

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.

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 11, 2026 Rev. Danielle Kendig, *Minister* • Charnet Koch, *Liturgist* 10:45 A.M.

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP Welcome to all who have gathered to praise God today. May we worship with grateful hearts and reach out to one another in the love and fellowship of Christ. 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

“Parable”

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 106:1–5

Leader: Praise the Lord! Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

People: **God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Remember the goodness of God and the grace that has carried us.

People: **We come with grateful hearts to worship.**

Leader: God calls us, welcomes us, and invites us into new life.

People: **May we receive that invitation with faith and joy.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the God whose grace gathers and transforms us.

All: **Let us worship God!**

*THE OPENING PRAYER Psalm 106:1–6; Matthew 22:1–10

Gracious God, you have called us into your presence and welcomed us with a love we could never earn. As we worship today, help us remember your faithfulness and recognize the ways your grace has sustained us. Open our hearts to your invitation, and do not allow us to receive your goodness without being changed by it. Shape our thoughts, our choices, and our lives so that we may reflect the grace we have received. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*THE OPENING HYMN #559 “We Gather Together”

*THE CALL TO CONFESSION

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Psalm 106:6, 19–21 and Matthew 22:1–14

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

Merciful God, you invite us into a life shaped by your grace, yet we confess that we often take your invitation for granted. We forget your goodness, turn toward lesser things, and allow our priorities to pull us away from you. We receive your forgiveness but do not always become more forgiving. We receive your generosity but hesitate to be generous. We speak of your love while holding tightly to habits, attitudes, and loyalties that keep us from living as your people. Forgive us, Lord. Awaken us again to the gift of your grace. Renew our hearts and reshape our lives so that we may respond to your invitation with gratitude, faithfulness, and love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Psalm 103:8–12 and Ephesians 2:4–5

Leader: Hear the good news: God is rich in mercy and steadfast in love. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and given new life. Believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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** Colossians 3:12–15

Leader: As those who have received the mercy and peace of Christ, let us share that peace with one another. The peace of Christ be with each one of you.

People: And also with you.

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 106:1–6, 19–23 Pg. #534

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 22:1–14 Pg. #22

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

“THE MESSAGE “Invited, but Changed?” **Rev. Danielle Kendig, Minister**

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***THE HYMN OF RESPONSE #555** “Now Thank We All Our God”

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

THE OFFERTORY “Give Thanks to God, for He is Good”

*THE DOXOLOGY #592 & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Romans 12:1–2 and 2 Corinthians 9:8

Generous God, receive these gifts and receive our lives. Take what we offer and use it for your purposes. May our generosity reflect your generosity, our compassion reflect your mercy, and our lives bear witness to the grace that continues to transform us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 #276 "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

*THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE "Lord, Who at Cana's Wedding Feast"

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.

+++++

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Today	After worship	CARING COMMITTEE
	3:00 PM	JOHNSTOWN CONCERT SERIES - Trillium Trio
MONDAY	6:30 PM	NAR-ANON
	10 AM - 12 PM	THE OPEN DOOR
TUESDAY	10:30 AM	BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAY	10 AM - 12 PM	THE OPEN DOOR
NEXT SUNDAY	9:30 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
	10:45 AM	WORSHIP
	12:00 PM	THIRD SUNDAY PROGRAM & LUNCH
		Dave Machelby of Cambria City Mission

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Moehler, Rummel

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 Lord, thank you for the pastors and leaders you've placed among us. As we worship today, we pray that you strengthen and encourage them. Help us honor their calling and support them with love and prayer.

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.

THANK YOU to Charnet Koch for serving as liturgist today.

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.

THE OPEN DOOR IS OFFICIALLY OPEN! We are so excited to welcome our neighbors to The Open Door: Johnstown Community Free Store, located inside FPC. 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.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are dedicated to the glory of God and have been placed by Pat Betts in honor of her daughter-in-law, Christine, whose birthday is October 11th.

THE CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING is dedicated by Wendi Sokira to honor her father, Gary Mapes, in celebration of his birthday on October 16th.

THE GENEVENS' MEETING originally scheduled for today **has been postponed**. Stay tuned for our next meeting date/place.

THE CARING COMMITTEE will meet today after worship.

JOHNSTOWN CONCERT SERIES - An exciting new chamber ensemble, The Trillium Trio, will make its Concert Series debut this afternoon at 3:00 PM here at FPC. Formed at Carnegie Mellon University, the trio brings youthful energy, refined musicianship, and a fresh artistic voice to the chamber music stage. It's sure to be a wonderful afternoon of music! We hope you can attend.

THIRD SUNDAY PROGRAM & LUNCH Please plan to join us next Sunday, October 18th, as we welcome Dave Machelby of Cambria City Mission as our guest speaker.

THE SESSION HAS CALLED A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING immediately after the worship service on October 25th to elect Elders and Deacons to the Class of 2029. Please plan to attend the service and the congregational meeting in person.

"GOD REMAINS FAITHFUL IN EVERY SEASON"
"ROTO REVIEW" (Reach Out To Others)

Pastor: Rev. Danielle Kendig, MDiv
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