

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 • 2nd Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

Rev. Bala Khylllep, *Guest Minister* • Pat Betts, *Liturgist*

10:45 A.M.

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP The glow of Easter remains! Our risen Lord has promised to be with us always. He welcomes all of us who have come to worship. Glory be to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit! 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 “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

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** Isaiah 58:9-10, Matthew 5:14

Leader: God calls us beyond ourselves,

People: Into a world that needs love and healing.

Leader: God calls us to serve,

People: With open hands and willing hearts.

Leader: God calls us to bring light,

People: Where there is darkness.

Leader: So we come ready to listen,

People: And ready to respond.

ALL: Let us worship God!

***THE OPENING PRAYER** Isaiah 58:6-7

God, open our eyes today. Help us to see the needs around us and the ways you are already moving in the world. Give us hearts that care deeply, and courage to respond. As we listen and learn, stir something within us; a desire to serve, to give, to go. In Christ, Amen.

***THE OPENING HYMN #460 “Holy God, We Praise Your Name”**

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Isaiah 58:6-7, James 2:14-17

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

God, You call us to care for others, but we often stay comfortable. We see need and look away. We hear your call and hesitate. Forgive us. Stretch our hearts beyond ourselves. Help us to not only believe in love, but to live it. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Isaiah 58:11, Ephesians 2:8-10

Leader: God's grace meets us right where we are. We are forgiven, loved, and invited to step into something new.

ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.

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

*Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** Matthew 28:20

Leader: Share a sign of Christ's peace with one another; peace that sends us out to love and serve in the world. Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 58:6-12 Pg. 652

THE GOSPEL LESSON Mark 10:35-45 Pg. 44

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE MESSAGE

"It's Not About Us"

Rev. Bala Khyllep

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***THE HYMN OF RESPONSE #281 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"**

***PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS**

THE OFFERTORY "For the Fruit of All Creation"

***THE DOXOLOGY #592 and PRAYER OF DEDICATION** James 1:17

God, everything we have comes from you, and we offer these gifts back with grateful hearts. Use them to bring hope, help, and love into the world. And shape us, too, that we would be ready to serve and willing to say yes when you call. In Your 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 #361 "How Firm a Foundation"

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

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	Q&A with Rev. Bala Khyllep
	after worship	CARING COMMITTEE
	12:30 PM	GENEVENS at Boulevard Grill
	3:00 PM	JOHNSTOWN CONCERT SERIES: 20th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT
MONDAY	6:30 PM	NAR-ANON
TUESDAY	10:30 AM	BIBLE STUDY: BOOK OF ACTS
NEXT SUNDAY	9:30 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
	10:45 AM	WORSHIP
	After worship	THIRD SUNDAY PROGRAM & LUNCH

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Bailey, Schmidt

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.

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.

FOCUS ON PRAYERS Help each of us, O Lord, to experience the same joy which the friends of Jesus felt when meeting the risen Christ.

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.

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.

BIBLE STUDY continues this Tuesday at 10:30 AM. Everyone is welcome to join us as we study the book of Acts. Bring your Bible and a notebook. We hope to see you there!

THE MAY/JUNE ISSUE of THE UPPER ROOM is available in the office to those who subscribe.

JOHNSTOWN CONCERT SERIES: Join us this afternoon at 3:00 PM for a special anniversary concert as the Johnstown Concert Series marks its 20th season! This celebratory performance will feature talented student choirs from Forest Hills, Richland, and Westmont Hilltop School Districts.

Q&A Rev. Khyllep will hold a question-and-answer session today after worship regarding his work with the World Mission Initiative.

THE GENEVENS will meet today at Boulevard Grill at 12:30 PM.

THE CARING COMMITTEE will meet today after worship.

LUNCH BUNCH: The Lunch Bunch is back! Join us as we gather on the 2nd Friday of each month for a relaxed time of fellowship. Everyone is welcome! For more information, call Jackie at 814.619.8946. We hope to see you there!

THIRD SUNDAY PROGRAM & LUNCH: Please plan on joining us next Sunday for our program and lunch. Our guest speaker will be Kristen Villarrial, Director of the Cambria County Backpack Project. They provide weekend meals for over 800 children each school year, in 13 school districts and multiple partner agencies across the county.

VEGETABLE SOUP SALE: The Deacons will hold a Vegetable Soup Sale on Tuesday, April 28th from 4 to 6 PM. Orders are take-out only. \$10 a quart with bread, crackers, and a dessert. Be sure to reserve yours by speaking to a Deacon, using the sign-up sheet in the office, or calling the office to reserve. Thank you for your support!

MISSION/STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE: The Mission/Stewardship Committee will meet on Sunday, April 26, after worship. We are looking for new members and hope you will consider joining this vital committee.

THANK YOU to Pat Betts for serving as liturgist today.

THANK YOU TO Rev. Bala Khyllep for bringing the Mission Sunday message today.

Rev. Bala Khyllep is the director of the World Mission Initiative of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and an ordained minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA). He belongs to the Khasi people of Northeast India, that was evangelized by the Welsh Presbyterian missionaries back in the 1840s. He grew up in Meghalaya, India, and attended college there and received his seminary degrees from both Serampore College, India, and Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey. Prior to joining WMI, Bala co-pastored a church along with his wife in Britton, South Dakota. He regularly preaches and leads mission workshops in Pittsburgh-area churches and beyond. Bala co-authored the book *Freeing Congregational Mission: A Practical Vision for Companionship, Cultural Humility, and Co-Development* published by IVP Academic in 2022. He has two daughters and has been living in Pittsburgh since 2018.

“GOD CAN USE YOU TO ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS”
“ROTO REVIEW” (Reach Out To Others)

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Organist: Jennifer Kist
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Administrative Assistant: Caroline Goller