



*I am the vine, you are  
the branches. Those who  
abide in me and I in  
them bear much fruit . . .*

*John 15:5, NRSV*

# First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

April 28, 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

“Cornet Voluntary”

Samuel Goodwin

Call to Worship

from Psalm 139

For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.

***All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;***

This is the day the Lord has made.

***Let us rejoice and be glad in it.***

\* Hymn 619

“Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven”

*Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.*

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession

***Holy God, you see each of us***

***and know us as creatures in need of your constant care.***

***We confess that we have neither listened for your word  
nor followed your will.***

***We have failed our nation, neighbors, families, friends,  
and ourselves.***

***Give us ears to hear your wisdom.***

***Lead us to honesty and faith***

***so that we may begin again with renewed strength;  
in Jesus' name. Amen.***

\* Silent Confession

\* Assurance of Pardon

\* Passing of the Peace

\* Response 589

“Alleluia”

*Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Now the Lord is risen indeed.*

## **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: 1 John 4:7-21 (NT, pg. 241)

Psalter: Psalm 22:25-31 (OT, pg. 501)

A Time with Children

Anthem "He is God" Wayne Robinson

Second Lesson: John 15:1-8 (NT, pg. 109)

Sermon: "A Severe Mercy"

Rev. Carter

### **RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

\* Hymn 703 "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"

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

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory

"Siciliano"

John Stanley

\* Doxology

\* Prayer of Dedication

### **GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\* Hymn 308 "O God in Whom All Life Begins"

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude

"Fanfare For A Festival"

Carl Simone

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

-----  
\* All who are able shall stand.

**The flowers** this morning are given in loving memory of Robert Reese by his family.

Leonard and Mary Parry Ballelli will celebrate their first wedding anniversary on April 29. Congratulations and Happy Anniversary!

### **PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Pastor

Rev. William Carter

Coordinator of Children and Youth

Jana Schillinger

Director of Music

Frank Jones

Guest Organist

Jan Thyren

Liturgist

Andy Kepler

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

## 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 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.

### 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](mailto:suzanne@batesemail.net), or calling 248-320-6095.

**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.

**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.





**Meet Me at the Fair**  
**Paragon Ragtime Orchestra**  
**Friday, May 10 at 7 p.m.**

**The Paragon Ragtime Orchestra (PRO)** will bring its touring performance of "Meet Me at the Fair" to the church on Friday, May 10 at 7 p.m. The Paragon Ragtime Orchestra is the world's only year-round, professional ensemble re-creating "America's Original Music" – the exciting sounds of early musical theater, silent cinema, and vintage dance. This program features music from the Philadelphia, Chicago, Buffalo, and St. Louis world's fairs of the early 1900s and includes video clips of those fairs to go along with the music. It's a multimedia show you won't want to miss!

The PRO came into being as the result of conductor Rick Benjamin's 1985 discovery of thousands of turn-of-the-century orchestra scores once belonging to Victrola recording star Arthur Pryor. In 1988 the Orchestra made its formal debut at Alice Tully Hall – the first concert ever presented at Lincoln Center by such an ensemble. Since then PRO has appeared at hundreds of leading arts venues, including the Ravinia Festival, the Smithsonian Institution, Chautauqua, the Brucknerhaus (Austria), the New York 92nd Street Y, and the American Dance Festival.

The concert is open to the public free of charge, with a free-will offering taken to help defray the costs of the event. For more information, contact the church office at 570-586-6306.

**Adult Education** meets on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., Room 206. On May 1, 8, 15, and 22 Rev. Bill and Friends continue 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., 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, Kelly, the Bucca family.

## **This Week at a Glance**

Today, April 28

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online
- **5 p.m.**, An Evening in Tuscany, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, May 1

- **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, May 2

- **8:30 a.m.**, Men's Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- **5:00 p.m.**, Worship, Music and Arts, ZOOM only
- **5:45 p.m.**, Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall
- **7:00 p.m.**, Building and Grounds, Room 209
- **7:00 p.m.**, Christian Education, Room 206

Sunday, May 5

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

### **Looking Ahead – Check your newsletters for information!**

- June 1 – Bike Hike through the Lehigh Gorge
- June 30 – Parking Lot Picnic
- August 2 – Rail Riders' game

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**300 School Street**  
**Clarks Summit, PA 18411**  
**570/586-6306**  
**[www.fpccs.org](http://www.fpccs.org)**