

First Presbyterian Church



*Seventh Sunday of Easter
Communion Sunday
June 1, 2025*



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 of Easter
Communion Sunday

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

Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Jeff Kapp

Prelude

Trumpet Tune on "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Grimoaldo Macchia

Chiming of the Trinity

Introit

I Believe in God the Father

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

Call to Worship

The Lord is sovereign; let the earth rejoice!

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of God's throne.

The mountains melt like wax before the Lord.

The heavens proclaim God's righteousness, and all peoples behold God's glory.

For the Lord is most high over all the earth; God is exalted above all gods.

Let us worship God!

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

✠ Hymn No. 450

Be Thou My Vision

✠ Call to Confession

✠ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Holy God, you have shown yourself to us in Jesus, perfect in every way, compassionate and kind, faithful and loving, gracious and hospitable. We stumble and fall as we seek to follow him, struggling to make his ways our ways. Our sins are real, and they are many. Forgive our failings and encourage us to start again. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

✠ Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the Good News:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

✠ Gloria Patri

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

We Share God's Word

Time with the Children

Debra Owens

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture

2 Kings 2:1-15

(p. 332)

Second Scripture

John 17:20-26

(p. 111)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Jesus' Prayer"

Rev. Rebecca Mihm

Organ Interlude

✠ Hymn No. 300

We Are One in the Spirit

We Give Thanks to God

✦ Affirmation of Faith

10.3 *The Confession of Belhar*

We believe our unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory

Jesus Loves Me

Arr. Michael Hassell

(Saxophonist: Jordonna Bowser)

✦ Doxology

✦ Prayer of Dedication

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Partaking of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

We thank you God for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ, and have received Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✦ Hymn No. 361

O Christ, the Great Foundation

✦ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Through Faith the Victory

Gerald Peterson

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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.

It is our tradition in this church family to hold each element until everyone has received, and then partake together

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 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.

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 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).

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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: 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: Clara Stants, Jeremy Willy, Andrew Scovel, Nathan Scovel, Sawyer Kunselman, Audrina Champion
Ushers in Charge: Lee Seitz, Kim Lewis, Pam Reid

The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in memory of Marsha Beichner, by Glenn Beichner.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m. Heritage Brunch
11:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

5/25/2025

Weekly Contributions

Envelope Contributions	\$1,045.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$40.00
Total Contributions	\$1,085.00

Weekly Donations

Food Bags	\$135.00
Vacation Bible School Donation	\$50.00
Pentecost Offering	\$25.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$25.00
Total	\$235.00
Total	\$1,320.00

NOTES:

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Monday, June 2

7:00 p.m. Evening Circle, Chapel

Tuesday, June 3

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

Wednesday, June 4

10:30 a.m. Caring Caller, Pavilion

4:30 p.m. Food Bag Meeting

7:00 p.m. Deacons, Ministry Central

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

Next Sunday, June 8 Pentecost

10:00 a.m. Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is Heritage Sunday when we celebrate those who have been members of First Presbyterian Church for 50 or more consecutive years! If you see someone wearing a red carnation, congratulate them!

Caring Callers will have a brunch at 10:30 on Wednesday, June 4th before their regular meeting. Bring your own drink and a breakfast item to share. Silverware and plates will be provided. If it is nice weather we will meet outside in the Aharrah Pavilion, so watch the weather to know where we will meet.

Save the Date!! Vacation Bible School will be held on Tuesday, July 15 - Friday, July 18; 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. The theme is **Road Trip**. 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!

The New Wilmington Mission Conference is among the longest-standing mission conferences in the USA, and it's right in our backyard along I-80. This year's conference will be held from **July 18 - 23 at Westminster College**, and will feature national and international speakers of faith. Our mission committee would love members of the congregation to attend and grow in faith: to make it easier for you or your whole family to attend, the committee will hear requests for scholarships to reimburse mileage, lodging, or meals. You may attend for a day trip, or the whole conference, depending on your needs. Conference details are online : <https://www.nwmcmission.org/>. To discuss reimbursement/scholarship opportunities (all ages), email the church office: churchoffice@clarionfirstpresby.org to meet with a representative from the Mission Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Camp Lambec began as a joint venture among six Presbyteries, including our own, and offers amazing faith-based summer camp opportunities from June through August. Recent updates to facilities at the Camp have revitalized the camp experience. Our mission committee is hearing scholarship/reimbursement requests for local children or grandchildren of our congregation to attend any of the following 2025 camps: "Wet and Wild, grades 3-6"; "Wetter-N-Wilder, grades 7-12"; "Family Camps, all ages"; and "Music Camp, grades 4-college". Information is available at <https://campplambec.com/>. To discuss reimbursement/scholarship opportunities (all ages), please reach out to the church office via email: churchoffice@clarionfirstpresby.org to meet with a representative from the Mission Committee.

