

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 20, 2022

10:00 a.m.

Almighty God, you have taught us that all our deeds without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the very bond of peace and of all goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

In preparation for worship, please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

"Prelude in C Major"

J.S. Bach

Call to Worship

Psalm 37:3-4

Trust in the Lord and do good,

so you will live in the land and enjoy security.

Take delight in the Lord,

and he will give you the desires of your heart.

* Hymn 410

"God is Calling through the Whisper"

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God,

**you call us to work for a world where all will be fed and have dignity,
but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires.**

You call us to seek justice and peace,

but we are satisfied with injustice and discord.

You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed,

but we do not insist on freedom for all.

Forgive us, O Lord.

Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit,

so that all may know your justice and peace;

through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response (Hymnal 584)

Glory, glory, glory! Glory be to God on high. (repeat)

And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased. (repeat)

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Genesis 45:3-11, 15 (OT, p. 42)

Psalter: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 (Hymnal 706)

A Time with Children

Second Lesson: Luke 6:27-38 (NT, p. 64)

Sermon: "A Word for Victims"

Rev. Carter

Winter Series: Life After Baptism

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 795

"Healer of Our Every Ill"

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;**

**who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;**

the third day he rose again from the dead;

**he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;**

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;

the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

"Moderato"

Johann Albrechtsberger

Prayers 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 819

"Be Still, My Soul"

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude

"Allegro"

John Blow

If you are leaving before the postlude is finished, please do so quietly.

* All who are able shall stand.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children And Youth Ministries	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	Laura Moore
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Usher	Anne Rich

**First Presbyterian Church
300 School Street
Clarks Summit, PA 18411
570/586-6306
www.fpccs.org**

Thank you for your **strong financial support!** There is a link on our web site [to contribute online](#). You may drop off your contributions at the church office during working hours or send them to 300 School Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411. To contribute by cell phone, **scan here**. We appreciate your generosity, especially in this difficult time.



Church Family Announcements

Thank you for joining us for Worship. We worship every Sunday in two ways!

- Promise to wear a face mask? No covid-related symptoms for the past 14 days? Willing to have your temperature taken at the door? **Join us in person at 10:00 am.** (Reservations are no longer necessary.)
- **Tune in online** for our weekly service, which is broadcast live on [our video page on YouTube](#) and archived for later viewing on the same site.

Our Session requires masks for all worship services, meetings, and group events in the church building. Temperature checks will continue at church gatherings, and social distancing will be encouraged. We believe in the effectiveness of the covid-19 vaccinations and urge everybody to get vaccinated against covid-19.

If all of us can choose restraint and pursue public health, we have a better chance for stopping the spread of the virus and its variants. In the words of St. Paul, "Do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Galatians 5:13-14)

Our sanctuary is open for prayer whenever the building is open.

CEO/Weinberg Food Bank needs people to pack food boxes. As of Thursday, there were 4 openings for Saturday, February 26, 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. If you would like to participate, please contact Diane Scheuer, 570-362-3276 or divinends@gmail.com.

Scranton Refugee Accompaniment Training - Be a friend/mentor to families. Provide accompaniment, advocacy, and empowerment for a refugee family to transition to a new life in our region. The training will be Monday, February 28 from 5 - 8 pm at UNC Community Room, 509 Cedar Ave. To register, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/39H2RLJ> Questions? Email: community@scranton.edu

Meetings this week

Sunday, February 20	10 a.m.	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:15 a.m.	Confirmation Class	Room 206
Tuesday, February 22	10 a.m.	MBK Quilts	Fellowship Hall
	6 p.m.	Conversation: "The Letter from a Birmingham Jail" – see below	Zoom
	7 p.m.	Deacons	Room 206
	7 p.m.	Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Wednesday, February 23	10:30 a.m.	Prayer and Share	Room 209
	6 p.m.	The Way Adult Bible Study	Room 206
	7:15 p.m.	Adult Choir	Sanctuary
Saturday, February 26	2 p.m.	Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Sunday, February 27	10 a.m.	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:15	Confirmation Class	Room 206

The Church Office is closed on Monday, February 21, in observance of Presidents' Day.

An important conversation

Rev. Bill invites you to take part in a ZOOM conversation on "The Letter from a Birmingham Jail," by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The hour-long conversation will be held on **Tuesday, February 22 at 6:00 p.m.** (note the time change from announced in our newsletter). Links to the letter and zoom can be found on www.fpccs.org.

Reminder: here is our Bad Weather Policy, in two parts:

- We never cancel worship, but we don't want anybody to risk their safety or warmth. Stay home if the weather is dangerous or gives you anxiety. Tune in!
- We will close the office on a weekday if the Abington Heights school district is closed.

Looking ahead:

February 27 at 10 a.m. – Mardi Gras Sunday, with music by the South Abington Stompers

March 2 at 7 p.m. – **Ash Wednesday service** in the sanctuary

March 20 at 4 p.m. – Arts at First Presbyterian: Merchants of Groove