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.

Hunger & Homelessness Sunday

November 15, 2026 Rev. Danielle Kendig, *Minister* • Charnet Koch, *Liturgist* 10:45 A.M.

THE PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP "Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob. … Praise the Lord!" (Psalm 146:5, 10, NRSV). We welcome you as we seek God's help and praise him in worship. 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 "Enter the Journey"

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 146:5–10; Isaiah 58:6–12

Leader: Come, let us praise the Lord, who is faithful through every generation!
People: Our hope is in the God who created heaven and earth and all who dwell within them.
Leader: God brings justice to the oppressed, food to the hungry, and hope to those who are weary.
People: God calls us to open our hearts and extend our hands in love.
Leader: When we care for our neighbors, welcome strangers, and stand alongside those in need, God's light shines through us.
People: May our worship become service, and our faith become love in action.
Leader: Come, people of God, with grateful hearts and willing hands to worship the One who restores, renews, and makes all things possible!
All: Let us worship God!

***THE OPENING PRAYER** Psalm 146:5–10; Isaiah 58:6–12

Loving and compassionate God, we gather today grateful for Your faithfulness and the many ways You care for Your people. You call us to look beyond ourselves, to recognize the needs of our neighbors, and to respond with kindness and love. As we worship, open our eyes to see others as You see them, our hearts to welcome without judgment, and our hands to serve with compassion. May this time together strengthen our faith and inspire us to be living examples of Your love in our community. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***THE OPENING HYMN #427 "Lord Whose Love Through Humble Service"**

***THE CALL TO CONFESSION**

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Isaiah 58:6–10; Matthew 25:35–40; James 2:14–17

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

Merciful God, You have called us to love our neighbors as ourselves, yet we confess that we have not always answered that calling. We have sometimes turned away from those who are struggling, made assumptions about people whose stories we do not know, and allowed the busyness of our own lives to keep us from noticing the needs around us. Forgive us when our faith remains only in our words and does not reach into our actions. Open our hearts to greater compassion, teach us to listen without judgment, and give us courage to serve with humility and love. Help us remember that every person is created in Your image and worthy of dignity, kindness, and belonging. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray. Amen.

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Isaiah 58:9; Psalm 103:8–12; 1 John 1:9

Leader: Hear the good news! Our God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. When we turn to God with sincere hearts, we are met not with rejection, but with forgiveness and grace. Through Jesus Christ, we are renewed and invited to begin again, living as people who reflect God's love in the world. Friends, 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"**

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** Ephesians 2:14–19; Romans 15:7

Leader: Christ calls us to a community where barriers are broken down, strangers become neighbors, and all are welcomed in love. As we share the peace of Christ today, may we remember that the peace we offer one another is the same peace we are called to carry into the world. 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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 146:5–10 Pg. #556

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 58:6–12 Pg. #653

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

"THE MESSAGE "When Faith Opens Doors" Rev. Danielle Kendig, *Minister*

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***THE HYMN OF RESPONSE #405 "What Does the Lord Require"**

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

THE OFFERTORY "Table of Plenty"

***THE DOXOLOGY #592 & PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

2 Corinthians 9:10–12; Isaiah 58:10–11

Generous and loving God, we thank You for the blessings You have entrusted to our care. Receive these gifts and use them to bring hope to those who are struggling, comfort to those who are hurting, and encouragement to those who feel forgotten. Bless the ministries of this congregation and the many hands and hearts that serve within them. May our generosity always reflect Your compassion, and may all that we offer bring glory to Your name. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, 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 #434 "Today We Are Called to Be Disciples"**

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE POSTLUDE "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"**

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	**6:30 PM**	**NAR-ANON**
	10 AM - 12 PM	**THE OPEN DOOR (by appointment only)**
TUESDAY	**10:30 AM**	**BIBLE STUDY**
WEDNESDAY	**10 AM - 12 PM**	**THE OPEN DOOR (by appointment only)**
NEXT SUNDAY	**10:45 AM**	**THANK OFFERING SUNDAY WORSHIP**

PRAYER FAMILIES OF THE WEEK: Stevens, Tressler

ROOFING PROJECT HAS BEGUN. A project of this size will bring some temporary changes to our church grounds. Construction equipment/materials/workers will be present throughout the project. The workers will NOT BE HERE SUNDAYS, but please be careful! We ask everyone to exercise extra caution when entering or exiting the building and the sidewalk areas. Please be especially mindful of any posted signage, temporary barriers and restricted areas in an around the church. Your patience, cooperation, and attention to safety will help ensure that the project progresses smoothly and safely.

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.

NON-PERISHABLE food items are collected each week and taken to the Food Pantry at Franklin Street U. M. Church. **There are now 3 donation baskets, one at each of the church entrances.**

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: You promise to guide us continually, Lord, and to meet all our needs. May we be your garden, our thirst quenched by your living water. Amen.

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.

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. Shopping and donation hours will be **by appointment only** during the roof construction, for everyone's safety. Appointments can be made for Mondays & Wednesdays between 10:00 AM–12:00 PM by calling the church office at (814) 536-8141.

COMMUNION: Our next celebration of the Lord's Supper will be November 29th, the First Sunday of Advent.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are dedicated to the glory of God and are presented by Robin & Paul Bergeron in honor of Aunt Janet Braude in celebration of her birthday on November 22nd.

THANK YOU to Charnet Koch for serving as liturgist today.

WOMEN'S THANK OFFERING SUNDAY is next Sunday, November 22. Our guest speaker will be the Executive Director of Bridges Cooperative Ministry and friend of FPC, Sonya Dunlap-Horner. Pat Betts, Joyce Gerlach, and Wendi Sokira are also participating in the service. Offering envelopes were included in the November Vision. Extra envelopes are available at the entrances.

THANKSGIVING DINNER: Our Thanksgiving Dinner will be held at noon on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26th. Please call the office by Tuesday to make a reservation. Reservations are a MUST since the meal is catered.

THE FESTIVAL OF THE NATIVITY is fast approaching – less than 3 weeks away, beginning December 4th! Won't you please consider how you can help with this year's Festival? We are looking for volunteers!

YOUR DONATIONS of snack breads will be needed for the Festival of the Nativity. You can place your breads in the freezer or bring them in and we can throw them in the freezer for you. We will also be accepting crackers and cheeseballs, all for the refreshment table. Thank you!

LUMINARIES: We invite you to sponsor a luminary in memory or honor of a loved one to be displayed during the Festival of the Nativity. Cost is $7 per luminary or 3 for $20. All funds raised go toward Festival expenses. Each luminary will be labeled with your name and the name of your loved one. Forms are available in the November Vision, at the church entrances, or contact Caroline in the office. Please order by November 22nd.

FESTIVAL YARD SIGNS – Signs are available at the Lincoln Street entrance for the Festival of the Nativity. Please feel free to take one and display it in your yard. Bring them back to the church after the Festival – we can use them again next year.

VISION ARTICLES: If you have an article for the December Vision, **please** turn it in ASAP. It is a short prep/mailing time with the Thanksgiving holiday.

2027 PLEDGES: If you haven't turned in your pledge card for 2027, you can put it in the offering plate or turn it in to the church office. Extra cards are available at the entrances. Thank you.

POINSETTIA ORDERS: Please remember order your flowers by December 7th. The greenhouse would like the bulk of our order placed by that date. Thank you. Order forms are available at the church entrances and were included in the November Vision. The cost has increased to $9.50 this year.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HIATUS: Sunday School will be on break November 29th - January 10th.

"GOD'S LOVE SURROUNDS US TODAY & EVERY DAY"

"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

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