

First Presbyterian Church



309 Lincoln Street, Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15901

Vision Statement ~ We seek to become a Christian people of Spiritual Vitality and Faithfulness embraced by the love of God in Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit, as we love God and our neighbors, near and far.

Mission Sunday

April 16, 2023 Ms. Roxann Tyger, *Guest Speaker* • Joyce Gerlach, *Liturgist* 10:45 A.M.

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP Welcome to worship as we continue to rejoice in the good news of Christ's resurrection. As you listen to the prelude, please read over the service in the bulletin and meditate on the words, so that they may be an inspiration to you as you worship.
*Signifies to please stand if you are able.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

THE PRELUDE

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

Marsh

WELCOME

CENTERING HYMN

"Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place"

(Refrain x2) Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place. I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace. I can hear the brush of angel's wings; I see glory on each face. Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on John 20:19-31)

Christ is risen! He greets us with a word of peace.

We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him!

Christ is risen! Locked doors and doubting hearts cannot keep him away.

We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him!

Christ is risen! He comes to bless us with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

We welcome the risen Christ! We worship and adore him.

THE PRAYER OF APPROACH

Mighty God, we do not yet see the glory you plan for all humankind, but in faith we do see Jesus. We thank you for the humility and holiness in which he lived and died. We praise you that he freed us from sin, that he comforts and strengthens us through our struggles, and that he gives us courage to follow him. For this we now join with all creation and cry out for joy: Holy, holy, holy are you, Lord! Amen!

***THE OPENING HYMN #482**

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Begin in silence, reading over the Prayer of Confession and preparing to pray it together.

Savior God, forgive our doubts and disbelief. You show up in our lives, yet we fail to notice you and demand more proof. We expect more when you have already given us enough. Forgive our lack of faith. Forgive our lack of gratitude. Redeem us. Restore us. Resurrect us for life in Christ. Amen!

***THE ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

There is no sin so terrible that God's love cannot forgive. The love poured out on Jesus' cross covers your sin. Your sin is forgiven.

There is no sin so terrible that God's love cannot forgive. The love poured out on Jesus' cross covers your sin. Your sin is forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

***THE RESPONSE #579 "The Gloria Patri"**

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON **Isaiah 58:8-12**

THE GOSPEL LESSON **Matthew 25:34-45**

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE MESSAGE

Ms. Roxann Tyger

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***THE HYMN OF RESPONSE #423 Jesus Shall Reign Wher'er the Sun"**

***THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***THE OFFERING of our Tithes, Time, and Talents**

THE ANTHEM

“As a Fire is Meant for Burning”

***THE DOXOLOGY #592 AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Risen and redeeming God, you have given us more than we could ever give you in return. You are gracious and generous in your love. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless our work on Christ’s behalf. May we love as Christ loved. May we serve as Christ served. Call us forth into your world, guided by Christ’s spirit. Amen.

THE PRAYERS AND PRAISES OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***THE CLOSING HYMN pg. 8 in *The Hymns We Sing* “Because He Lives”**

***THE CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION**

Go into God’s world with faith.
We weep for this hollow society.
Go into God’s world with peace.
We strive to live forgiving lives.
Go into God’s world with hope.
We’ll share the Gospel and the joy of the Spirit.
Go into God’s world with love.
We long to join Jesus in His service and victory.

***THE BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE “Andante Mosso” *Vierling

During the Postlude, you are welcome to stay and pray, simply enjoy the music, or head out into the world to meet the rest of your day, whichever is preferable to you.

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THIS WEEK’S EVENTS

TODAY	12:00 PM	THIRD SUNDAY PROGRAM & LUNCH
MONDAY	6:00 PM	GIRL SCOUT TROOP #30207
	6:30 PM	NAR-ANON
TUESDAY	10:30 AM	BIBLE STUDY
WENDESDAY	4:30 PM	CHICKEN & BISCUIT DINNER
THURSDAY	6:00 PM	ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE
SUNDAY	9:30 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
	10:45 AM	MISSION SUNDAY WORSHIP

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Bacon, Kresak

WE EXTEND a friendly welcome to all who are visiting with us today. If you would like to learn more about First Presbyterian Church, please let the pastor know after the service.

PARISH NURSE Pat Betts will be in the office Tuesday & Thursday from 9:00 am to noon. Please feel free to stop by or give her a call!

