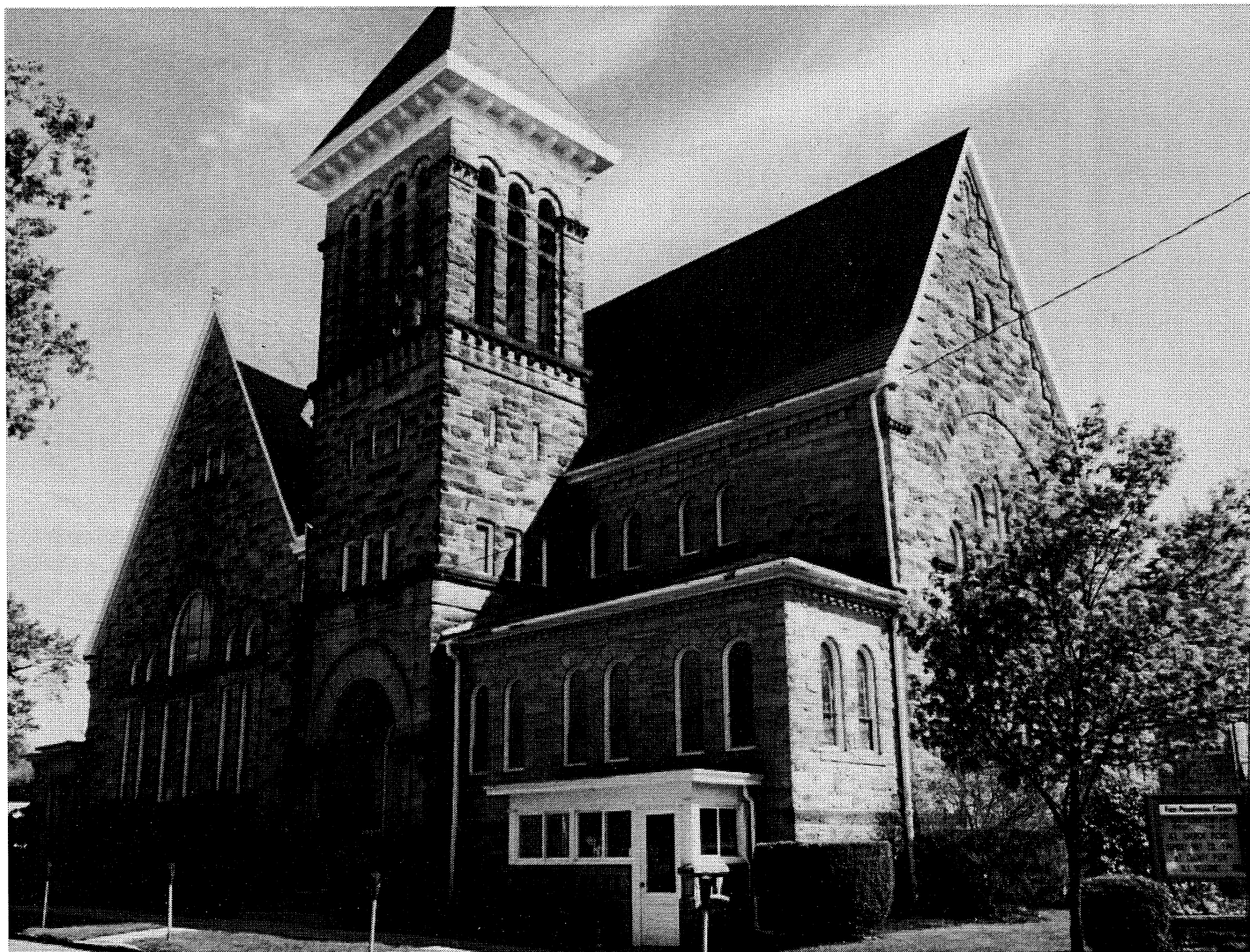


# *First Presbyterian Church*

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*5th Sunday After Pentecost  
July 13, 2025*



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.**

# We Gather in God's Name

(Tune your car radio to 88.7 FM)

5th Sunday After Pentecost

## Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Bill Champion

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

## Prelude

*O Spirit of Life*

David Cherwien,  
from *Gestliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623

## Chiming of the Trinity

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

## Call to Worship

We come with willing hearts and eager minds.

**Lead us in your truth, O God of our salvation!**

We come in our weakness and wander.

**Teach us your ways, O God of our salvation!**

We come seeking the path of justice.

