

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.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2023

Rev. Hyiwot Teshome, *Pastor* • Pat Betts, *Liturgist*

10:45 A.M.

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP In John 17, Jesus prays that his Father will protect and unify his followers. In confidence that God binds us together as Christ's family, let us join in worship. 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

“Where Charity and Love are Found”

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

L: Our Lord is praying for us

P: Thanks be to God

L: The Messiah is interceding on our behalf

P: Thanks be to God

L: We revel in His Love

P: Alleluia and Amen!

ALL: Let us worship God!!

THE PRAYER OF APPROACH

Perceiving God, you have heard your Son's prayers on our behalf. Glorify us just as you have glorified him. May we take the words in this prayer to heart and resolve to be one with each other. Amen.

*THE OPENING HYMN #413 “All Who Love and Serve Your City”

*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 pg. 79 in *The Hymns We Sing

“They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love”

***THE CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION**

***THE BENEDICTION**

***THE POSTLUDE**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

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	1:00 PM	WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
	6:30 PM	NAR-ANON
TUESDAY	10:30 AM	BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAY	6:00 PM	SESSION
NEXT SUNDAY	10:45 AM	PENTECOST SUNDAY WORSHIP

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Blair, Cherry

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!

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.

FOCUS ON PRAYERS: As you, Jesus, sent your disciples out as witnesses to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and beyond (Acts 1:8), send us as witnesses in our neighborhood, city, region and beyond. Amen.

JOIN US TODAY after worship for our Third Sunday Program & Lunch. **Pastor Hyiwot** will be our speaker. He will talk about his life story - how he grew up in Ethiopia, what led him to come to this country and how he ended up in ministry. He will also talk about his call to FPC and how he hopes to expand it into the community that surrounds FPC.

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. They are easy to use and simple instructions are printed on the box flap.

THE CHRIST CANDLE has been lit today by Lynne & Bill Williams in memory of Lynne's mother, Louise Barnhart, to commemorate her birthday.

THANK YOU to Pat Betts for serving as liturgist today.

MEMORIAL DAY: The office will be closed for observation of Memorial Day on Monday, May 29th. Please plan accordingly.

WEAR YOUR RED, YELLOW, AND ORANGE – the colors of the flame of the Holy Spirit – next Sunday for Pentecost.

SUMMER HOURS BEGIN IN TWO WEEKS ON JUNE 4TH with worship at 10:00 am.

“GOD'S RETIREMENT PLAN IS OUT OF THIS WORLD”

“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

Class of 2023

Joyce Gerlach

Gary Menett

Bill Williams

THE SESSION

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