. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with a humble heart and faith in Christ.

JULY 7, 2024
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Just a Closer Walk with Thee

**takingt
 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 experienced rejection from friends or family?
- How can God use your weaknesses to bring healing and hope to others?

DEVOTIONS

Read: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10.

Christian spirituality is a way of life that is shaped by the gospel. Paul says he could boast about a mystical spirituality, but he refuses (vv. 2-5). Instead, he lifts up his weakness *"for the sake of Christ"* (v. 10). In a world that seeks wisdom, power, and mystical experiences, Paul's message to the Corinthians and to us is a cautionary note. Christian spirituality for Paul is a life lived for the sake of Christ that is grounded in *"weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities"* (v. 10). Humble experiences open us to a strength, a wisdom, and a transformed life. This is a life very different from one that some in the Corinthian church promoted to show their godliness. In Mark 6 Jesus experiences rejection yet sends his disciples out with power and authority. Today, God's mercy, grace and healing power may look fragile, yet it is clothed in a gospel strength that changes lives.

Discuss: When have you experienced a difficult moment that was transformed by God's grace and power?

Pray: **Almighty God, help us to trust in your power that humbles the mighty and lifts up those experiencing insults, hardships, and persecutions for the sake of 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, how can you help someone who is experiencing a hardship?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Mark 6, Jesus sends out his disciples with very little to sustain their trip. They are to rely on the hospitality of others. The church was built on the humble act of being dependent on the generosity of others. Set out a cup in your home to remind you that God fills your cup (the "daily bread" you need), often through others. Let the cup remind you to be ready to receive the kindness of others as well as to be kind to others. When you set out the cup, pray the Lord's Prayer.