

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.

Third Sunday of Easter

April 23, 2023 Rev. Hyiwot Teshome, *Pastor* • Sheila Farrer, *Liturgist* 10:45 A.M.

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP Welcome to worship, Christian education and fellowship. May God bless and strengthen you here today! 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

“Amazing Grace”

Early American Melody

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

Leader: We are on our road to Emmaus.

People: Burn our hearts so we recognize you.

Leader: Give us the Good News to share with others:

People: That our Lord is Alive!

ALL: Let join each other and worship the Risen Lord.

THE PRAYER OF APPROACH

Loving and faithful God, we come into your presence full of joy. We come to sing your praise, we come to hear your words of power, and we come to share your all-embracing love. We say this in the name of your Risen Son. Amen.

*THE OPENING HYMN #507

“I Come With Joy”

*THE CALL TO CONFESSION

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

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

Gracious and generous God, we continue to doubt your Word and your promise. Our fears distract us from your truth. Your gifts of love and grace to us are not reflected onto others. We foolishly cling to earthly things. We beseech you, open our hearts and minds so we may be receptive to your teachings and your commandments. In the Risen Lord we pray, Amen.

***THE ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Leader: Friends, hear and believe the Good News of the Gospel

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are 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 **Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19**

THE GOSPEL LESSON **Luke 24:13-35**

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE HOMILY

“Be Not Clueless”

Pastor Hyiwot

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***THE HYMN OF RESPONSE #513 “Let Us Break Bread Together”**

***THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Book of Worship

This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

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

THE ANTHEM #113

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

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

God, you have called us to be your people in this place. You have given us so much, and now we take time to respond with gratitude and share what has been given to us. Generous God, for all that you have given us, we thank you. Accept our offering as a token of our love and gratitude. 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 #521 “You Satisfy The Hungry Heart”**

***THE CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION**

***THE BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE “Andante in C Major” *Rinck

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.

+++++

THIS WEEK’S EVENTS

MONDAY	1:00 PM	WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION
	6:30 PM	NAR-ANON
TUESDAY	10:30 AM	BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAY	6:00 PM	SESSION
NEXT SUNDAY	9:30 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
	10:45 AM	WORSHIP
	After Worship	MISSION/STEWARDSHIP

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Anderson, Barkhimer

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.

FOCUS ON PRAYERS: As you walk with me through life, Jesus, help me recognize you and invite you to stay.

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

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 signup 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.

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. at Our Mother Of Sorrows parish. 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 absolutely no later than this Monday, April 24, 2023. All are welcome.

CAMBRIA CITY MISSION will hold their 2023 Annual Banquet on Monday, May 1st, at 6:00 PM. The banquet will be hosted at Pleasant Hill Church of the Brethren, 856 Benschhoff Hill Road. Cost is \$20 per person. Dinner menu is Salad, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Rosemary Potatoes, Roasted Broccoli, Dessert. Please consider attending to support this important mission, or making a donation even if you can't attend. Checks are payable to Cambria City Mission. RSVPs are due this Friday.

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

THANK YOU to Sheila Farrer for serving as liturgist today.

THANK YOU to Gary McClelland for serving as organist last Sunday and today.

"PATIENCE IS TRUSTING IN GOD'S TIMING"

"ROTO REVIEW" (Reach Out To Others)

Pastor: Rev. Hyiwot Teshome
Email: PastorHyiwot@gmail.com

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: Jennifer Kist
Ministers: All members of First Presbyterian Church
Administrative Assistant: Caroline Goller

THE SESSION

Class of 2023
Joyce Gerlach
Gary Menett
Bill Williams

Class of 2024
Pat Betts
Chuck Benson

Class of 2025
Gary Mapes
Roy Gindlesperger
Richard Feller
Charnet Koch

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2023
Michelle Bragg
Barry Compton
Brenda Noon
Lynne Williams

Class of 2024
Carla Davis
Sheila Farrer
Agnes Gindlesperger

Class of 2025
Wendi Sokira