

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.

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 27, 2026 Rev. Danielle Kendig, *Minister* • Gary Mapes, *Liturgist* 10:45 A.M.

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP This is the Lord's house. The Lord is here to welcome all who have come. Let us join in the spirit of love and peace for all who worship the Creator of us all. 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 “Holy, Holy, Holy”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING HYMN “Worthy and Wonderful”

*(x2) You are worthy, my Father, Creator. You are worthy, Savior, Sustainer.
You are worthy, worthy and wonderful, worthy of worship and praise.*

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 25:1–5, 8–9; Philippians 2:1–5

Leader: To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls.

People: In you, our God, we place our trust.

Leader: Make us to know your ways, O Lord; teach us your paths.

People: Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.

Leader: The Lord leads the humble in what is right and teaches them the way.

People: Give us the mind of Christ, that we may walk in humility and love.

Leader: Come, people of God, let us be ready to listen, learn, and follow the One who shows us the way.

ALL: Let us worship God!

***THE OPENING PRAYER** Psalm 25:4–9; Philippians 2:1–5

Gracious God, make us to know your ways and teach us your paths. As we gather in worship, quiet the voices that tell us to seek recognition, protect our own interests, or place ourselves above others. Turn our hearts instead toward the way of Jesus: the way of humility, compassion, service, and love. Shape our minds and hearts so that we may see one another as Christ sees us. Teach us to listen before speaking, to serve without seeking praise, and to love without asking what we will receive in return. May the same mind that was in Christ Jesus be formed in us, so that our worship and our lives may bring glory to you. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

***THE OPENING HYMN #356** “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Psalm 25:4–7; Philippians 2:3–8

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

Merciful God, you have shown us the way of Christ, yet we confess that we often choose our own way. We seek recognition when you call us to humility. We protect our own interests when you call us to consider the needs of others. We want to be heard when you call us to listen. We hold tightly to control when you call us to trust. Forgive us, Lord. Teach us your paths and reshape our hearts. Free us from pride, selfish ambition, and the need to place ourselves first. Give us the mind of Christ, that we might serve with humility, love with generosity, and follow wherever you lead. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Psalm 25:6–8; Philippians 2:6–11

Leader: Remember the mercy and steadfast love of the Lord, for they have been from of old. Jesus Christ humbled himself for our sake, becoming obedient even to the cross, so that sin and death would not have the final word. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and invited once again to walk in God's ways.

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** Philippians 2:1–4

Leader: Paul calls us to be of the same mind, having the same love, and looking not only to our own interests but also to the interests of others. The peace of Christ reminds us that we belong not only to Christ, but also to one another. So let us greet one another with the love and humility Christ has shown us. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 25:1–9

Pg. #485

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING

Philippians 2:1–13

Pg. #185

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

“THE MESSAGE

“The Mind of Christ”

Rev. Danielle Kendig, Minister

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 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

*THE DOXOLOGY #592 and PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Psalm 25:4–5; Philippians 2:3–5, 13

Generous God, all that we have comes from you, and so we return these gifts with grateful hearts. Use them for your work in the world: to serve those in need, strengthen your church, share the gospel, and extend the love of Christ. And as we offer these gifts, continue your work within us. Shape our desires, guide our choices, and give us the mind of Christ, so that we may serve without seeking recognition and love without counting the cost. For it is you who are at work within us, enabling us to will and to work for your good purpose. 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 #525 “Here I Am, Lord”

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE “O God Beyond All Praising”

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

MONDAY	1:00 PM	WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION
	6:30 PM	NAR-ANON
TUESDAY	10:30 AM	BIBLE STUDY
NEXT SUNDAY	9:30 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL – World Communion Sunday
	10:45 AM	WORSHIP
	After worship	DEACONS

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Hunt, Murphy

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.

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.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE is seeking nominations for Elders and Deacons for the Class of 2029. Please consider who has the gifts for each of these ministries. Ballots and ballot boxes are located by the Lincoln Street entrance and in the Narthex. The last day for nominations will be Sunday, October 4.

THANK YOU to Gary Mapes for serving as liturgist today.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are dedicated to the glory of God and have been placed in honor of Ken Cruse, who will finally be 95 on October 2nd, by his wife Isabel and their family.

COMMUNION SERVICE We look forward to celebrating the Lord's Supper together next week on World Communion Sunday, October 4th.

FOCUS ON PRAYERS Lord, quiet the distractions within us and around us as we gather in Your presence. Open our hearts to Your Word, fill our minds with Your truth and lead us to worship You with sincerity and joy. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

BACKPACK PROJECT: We are looking for volunteers to pack lunches at the Garfield School location. Dates will be published soon; they just sent out the fall list. Call or text Wendi Sokira at 814.254.9469 to volunteer.

OCTOBER VISION: The October issue of the VISION is available at the church entrances for those who chose to forgo mailing. It was mailed Friday to others.

THE OPEN DOOR IS OFFICIALLY OPEN! We are so excited to welcome our neighbors to The Open Door: Johnstown Community Free Store, located inside First Presbyterian Church. The Open Door provides clothing, hygiene products, and everyday essentials completely free of charge, while creating a place where everyone who walks through our doors is treated with dignity, kindness, and hospitality. Shopping and donation hours are Mondays & Wednesdays 10:00 AM–12:00 PM. A tremendous thank-you to the Session and congregation of FPC for supporting this ministry from its beginning; to the Presbytery of Redstone and Synod Trinity for their support from the Fit For Future Grant; to Rita's Closet for their generosity and partnership; and to the many individuals and organizations who have donated clothing, supplies, their time, encouragement, prayers, and helping hands.

"CHANGE CAN BRING UNEXPECTED BLESSINGS"
"ROTO REVIEW" (Reach Out To Others)

Pastor: Rev. Danielle Kendig, MDiv
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