**We are ready to follow, O God of our salvation!**

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

## ✦ Hymn No. 401

*Here in This Place*

## ✦ Call to Confession

## ✦ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious God, Jesus tells us that our lives are enriched by loving you and loving our neighbors. We confess that love is hard for us. We are too selfish or too pessimistic, too hollow or too hardened, or just too tired to give ourselves to love's demands. Forgive our arrogance and our listlessness. Cleanse our hearts that we might find the strength to do what love requires and the grace to receive what love has to give. We pray in the name of Jesus, whose love has no boundary. Amen.

## ✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

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

Bill Champion

## First Scripture

Colossians 1:1-14

(p. 199)

## Second Scripture

Amos 7:7-14

(p. 855)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

"Plumbing the Depths"

Rev. Rebecca Mihm

## Organ Interlude

## ✦ Hymn No. 747

*The Lord Now Sends Us Forth*

# We Give Thanks to God

## ✦ Affirmation of Faith

5.107 *The Second Helvetic Confession*

It is most certain that all of us are by nature sinners and godless, and before God's judgment-seat are convicted of godlessness and are guilty of death, but that, solely by the Grace of Christ and not from any merit of ours or consideration for us, we are justified, that is, absolved from sin and death by God the Judge.

## Call for the Offering

## Offering and Offertory

*Softly and Tenderly*  
(Soloist: Glenn Beichner)

Will L. Thompson

## ✦ Doxology

## ✦ Prayer of Dedication

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

### 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.

# We Go Forth to Serve

## ✦ Hymn No. 542

*God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

## ✦ Charge and Benediction

## Postlude

*Fantasy on "In Babilone"*

Richard Williamson

### 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.

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Hymn:** "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth" from *Glory to God* #747. Text: José Aguiar, 20<sup>th</sup> cent.; English trans. Gerhard M. Cartford, 1998. Music: Pedro Infante, 20<sup>th</sup> cent.; arr. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, 2006. Text (English Trans.): © 1998 *Augsburg Fortress*. Music Arr. : © 2003 *Augsburg Fortress*. Livestreamed and reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727612, all rights reserved.

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## 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 YouTube channel.

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)

**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:** Ann Brooks  
**Secretary:** Debra Owens  
**Sexton:** Mike Hetrick  
**Sound Engineer:** Josh Deitz  
**Video Engineer:** Dan Willy

### Ruling Elders:

<u>Class of 2025:</u>	<u>Class of 2026:</u>	<u>Class of 2027:</u>
Jeff Deitz	Norma Kooman	Bill Champion
Jeff Kapp	Dave Larimer	Matt Kurtas
Kurt Nesbitt	Cindy Stants	Kathy Larimer

### Deacons:

<u>Class of 2025:</u>	<u>Class of 2026:</u>	<u>Class of 2027:</u>
Kim Lewis	Robin Cable	Barb Beggs
Lee Seitz	Tamalyn Goble	Stacy Hoffman
Lori Smith	Joey Kunselman	Bert Louder

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Pastor:** Rev. Rebecca Mihm  
**Lector:** Bill Champion  
**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:** Clara Stants, Jeremy Willy, Andrew Scovel, Nathan Scovel, Sawyer Kunselman, Audrina Champion  
**Ushers in Charge:** Barb and Rick Beggs, Bert Louder

**The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in memory of Mary Louise and Ray Pope, by Pauline Henry.**

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship

## WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

7/6/2025

### Weekly Contributions

Envelope Contributions	\$2,345.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	<u>\$441.00</u>
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$2,786.00</b>

### Weekly Donations

Food Bags	\$385.00
Blessing Box	\$500.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$100.00
Men's Fellowship	\$200.00
Caring Callers	<u>\$25.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,210.00</b>

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,996.00</b>
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### Online Donations June 2025

Offering Contributions of \$676.82	\$664.50
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<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$4,660.50</b>
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## NOTES:

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

### Monday, July 14

6:00 p.m. VBS, Sanctuary Start

### Tuesday, July 15

7:30 a.m. Head Start Registration & Dental Clinic

6:00 p.m. VBS, Sanctuary Start

6:00 p.m. NA Meeting, Step Down Room

### Wednesday, July 16

6:00 p.m. VBS, Sanctuary Start

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

### Thursday, July 17

6:00 p.m. VBS, Sanctuary Start

### Saturday, July 19

9:00 a.m. Called Presbytery Meeting,  
Sanctuary & Social Hall

### Next Sunday, July 13

10:00 a.m. Worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**It's Almost Here!! Vacation Bible School starts Monday, July 14 and runs through Thursday, July 17; 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** The theme is **On The Road With Jesus**. The time will be filled with Bible lessons, crafts, and games aimed at learning: "The Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9. The program will culminate with participants singing during worship on Sunday, July 20. The First Presby Christian Education team is busy planning and creating and cannot wait to work with the children this summer!

