



Jesus himself stood among
them and said to them,
"Peace be with you."

Luke 24:36, NRSV

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

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

10:00 a.m.

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

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Hymn

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Blessed Assurance”

arr. John Ness Beck

Call to Worship

How joyful it is to celebrate the good news of God’s love!

We are called to be Easter People!

Darkness cannot claim us!

Fear cannot bind us!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

Let us worship God.

* Hymn 234

“Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

God of Life, you turn mourning into dancing,

the dark night of weeping into the bright morning of gladness. Your light has shined upon us,

claiming us as witnesses to your saving power.

Yet we often keep silent and hide your light.

Forgive our meager witness

to the glad news of your light breaking into our world,

in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ;

empower us by your Spirit to proclaim this good news to all. Amen.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News!

“Death has been swallowed up in victory!

Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

Thanks be to God,

who gives us victory through our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.”

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen!

* Passing of the Peace

* Easter Response 589

“Alleluia”

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Acts 3:12-19 (NT, p. 120)

Second Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7 (NT, p. 240)

A Time with Children

Anthem Peal on "Thine Be the Glory" arr. Kurt Meyer

Gospel Lesson: Luke 24:36b-48 (NT, p. 91)

Sermon: "We Are Witnesses" Rev. Samford

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 246 "Christ is Alive"

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 35)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Moment for Pentecost Offering

Offering

Offertory

"Gymnopedie"

arr. Karen Roth

* Response 606

"Old Hundredth"

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 238 "Thine Is the Glory"

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "This Joyful Eastertide" arr. Robert A. Hobby

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

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Bette and John Scheuer by Jack and Diane Scheuer.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Guest Preacher

Rev. William Samford

Coordinator of Children and Youth

Jana Schillinger

Director of Music

Frank Jones

Organist

Kay Ten Eyck

Director of Bell Choir

Richard Cochrane

Liturgist

Susan Flynn

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.

The flowers have been given by Betty Keen in celebration of the birthday of her husband, Don Keen.

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

- **Join us in person at 10:00 a.m.**
- **Tune in online** for our service, which is broadcast live and archived for later viewing on the same site.
- Please use the **red attendance pads** to record your presence today.
- **Large-print bulletins** are located at the rear of the sanctuary.

Bible Time is our program for children (age 4 to approx. grade 4) to hear Bible stories told in a fun and engaging way. Each Sunday following the anthem, children are invited to go with leaders downstairs for Bible Time (lasting about 20 minutes) and return for the Prayers and the end of service.

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 staffed by Heather Lyons.

Adult Education meets on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., Room 206. On April 17 and 24, Rev. Bill and Friends begin a Bible Study series titled "Why Presbyterians Are Like That." We will explore the ways we read the Bible, pray, and serve. All are invited!

Tell us your prayer concerns. Prayer Request Cards are in the pew racks. Pass them to the center aisle to be collected during the first hymn.

Please pray for: Hall, Bob, Bonnie, Betty, Lisa, Janet, Patty, Barb, Tami, Bette, Sharon, Jim, Ralph, Linzy, Sue, Dillon, Tony, Aiden, Bill, Margaret, Colleen M., Carmella, LeAnne, Wayne, Dennis V., Liz, Jerry, Wayne, Gerry, Tracy, Kathy, Hannah, Tom, Dick, Chris, Rick, Brian, Len, Joyce, Staci, Travis, Nancy, Helen, Edward, Irena, Maureen, Bentley, Sawyer, Nate, Kay, Ginny, and the Lipscomb, and Crotti families.

Interested in a Presbyterian trip to Scotland? Our church is sponsoring a Presbyterian Heritage Tour of Scotland for September 5-14, 2024. The trip will take our travelers to Edinburgh, Glasgow, St. Andrews, and the mystical island of Iona. A brochure is available in the Narthex. An information session was recorded for your listening. The trip will be capped off at 26 travelers. Interested? Let Rev. Carter know.



Concert: "Spring Can Really Hang You Up"

Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Bill Carter and the Presbybop Sextet

April "mixes memory and desire," wrote the poet T.S. Eliot. This poignant springtime theme will be explored by the Presbybop Sextet in a musical celebration for Jazz Appreciation Month. The music will feature jazz compositions and arrangements of Bill Carter and Bill's mentor, Al Hamme, in memory of Al's passing in September 2023.

The concert is also a launch event for Bill's new book, "Thriving on a Riff: Jazz and the Spiritual Life". The author will sign books at a reception following the concert.

The concert is open to the public free of charge, with a freewill offering taken to help defray the costs of the event.

Hearts and Hands for Camp Lackawanna

Can you help? Camp Lackawanna has planned a second **Hearts and Hands weekend** for May 17-19. There are many tasks to be done. These include wood splitting, painting, cleaning, minor repairs, spreading woodchips, loading a dumpster, and others. There is something for all ages! You can come for the entire weekend or just one day. Meals and lodging will be provided. Please sign up by May 13 by sending an email to Suzanne Bates at suzanne@batesemail.net, or calling 248-320-6095.

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.



It's time for Spring Clean-up!

In two weeks, on Saturday, April 27, you are **CORDIALLY** invited to come and help with the cleaning of the church property. Weeds, stones, sticks . . . it's all got to go! Your help will be appreciated! April 27, 9 a.m. to noon.

This Week at a Glance

Today, April 14

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online

Monday, April 15

Tuesday, April 16

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

Wednesday, April 17

- **10:30 a.m.**, Prayer and Share, Room 209
- **6:00 p.m.**, Adult Education, Room 206
- **7:00 p.m.**, Adult Choir, Sanctuary
- **8 p.m.**, Adult Bell Choir, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 18

- **8:30 a.m.**, Men's Breakfast, Room 206
- **5:45 p.m.**, Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 19

Saturday, April 20

Sunday, April 21

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online
- **4 p.m.**, Arts Concert with Presbybop Sextet, Sanctuary

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