

# First Presbyterian Church



309 Lincoln Street, Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15901

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*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.*

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## Second Sunday in Lent

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March 1, 2026      Rev. Danielle Kendig, *Pastor* • Wendi Sokira, *Liturgist*      10:45 A.M.

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**THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP** During this Lenten season, we praise God for His righteous Son, who perfectly kept all of God's commandments for us and paid the full price for our disobedience. Let us praise him with hearts filled with Christ's spirit of obedience. 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**      “Called to Go”

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**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.*

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 121

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills, where does my help come from?

**People: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: The Lord will not let our feet be moved and watches over us day and night.

**People: The One who keeps us neither slumbers nor sleeps.**

Leader: The Lord watches over our coming and our going, now and forever.

**All: Let us worship God!**

**\*THE OPENING PRAYER** Genesis 12:1-4a; John 3:5-8

**Gracious God, you are our way in the wilderness. As we begin this Lenten journey, keep us faithful in times of struggle and testing. Sustain us with your Spirit, strengthen us in our weakness, and turn our hearts toward your righteousness, that we may live in peace and serve you alone; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

**\*THE OPENING HYMN** “We Are Called to Be God’s People” (see insert)

**\*THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

**\*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Genesis 12:1-2; John 3:6-8

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

**Gracious God, you call us to go where we have not planned to go and to trust you more than our own understanding. Yet we confess that we are slow to follow. We prefer what is familiar to what is faithful, and certainty to trust. You offer us new life through your Spirit, but we resist being changed. We fear letting go of who we have been and hesitate to become who you are calling us to be. Forgive us, O God. Breathe your Spirit into us again, that we may be born anew, and find the courage to follow where you lead. Amen.**

**\*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Genesis 12:3; John 3:16-17

**Leader:** Hear the good news: The God who calls us is faithful, and the God who gives new life does not abandon us. God so loved the world that grace was given freely, not to condemn, but to save. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and invited to begin again.

**People:** Thanks be to God! Amen.

**\*THE RESPONSE #579** “The Gloria Patri”

**\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** Genesis 12:2-3; John 3:5

**Leader:** Through Christ, we are born into new life and called into a community shaped by grace and trust. The peace of Christ be with you always.

**People:** And also with you.

**A TIME WITH CHILDREN**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** Genesis 12:1-4a

**THE GOSPEL LESSON** John 3:1-17

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God!

**THE MESSAGE**

“Called to Go”

Rev. Danielle Kendig

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE #426** “Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak”

**\*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The Apostles Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*PRESENTATION OF GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS**

**THE OFFERTORY** “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

**\*THE DOXOLOGY #592 and PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Genesis 12:2-3; John 3:16  
Faithful God, you called Abram to be a blessing, and through Christ, you call us to share in your love for the world. Receive these gifts as signs of our trust in you. Use them to bring new life, hope, and healing to those near and far. As we walk this Lenten Road, teach us to offer not only what we have, but who we are, trusting that you will use it for your glory. Amen.

**THE DEACONS OFFERING**

**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 “Give Thanks to God, Call on His Name”** (see insert)

**\*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*THE POSTLUDE “We Are Called”**

*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**

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>after worship</b>	<b>DEACONS</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>NAR-ANON</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>BIBLE STUDY</b>
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>SESSION</b>
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>
	<b>10:45 AM</b>	<b>WORSHIP</b>
	<b>after worship</b>	<b>CARING COMMITTEE</b>
	<b>TBD</b>	<b>GENEVENS</b>

**PRAYER FAMILY OF THE WEEK: Carbaugh, Williams**

**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 and 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 Rev. Danielle, 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** Help us, O Lord, to be still and patient before you as we wait for the touch of your hand upon our hearts. Amen.

**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. **There are now 3 donation baskets, one at each of the church entrances.**

**THE FLOWER CHARTS** are up in the hallway to the parlor for your dedications in 2026. Silk flowers are \$15 (which goes to Saturday's Kitchen) and the cost for real flowers is \$40.

**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 is in the hallway by the flower charts. There is no cost.

**PLEASE SAVE YOUR PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS** from the grocery store or Walmart for the Deacons. They are donated to the Backpack Project to pack lunches for area children.

**THE PASSING OF THE PEACE** Due to being in the midst of cold and flu season, we would like folks to limit their greetings to vocal only and avoid the hugging and handshakes, for the safety of the congregation.