VISION & HEARING ASSISTANCE Large print hymnals and wireless hearing devices are available from the Deacons.

IF YOU ARE AWARE of anyone who has any health concerns and would appreciate a phone call or visit and prayer, please let Pastor Hyiwot, Pat Betts or the office know. Also, if you are admitted to the hospital and would like a visit, be sure to let the hospital staff know or contact Pat or the office.

PINE SPRINGS CAMP is collecting empty printer ink cartridges, which are recycled for funds which help enhance the camping programs. Place your "empties" in the box under the bulletin board at the top of the Lincoln Street steps. Please note that there has been a change to the program: they do not accept laser/toner cartridges, they'll accept INKJET cartridges only.

NON-PERISHABLE food items are collected each week and taken to the Food Pantry at Franklin Street U. M. Church. It's easy to pick up an extra box of macaroni and cheese, jar of peanut butter, or can of vegetables while you're doing your grocery shopping. The donation basket is by the Lincoln Street entrance.

THE FLOWER CHARTS are up in the hallway to the Parlor and are ready to fill in for 2023. Please fill in your name and the dedication for the person or persons the flowers are for, as you wish it to appear in the bulletin. Silk flowers are \$15 (which goes to Saturday's Kitchen) and the cost for real flowers is \$45. Thanks!

CHANCEL FLOWERS Due to spiraling costs, the price of real chancel flowers has been raised to \$45.

FROM THE DEACONS: If you would like to dedicate the lighting of the Christ Candle in memory or in honor of a loved one, the sign-up chart for 2023 is in the hallway by the flower charts. Please fill in your name and name the person/s to whom the lighting is dedicated as you wish it to appear in the bulletin. There is no cost.

THANK YOU to Gary McClelland for serving as organist today.

FOCUS ON PRAYERS: Jesus, my faith, like that of Thomas, is always tinged with some doubt. Thank you for blessing me anyway with your love and acceptance.

THE DEACONS are holding a **Chicken & Biscuit Dinner** this **Wednesday, April 19th**, from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. Take-outs available at 4:00 PM, Dinner served at 4:30 PM. Call the church at 536-8141 to RSVP for take-out or eat-in. The cost of the dinner is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 10 & under.

THE GENEVENS Because of conflicts with Easter and Mother's Day, The Genevens will skip their April and May meetings. The next meeting will be held Sunday, June 11th, 1:00 PM, at the Boulevard Grill

AS THE ALPHA SESSIONS come to a close for this term, there is an opportunity for anyone that might be interested in finding out what Alpha is about to attend the Celebration Dinner on May 2, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Pat Betts, Charnet Koch, and Pastor Hyiwot, who have been attending this term, have all found it very meaningful and helpful in their walk of faith. After the dinner, which they've heard is very good, there will be a time for viewing some videos to introduce you to what Alpha is all about. While twelve weeks may seem like a long commitment, the time goes by quickly and you'll be glad you made the decision to participate. There is no charge for this evening's events. If interested in attending this Celebration Dinner, please let the office know no later than Friday, April 21, 2023. All are welcome.

THIRD SUNDAY PROGRAM & LUNCH Join us at noon for our Third Sunday Program & Lunch, "Down Memory Lane". Isabel Cruse will be sharing a DVD of a past Mother & Daughter Banquet.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE will meet this Thursday, April 20th at 6:00 PM

UPPER ROOM The May/June Issue of the *Upper Room* is available in the office to those who subscribe.

THANK YOU to Joyce Gerlach and Sheila Farrer for serving as worship leaders today.

THANK YOU to Ms. Roxann Tyger for speaking on this Mission Sunday.

"JESUS DIED FOR YOU, SO LIVE FOR HIM"

"ROTO REVIEW" (Reach Out To Others)

Lenten Pastor: Rev. Chuck MacPherson
Email: cmfirstpresby2004@windstream.net

CHURCH:

Phone: (814) 536-8141

Email: 1stpresjohnstown@gmail.com

Website: www.1stpresjohnstown.org

Parish Nurse: Mrs. Patricia Betts
Choir Director: Mr. William A. Williams

Organist: Mr. Richard Kimmel

Ministers: All members of First Presbyterian Church

Administrative Assistant: Caroline Goller