

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.

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026 Rev. Danielle Kendig, *Guest Minister* • Charnet Koch, *Liturgist* 10:45 A.M.

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP The welcome mat is out for you! We are happy to have you here today as a partner in prayer, in song and in the hearing of God's word. 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 "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

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 116

Leader: We come with hearts open to God,

People: The One who hears us and holds us.

Leader: We come with gratitude,

People: For all that God has done.

Leader: We come ready to respond,

People: To the love we have received.

Leader: So let us worship together,

People: With open hearts and willing spirits.

ALL: Let us worship God!

***THE OPENING PRAYER** Psalm 116:5-7

God, You meet us right where we are; in our questions, our doubts, and our turning points. Open our hearts today. Help us to hear your voice clearly and respond with courage. Lead us into the kind of life that reflects your love and grace. In Christ, Amen.

***THE OPENING HYMN** #492 "Baptized in Water"

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Acts 2:38, Psalm 51:10

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

God, there are times we know we need to change, but we resist. We hold onto what is comfortable. We ignore what you are calling us toward. Forgive us. Soften our hearts. Give us the courage to turn, to trust, and to follow where you lead. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Acts 2:38, Psalm 116:8

Leader: Hear this good news: God does not call us to change and leave us on our own. God meets us with grace, offers forgiveness, and leads us into new life. You are forgiven. You are invited to begin again.

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** Acts 2:24

Leader: Share a sign of Christ’s peace with one another: as people being shaped together in faith. 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 Psalm 116:12 Pg. #541

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 2:37–38 Pg. #114

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE MESSAGE

“Cut to the Heart”

Rev. Danielle Kendig

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***THE HYMN OF RESPONSE #280** “Amazing Grace”

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

THE OFFERTORY “Finlandia (Be Still My Soul)”

***THE DOXOLOGY #592 and PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Hebrews 13:16, Acts 2:44-45

God, take what we give and use it to bring hope and care to others. Let these gifts reach those who need encouragement, support, and a reminder that they are not alone. And continue shaping us; that our lives would reflect your love in real ways,

not just in what we give, but in how we live each day. In the Name of Jesus Christ, 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. 44 in *The Hymns We Sing* “It is Well with My Soul”

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE POSTLUDE** “Jupiter arrangement by Holst”

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	NOON	3rd SUNDAY PROGRAM & LUNCH
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	MISSION/STEWARDSHIP
	3:00 PM	Johnstown Concert Series – Pianist HENRY WONG DOE

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Oylar, Sokira

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 signup 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.

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 As we approach the throne of grace, O Lord, help us to receive and reflect on all the words you have for us.

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!

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 join us for our Program & Lunch this afternoon. Due to a scheduling conflict, our guest speaker has been changed. Dr. Kateri Anders, DPT, from Pivot Physical Therapy will be our speaker this Sunday. Hope to See you there!

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 next Sunday, April 26, after worship. We are looking for new members and hope you will consider joining this vital committee.

VISION ARTICLES Please turn in your articles for the MAY VISION as soon as possible!

GREATER JOHNSTOWN COMMUNITY CHORUS will present a concert "Homeward Bound" on Saturday, May 2, at 6:00 PM at Zion Lutheran Church, 613 Locust St. (directly behind St. John Gualbert Cathedral). Our own Charnet Koch is a member of the chorus.

THANK YOU to Charnet Koch for serving as liturgist today.

“TODAY, USE YOUR WORDS ONLY FOR GOOD”
“ROTO REVIEW” (Reach Out To Others)

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

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

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THE SESSION

Class of 2026
Michelle Bragg
John Foster
Joyce Gerlach
Roy Gindlesperger

Class of 2027
-- no new members--

Class of 2028
Patricia Betts
Charnet Koch

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2026
--no new members--

Class of 2027
Bonnie Bash

Class of 2028
Heith Bragg
Wendi Sokira