**IF YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST:** Please fill out the blue "Joys and Concerns" prayer cards. You may place them in the NEW prayer request boxes that are available at each of the church entrances.

**THE FLOWERS** this morning are dedicated to the Glory of God and have been placed by Pat Betts in honor of her granddaughter Courtney, in celebration of her birthday tomorrow, March 2.

**THANK YOU** to Wendi Sokira for serving as liturgist today.

**2026 PER CAPITA / PRESBYTERY APPORTIONMENT** Our Per Capita offering, which supports the work of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, has been set at \$55.00 for 2026.

**LIBRARY CALENDAR** - a new calendar for 2026 is posted in the library. Please be sure to add your group meeting dates and times. Thank you.

**THE CHURCH building** received water damage in the library, Pastor's office, and equipment room from frozen pipes and radiator leak upstairs. We are respectfully asking you to avoid those areas and the back hallway from the library to the parlor while the cleanup effort takes place. Thank you.

**OFFICE PHONE ISSUES:** We are having an ongoing issue with our phone line. If you call, stay on the line for longer than you would think is necessary and even if you don't hear ringing on your end. It will eventually ring through to the office. Our supplier is scheduled to repair the lines this week.

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY** The first week of Bible Study will begin on **WEDNESDAY, March 4<sup>th</sup>** at 10:30 AM. We will be using "An Unlikely Lent" by Rachel Billups. Copies of the study book are available in the church office. Everyone is welcome to join us as we walk this season together!

**EASTER FLOWERS:** It's not too early to think about Easter flowers! Easter Sunday is April 6<sup>th</sup>, and the nursery asks us to turn in our order **by March 18<sup>th</sup>**. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church, with "Easter Flowers" in the memo. You may also order your flowers by calling the church office and mail the check later. Order forms are available at the church entrances and are available in the March issue of *The Vision*.

**THE MARCH ISSUE OF "THE VISION"** is available at the church entrances for those individuals who have opted not to receive their copy by mail. It is also available to read on the church website.

**THE GENEVENS** will meet next Sunday around 12:30pm, after any church meetings. The location is yet to be decided—please send your suggestions to Wendi Sokira. Our regular offering remains \$2.00 per person, per month. Everyone is welcome!

**"TRY TO LOOK AT PEOPLE WITH COMPASSION INSTEAD OF JUDGEMENT"**  
**"ROTO REVIEW" (Reach Out To Others)**

**Pastor: Rev. Danielle Kendig**  
**Email:** revdaniellekendig@gmail.com  
**CHURCH:**  
**Phone:** (814) 536-8141  
**Email:** 1stpresjohnstown@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.1stpresjohnstown.org

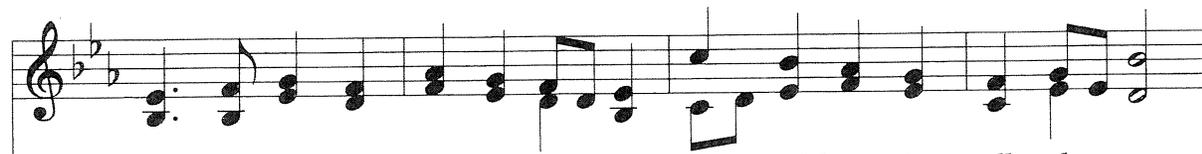
**Parish Nurse: Mrs. Patricia Betts**  
**Organist: Jennifer Kist**  
**Ministers: All members of First Presbyterian Church**  
**Administrative Assistant: Caroline Goller**

## We Are Called to Be God's People

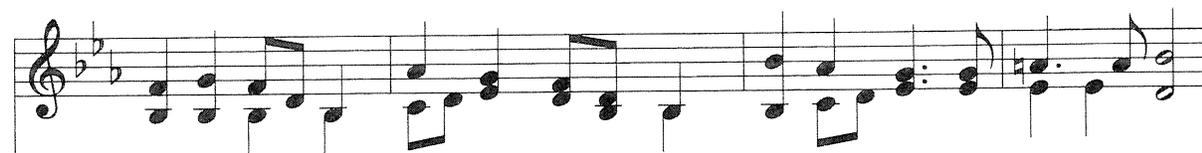
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1. We are called to be God's peo - ple, show-ing by our lives His grace,  
 2. We are called to be God's ser - vants, work-ing in the world to - day;  
 3. We are called to be God's proph-ets, speak-ing for the truth and right,