**First Presbyterian** will be hosting a called Presbytery Gathering/Meeting on Saturday, July 19. If you are able to volunteer to help with the food service, please contact Norma Kooman at (814) 226-8808.

**Rummage Sale—August 8th and 9th:** The Fellowship Committee is having a rummage sale on August 8th and 9th. Please look for any clean, used clothes, treasures, and items that you can donate. Anything that is too large to transport yourself, please call Jeff Kapp or Bill Champion. Please do not bring items before July 27th. They can be left in the nursery in the church basement. If you have questions, please call Norma Kooman (814-226-8808) or Bert Louder (814-758-0455).

## PRAYER LIST

Randy Cable

Margy Port

Shirley McKinley

Pauline Henry

Ruth Ann Minich

Tam Goble

Jeff Deitz

Kathy Larimer

Mary Ann Lees

Greg Rhoads

Pat McConnell

Jim McConnell

Jill Siegel

Ginny Mohney

Dave Steward

All our homebound members

Mike

Bruce McClain

Nina Faust Joslin

Mike Hiles

Alec Booth

Greg Nesbitt

Barb Funk

Bereaved: Please remember  
the friends and family of:

Shirley Cyphert

Andy Monnat

Lynn Hepfl

Rick Finotti

Dennis McLaughlin

### Around the World

Everyone serving in the US  
Military

Gitwe Congregation in  
Rwanda, our faith partners

### Homebound Member of the Week

Sam Spencer

Edgewood Heights

612 Keck Avenue

New Bethlehem, PA 16242

Mary Biser

Charlotte Hartman

Ben McKinley

Anthony Louder

Pat Hargest

Alexandra Sharrar

Dr. Shannon Penland

Mary Kay Arth

Mason Martin and family

Rob Summerville

Evie Renwick

Cori

Chuck Reninger

Kay Caller

Dan Clark

Amy Benhoff

Archer Kunselman

Ryan Cornicki

Jerry Deitz

Don Neiderriter

Tom Minich

Rev. Robin Sharp

Kathy Meley

Shawn Martin

Clayton Hayden & family

John McConnell

Ryan Kemmer and family

A 2-year-old with eye cancer

A 4-year-old with kidney

Cancer

Terry Wensel

Kathy Lahr

Scott and Sherry Keefer

Carolyn McFarland's son,

JULY 13, 2025  
FIFTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

*Showing care to a stranger.*

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 10:25-37	The good Samaritan
Monday	Deuteronomy 30:9-14	Choose life, not death
Tuesday	Colossians 1:1-14	A prayer of thanks
Wednesday	Genesis 39:6-23	God protects Joseph
Thursday	James 2:1-13	Warning against favorites
Friday	Leviticus 19:17-34	Living a holy life
Saturday	Psalms 25:1-10	A prayer for guidance
Sunday	Luke 10:38-42	Only one thing needed

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers? He [a lawyer] said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."*

Luke 10:36-37 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Merciful God, it is your will to show steadfast love and faithfulness; give us faith to show your love and mercy to others for the sake of Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, you feed all through your loving kindness; we thank you for feeding us today and for showing us how to be kind to others. In Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May God bless you to have mercy for all.



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JULY 13, 2025  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
*When the Poor Ones*

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:

- How would you describe a good neighbor?
- When someone is called a good Samaritan, what does that mean to you?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 10:25-37.

A lawyer tried to trick Jesus by asking him, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (v. 25b). Jesus turned the tables and answered the lawyer with a question about what was written in the law. The lawyer gave a good answer that included the importance of loving "your neighbor as yourself" (v. 27). The lawyer fell into his own trap by asking another question: "And who is my neighbor?" (v. 29). He wanted to know who his neighbor was so he could identify who to care for. Jesus told the lawyer the parable of the Good Samaritan. In the story, the Samaritan, a foreigner, was the one who cared for the person in need. Ironically, for the lawyer, it was the foreigner who showed what it means to be a good neighbor. Instead of looking good in the exchange with Jesus, the lawyer looked ridiculous. The Samaritan showed that anyone who needs care is a good candidate to be one's neighbor.

Discuss: When have you shown care for someone who was not a family member, friend or acquaintance?

Pray: **Life-giving God, help us to be compassionate in our actions towards others that we may enjoy our life together and trust in your goodness through Christ our Savior and 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 show kindness to a stranger?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalms 25 guides us in understanding how to live in a relationship with God, one that is filled with promises. Faith practices we do in our homes strengthen our relationships with one another and with God. One faith practice is to read scripture daily. Read Psalm 25 and circle those words or phrases that guide you to a personal, trusted relationship with God. Write the words from Psalm 25:4, "Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths" on a paper. Place it beside your bed and recite the words each morning or night.



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)