

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2022

10:00 a.m.

Almighty God, you created the heavens and the earth, and humankind in your image. Teach us to discern your hand in all your works and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive 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

Invitation to Worship Through Service weekend, September 24-25

Prelude

“Wonderful Words of Life”

arr. Marianne Kim

Call to Worship

In hope and in humility, with joy and with concerns,
we come to worship God.

In faith and in uncertainty, with questions and with conviction,
let us worship God.

* Hymn 334

“How Our Hearts with Joy Abound!”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

***Eternal God, our judge and redeemer,
we confess that we have tried to hide from you,
for we have done wrong.***

We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you.

***We have turned from our neighbors,
and refused to bear the burdens of others.***

***We have ignored the pain of the world,
and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed.***

***In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness,
that we may choose your will and obey your commandments;
through Jesus Christ our Savior.***

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

* Passing of the Peace

* Response 447

“We Are Forgiven”

***We are forgiven! We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven! We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.***

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 (OT, p. 709)

Psalter: Psalm 79 (Hymnal 430)

A Time with Children

Anthem

“Faithfulness”

Joel Raney

Second Lesson: Luke 16:1-8 (NT, p. 79)

Sermon: "The Slippery Deal Maker"

Rev. Carter

Series: Caricatures of the Kingdom

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 694

“Great God of Every Blessing”

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (Hymnal, p. 14)

Presentation of Naomi Harris Keller

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 17)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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.

Minute for Peace and Global Witness Offering

Offering

Offertory

“In the Sweet By and By”

arr. Marianne Kim

* Doxology 606

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * Hymn 634 "To God Be the Glory"
- * Charge and Benediction
- * Postlude "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story" arr. Wilbur Held

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

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers have been given by Janet Stansbury to the glory of God and in loving memory of her mother, Sara A. Morgan, and brother, John G. Morgan.

The rose is in honor of Naomi Harris Keller on the occasion of her baptism. Naomi is the daughter of Laura Acker and Jonathan Keller, and granddaughter of Heather and Warren Acker. Blessings to this family.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children And Youth Ministries	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	David Naeher
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Usher	Grace Farrell and John Conklin

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

We are grateful for the many ways that people support our church's ministry to the community and world. If you wish to contribute by cell phone, **scan here.**



Church Family Announcements

Our congregation worships God, equips God's people for ministry in the world, and serves God in ways that are faithful to the Gospel.

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

- **Join us in person at 10:00 a.m.**
- **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.

Large-print bulletins are available at the rear of the sanctuary. Ask an usher for help.

The Nursery is open Sunday mornings from 9:40-11:10 a.m. for children ages 3 and younger in room 208. The nursery is regularly staffed by Heather Lyons.

Tell us your prayer concerns:

Prayer Request Cards are available in the pew racks. Pass them to the center aisle to be collected during the first hymn. Please pray for: Janet, Barbara, Hall, Barry, Karen, Mike, Jan, Stephen, Taylor, Caleb, Jim, Sandy, Nancy, Ellen, Susannah.

Want to read the Bible with others in a supportive, non-threatening small group? We are restarting our very popular [Immerse Bible reading](#) groups. We have one volunteer convener and she's looking for others to join in. Interested? Let us know of your interest in participating by phone or email (570-586-6306 or office@fpccs.org).

Interested in joining a Presbyterian Women Bible Study in the fall? We will meet [this](#) Tuesday at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Rev. Carter will lead the Horizons Bible study, titled "What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus." This group will take COVID-19 precautions. To reserve a book, contact the church office (570-586-6306 or office@fpccs.org).

Are you interested in joining this church? If yes, please let the church office know (570-586-6306 or office@fpccs.org).



During September, a Season of Peace (as designated by the national Presbyterian Church) will be observed for four weeks from Sunday September 4th until World Communion Sunday on October 2nd. As we celebrate this Season of Peace and collect our special offering for Peace and Global Witness, look for a basket at the rear of the church filled with heart-shaped cards. Inspired by our friends at the N a Sonje Foundation in Haiti, who inscribed FPCCS inside their Choukoun Heart, we've put the names of some of our long-time friends in Haiti inside some of the hearts and written "Peace be with you" on the outside. We've also created some other hearts with names of local refugee families and ESL students we've been helping on the inside and "Welcome, Friends" on the outside. Please take some of these and add inside your own appropriate message of welcome, encouragement, a prayer, or scripture verse, then bring them back and put them in the offering plate. We'll deliver them to our new neighbors and send photos of them to our friends in Haiti. Children (and children at heart) are also encouraged to take some and decorate them. Share your peace!