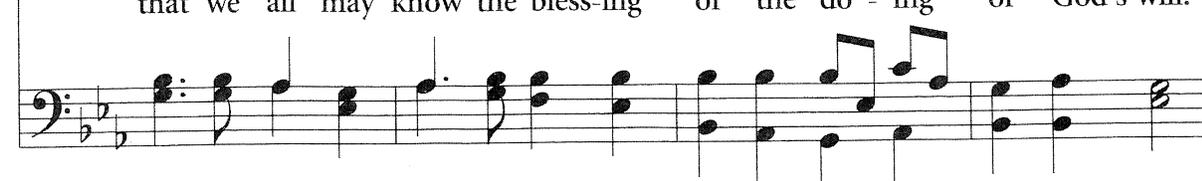
one in heart and one in spir - it, sign of hope for all the race.  
 tak - ing His own task up - on us, all His sa - cred words o - bey.  
 stand - ing firm for god - ly jus - tice, bring - ing e - vil in - to light.

Let us show how He has changed us and re - made us as His own;  
 Let us rise, then, to His sum - mons, ded - i - cate to Him our all,  
 Let us seek the cour-age need - ed, our high call - ing to ful - fill,




let us share our life to - geth - er as we shall a - round His throne.  
 that we may be faith - ful ser - vants, quick to an - swer now His call.  
 that we all may know the bless - ing of the do - ing of God's will.



WORDS: Thomas A. Jackson, 1973

MUSIC: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797

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AUSTRIAN HYMN

8.7.8.7 D

Lower key, No. 34

# Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak 426

Frances Ridley Havergal, 1872

CANONBURY LM

Robert Schumann, 1839

1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak In liv - ing  
2. O lead me, Lord, that I may lead The wan - dering  
3. O teach me, Lord, that I may teach The pre - cious  
4. O fill me with Thy full - ness, Lord, Un - til my

ech - oes of Thy tone; As Thou hast sought, so  
and the wa - vering feet; O feed me, Lord, that  
things Thou dost im - part; And wing my words, that  
ver - y heart o'er - flow In kin - dling thought and

let me seek Thine err - ing chil - dren lost and lone.  
I may feed Thy hun - gery ones with man - na sweet.  
they may reach The hid - den depths of man - y a heart.  
glow - ing word, Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show.

5. O use me, Lord, use even me,  
Just as Thou wilt, and when, and where;  
Until Thy blessed face I see,  
Thy rest, Thy joy, Thy glory share.

(Topics and Lead-in Below)

# Give Thanks to God

A Responsive Hymn Based on Psalm 136  
A Cappella or Accompanied; Unison or in Parts

♩ = ca. 108

*\*Leader* C F C C  $\frac{E}{A}$   $\frac{C}{G}$  G sus G<sup>7</sup> C

People

1. Give thanks to God, for He is good. His love en-dures for - ev - er.  
2. Give thanks to God, for He is good. His love en-dures for - ev - er.  
3. Give thanks to God, for He is good. His love en-dures for - ev - er.

*Leader* C F C C  $\frac{E}{A}$   $\frac{C}{G}$  G sus G<sup>7</sup> C

People

Give praise to Him, the Lord of Lords. His love en-dures for - ev - er.  
He bro't us out from sin and death. His love en-dures for - ev - er.  
We join the song that nev - er ends: His love en-dures for - ev - er.

*All* C G  $\frac{C}{G}$  G<sup>7</sup> G C  $\frac{E}{C}$  C  $\frac{C}{E}$  G<sup>7</sup>  $\frac{D^7_{sus} D^7}{A A} \frac{G^7}{B}$  G<sup>7</sup>  $\frac{G^7}{F}$   $\frac{C}{E}$  FDm<sup>7</sup>  $\frac{C}{E}$

He spread the earth and sea and sky. He filled them all with light and life.  
He stood and stretched His might - y hand. He bowed Him - self, be - came a man -  
Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow! Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low!

Am  $\frac{E^7}{G\#}$  E+ E<sup>7</sup> Am F  $\frac{C}{E}$  C C  $\frac{E}{A}$   $\frac{C}{G}$  G sus G<sup>7</sup> C

May God a - lone be lift - ed high! His love en-dures for - ev - er.  
A gulf that on - ly love could span. His love en-dures for - ev - er.  
Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost! His love en-dures for - ev - er.

\* "Leader" may be sung by soloist, choir, or half the congregation.

WORDS: Ken Bible and Thomas Ken

MUSIC: Ken Bible

BALDWIN  
8.7.8.7.8.8.7.

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