

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.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023 Rev. Hyiwot Teshome, *Pastor* • Sheila Farrer, *Liturgist* 10:45 A.M.

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP With the psalmist we proclaim, “You prepare a table before me ... my cup overflows” (Psalm 23:5, NRSV). Welcome to worship as we praise and thank the Lord our Shepherd. 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

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 Psalm 23)

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd, we shall not want

People: He makes us lie down in green pastures

Leader: He leads us in the right path

People: We fear no evil, for he is with us!

ALL: Let us worship and dwell in the house of the Lord!

THE PRAYER OF APPROACH

Shepherding God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that we, your humble flock, may arrive home where our Shepherd, the Risen Lord, is now dwelling. In the name of the one who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*THE OPENING HYMN #404

“Precious Lord Take My Hand”

*THE CALL TO CONFESSION

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

For those who have no place to rest, may our gifts provide shelter. For those who hunger for justice, may our generosity satisfy that hankering. For those that are suffering, may our offerings deliver them solace. For those who are suffering, may we give ourselves as companions on that journey. For those who are alone and afraid, may our blessings bring forth a loving and caring community. In Jesus' name, we pray. 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 #172 "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"**

***THE CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION**

***THE BENEDICTION**

***THE POSTLUDE**

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	After Worship	MISSION/STEWARDSHIP
MONDAY	6:00 PM	GIRL SCOUTS
	6:30 PM	NAR-ANON
TUESDAY	10:30 AM	BIBLE STUDY
NEXT SUNDAY	9:30 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
	10:45 AM	WORSHIP
	After Worship	SOCIAL HOUR

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Belz, Moehler

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.

FOCUS ON PRAYERS: Jesus, Good Shepherd, as you lead, help me know your voice better each day and eagerly follow you. Amen.

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.

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!

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.

THE FLOWERS this morning are dedicated to the Glory of God and placed in honor of Bill & Lynne Williams in appreciation of their tireless work in numerous aspects for our church and congregation in the honor of God.

FOREST HILLS COMMUNITY BAND will hold a concert in our sanctuary on Sunday, May 14, at 7:00 PM. There is no cost to attend. You may remember their performance from last spring or from the Festival of the Nativity. Our own Sheila Farrer is a member of the band. We hope to see you there!

THE DEACONS are holding a **Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner** on **Wednesday, May 17**, from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. Take-outs are available at 4:00 PM, Dinner served at 4:30 PM. Dinner includes Spaghetti & Meatballs, Salad, Bread, and Dessert. Call the church at 814-536-8141 to RSVP for take-out or eat-in. The cost of the dinner is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 10 & under.

THE MEN’S BREAKFAST scheduled for May 6th has been CANCELLED due to travel obligations by Pastor Hyiwot. Francis and Pastor Hyiwot regret the cancellation and look forward to the next one on June 3rd.

THERE ARE SIX NARCAN NASAL SPRAYS available for opiate overdose emergencies located in 1) the office on the right side of the fireplace mantle; 2) on top of the first aid station in the hallway near the parlor entrance; 3) at the Deacon’s station in the back of the sanctuary; 4) in the kitchen in the drawer under the phone; 5) Pat’s office; and 6) Pastor Hyiwot’s office.

THANK YOU to Sheila Farrer for serving as liturgist today.

THANK YOU to Michael Meketa for serving as organist today.

“EVERY STONE HAS ITS OWN BEAUTY”

“ROTO REVIEW” (Reach Out To Others)

Pastor: Rev. Hyiwot Teshome

Email: PastorHyiwot@gmail.com

CHURCH:

Phone: (814) 536-8141

Email: 1stpreshjohnstown@gmail.com

Website: www.1stpreshjohnstown.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