PRAYER LIST

Randy Cable	Shawn Martin
Margy Port	Sammy DiBernardo
Shirley McKinley	Clayton Hayden & family
Pauline Henry	John McConnell
Ruth Ann Minich	Ryan Kemmer and family
Tam Goble	Dave Schirmer
Jeff Deitz	A 2-year-old with eye cancer
Kathy Larimer	A 4-year-old with kidney
Mary Ann Lees	Cancer
All our homebound members	Terry Wensel
	Kaleb Pheiff
Mary Biser	Kathy Lahr
Charlotte Hartman	Gigi
Ben McKinley	Scott and Sherry Keefer
Anthony Louder	Carolyn McFarland's son,
Pat Hargest	Mike
Alexandra Sharrar	Bruce McClain
Dr. Shannon Penland	
Mary Kay Arth	<u>Bereaved:</u> Please remember
Mason Martin and family	the friends and family of:
Angelo Gehenio	Mary McCamant
Rob Summerville	
Evie Renwick	<u>Around the World</u>
Cori	Everyone serving in the US
Chuck Reninger	Military
Kay Caller	Gitwe Congregation in
Dan Clark	Rwanda, our faith partners
Amy Benhoff	
Archer Kunselman	<u>Homebound Member</u>
Ryan Cornicki	<u>of the Week</u>
Jerry Deitz	
Don Neiderriter	Beverly Wentling
Tom Minich	157 S. 5th Avenue
Rev. Robin Sharp	Clarion, PA 16214
Kathy Meley	

JUNE 1, 2025
SEVENTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER



Love and mercy triumph over suffering.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 17:20-26	Jesus prays for his disciples
Monday	Acts 16:16-34	Paul and Silas in prison
Tuesday	Revelation 22:12-21	Christ is coming soon
Wednesday	Exodus 33:12-23	Moses' intercession
Thursday	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	The ministry of reconciliation
Friday	Luke 11:1-4	The Lord's Prayer
Saturday	Psalms 97	The Lord brings justice
Sunday	John 14:8-17, 25-27	Jesus promises the Holy Spirit

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

At the same hour of the night he [prison guard] took them [Paul and Silas] and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. Acts 16:33 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, just as you and Jesus are one, give us the grace and peace to be one with you and with all believers so that the world may see and believe. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Nurturing God may this food strengthen us to be your faithful witnesses to the world that others may know your grace and mercy in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. (Revelation 22:21)



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JUNE 1, 2025

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Take, Oh, Take Me
As I Am*



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 think life is like for those who work at or are in a prison?
- Where have you witnessed the church at work in the world today?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Acts 16:16-34.

The suffering of Paul and Silas is real. Their prayers and hymn singing while in prison are also real. The other prisoners are moved by what they hear. Two miracles happen nearly simultaneously. One, an earthquake opens all the prison doors, yet no prisoner leaves and two, the selfless acts of the prisoners lead a prison guard and his family to faith in God and "baptism without delay" (v. 33). This is the power of love and mercy over the power of abuse and deceit just experienced by Paul and Silas. This story from Acts serves as an example of the larger story of the church. Disciples walk with power, but that power does not keep them from being harmed. Amid trials and suffering, the work of the church continues. The church lives in a world that can seem unfair yet is called to respond with praise to God and love for all. The church grew in those years as followers showed the love of God. Entire households joined the church through the gift of faith and of baptism.

Discuss: How have you witnessed the gift of faith and baptism making a difference in your life or the life of someone you know?

Pray: God of power and mercy, we pray for the work of the church and our witness in the world through acts of love and mercy in the name of Jesus Christ. 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 mercy to those who are treated unfairly?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In John 17:20-26, Jesus prayed that the love of God may be in his followers and that their lives as disciples would also reveal his love for others. Jesus prayed not only for his disciples but for all future disciples. He prayed for us. Disciples serve God through acts of kindness towards all people whether rich, poor, in need, from a different background, or non-believers. Take a moment to fold your hands in prayer. As you look at your hands, think about how Jesus prayed for you and about how you can pray for others.

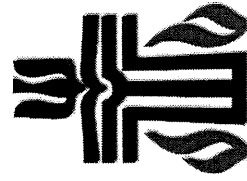
Pray: Lord Jesus, help us to become one with Christians around us, so that our love points others to you. Amen.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

06/19/1966	Virginia Raybuck Mohnney
04/11/1968	Doug Bills
04/11/1968	Mary Michael Jones
04/11/1968	John Port
04/03/1969	Ann Lawrence Brooks
04/03/1969	Greg Rhoads
03/26/1970	Jeffrey W. Deitz
03/26/1970	Cindy Simpson Kapp
03/26/1970	Ethel "Bert" Mong Louder
03/26/1970	John A. McKinley
03/26/1970	Shirley R. Daugherty McKinley
04/08/1971	Tammy Canaday Slike
03/30/1972	Lee Zerfoss Seitz
10/29/1974	Carolyn Moore McFarland
*10/19/1975	Delores Seigworth Wenner

* new addition for 2025



HERITAGE SUNDAY JUNE 1, 2025



Prayers of praise and thanksgiving are offered to our God for the long service of our Fifty years or more members, many of whom are with us this morning. Current Fifty or more members are as follows:

03/21/1948	Beverly Fulton Galbraith
03/21/1948	Shirley Cook Hager
03/26/1959	Kent Pope
04/14/1960	Tom Wenner
10/01/1961	Gail Baptist
04/11/1963	Maryann George Lees
04/11/1963	Sharron Stroup Martin
12/29/1963	Susanne Angehr Burns
12/29/1963	Eugene Burns
04/15/1965	Adeline Daugherty Chikosky
04/15/1965	Pauline Finotti Henry
04/15/1965	Dennis A. McLaughlin
04/15/1965	Anita M. McLaughlin
10/03/1965	Susan Christy Joy
04/07/1966	Jan Corbett
04/07/1966	Rick Goble
04/07/1966	Marcia Mooney Rearick
04/24/1966	Dave Steward