We are co-sponsoring a CROP Walk with the Abington Ecumenical Ministerium to raise funds - and awareness - to address hunger in our area. It will begin at the Dalton Fire Company at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 2, and take place along the Countryside Conservancy's Trolley Trail. For information or to signup, go to

www.crophungerwalk.org/clarkssummitpa/

Help Wanted!

Are you the one we are looking for?

We are seeking volunteers to replenish our committees and assist with brief but important tasks around the church.

- Interested in volunteering in the office on a regular weekday morning? [Notify Nancy Owens.](#)
- Can you help us line up volunteer worship leaders (aka liturgists) for Sunday worship services? [Notify one of the committee chairs.](#)
- Can you serve on the Christian Education and Growth committee? [Let Jana know.](#)
- Could you serve on the Worship, Music, and Arts committee, or on the Arts planning team? [Tell Jan Thyren or Robin Pinches of your interest.](#)

Thanks for considering this invitation. A church like ours depends of volunteers!

Please join us on September 24 & 25, 2022 For Worship Through Service Weekend

Our annual Worship Through Service event is a reminder that praise begins inside the church and moves outside to love our neighbors and serve our community. Our service activities will take place on Saturday and Sunday, September 24 and 25. **Sign-up sheets can be found on the table in the church narthex/lobby.** More information is available in the September issue of **The Presbyter.**

- Hickory Street Presbyterian Church Community Meal – Saturday, September 24 (Alan Baker). Workers are needed to prepare the main dish (Note: if you are preparing the casserole, assemble the ingredients but DO NOT BAKE), make a dessert, serve the meal, and purchase groceries for food bags. Bring all food to the church on September 23.
- Hymn Sing at the Pines (and possibly the Gardens of Green Ridge) – Sunday, September 25 at 2:00pm (Robin Pinches).
- Collection of Personal Items for SafetyNet – items will be collected in the Narthex/lobby of the church until Sunday, September 25 (Tabbi Miller-Scandle)
- Collection of socks, scarves, gloves, hats for Clarks Summit State Hospital (Janet Dobson)
- Mowing and Cleanup of Abington Hills Cemetery – Sunday, September 25 (Jay Clymer)
- Card Writing and Assembly of “Thinking of You” Packages for Homebound Members – Sunday, September 25 - Jana Schillinger (ce@FPCCS.org)
- Assembling My Brother’s Keeper Quilts for the Homeless – Sunday, September 25, following worship (Marie Cochrane)

Check the display in the church narthex/lobby for more opportunities to serve!

If you have any questions or need a ride to an event, please contact Tabbi Miller-Scandle at (570) 470-9762.

This Week at a Glance

Today

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online
- **11:15 a.m.**, Confirmation Class resumes, Room 206

Tuesday, September 20

- **10 a.m.**, Women's Bible Study, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, September 21

- **10:30 a.m.**, Prayer and Share, Room 209
- **6 p.m.**, Adult Bible Study, Room 206
- **7 p.m.**, Adult Choir rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thursday, September 22

Saturday, September 24

Hosting community meal at Hickory Street Presbyterian Church

Sunday, September 25

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online
- **11:15 a.m.**, Many Worship Through Service Projects begin now
- **2 p.m.**, Hymn Sing for Worship through Service

Looking ahead:

- **Sunday, October 2, after worship**

Fall Christian Education Program: Learn more about the Lord's Supper as we break bread together. A lesson for adults will be given by Charlie Pinches, and the lesson for children will explore what communion is and means to us. A light lunch will be provided.

- **Wednesday, October 5 8:00 PM**
Bell Choir rehearsals resume in Fellowship Hall.

- **Thursday, October 13 7:00 PM**
First Presbyterian Church, Clarks Summit

Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic will present their first chamber concert of this **Season of Discovery** at our church. Expect an exploration of the rich and unique timbre of the oboe along with the velvety sound of its cousin, the English horn. NEPP oboist Karen Blundell is joined by violist David Creswell and pianist Matthew Graybill in a program of works genuinely blending these instruments, including *2 Rhapsodies*, by impressionist composer Charles Martin Loeffler. Light refreshments will follow the concert.

Tickets are \$35 and available from www.nepaphil.org

- **Sunday, October 16 4:00 PM**
The Arts at First Presbyterian presents A Choral Concert: **Nature Abounds!**

The Arcadia Chorale will open its fall season with us, in a stunning program called **Nature Abounds!** The musical themes of the concert include air, water, land and stars. Come and celebrate the beauty of NEPA through song with this special concert. A free-will offering will be taken.