

OPENING PRAYER:

Loving God, we come to worship as people who sometimes feel that you have abandoned us or left us to fend for ourselves. Encourage us when we doubt your promise to be with us always. In our worship, grant us the gifts of discernment and hope. Open our eyes and hearts and help us see not only what is, but also what, by your grace, might be. Amen.

PRELUDE *Jesus Shall Reign* *arr. Price*
Adele Harrison, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Joanne Weiss

INTROIT *Come Worship God*
Chancel Choir

***CALL TO WORSHIP** John Ehlers
Leader: Let us as a community of faith be jubilant with joy!
People: We ascribe to You all power and majesty, O God, and sing your praises.

Leader: We see your Presence throughout time, in the past and present, and trust that You are already moving us forward into the future.
All: We will give thanks to You, our God, forever!

***Hymn #265: "Jesus Shall Reign Wherever the Sun"**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION John Ehlers
Gracious God, you freely and continuously give us your love, bringing new life out of death. We confess that we often ignore your life-giving power in our lives. We hurt others and are hurt by them. We are often angry and afraid and we act out in harmful ways. We are not sure how to care for ourselves and others and we continue to live in ways that do not lead to peace and justice. Forgive us, O God. Pour your Spirit of mercy, wisdom, and healing upon us, that through our lives we may be your Presence in the world, glorifying you through Jesus Christ the Risen One. Amen.

Kyrie
Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy upon us.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS John Ehlers
In the name of the One who died and rose again, all is forgiven, and we are invited to the freshness of new beginnings. Let us praise this God of grace!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Friendship Attendance Pad at the end of the pews. This allows the church to be in touch with you and for you to greet your neighbor by name during the passing of peace during the service.

Today's Worship – We welcome to the Pulpit Rev. Dr. Joanne Weiss. Pastor Mark will return from Study Leave, **May 27th**.

Decorating the Church for Pentecost – Saturday, May 27th at 1pm.

Pentecost Sunday – We will be dedicating our new handbells on Pentecost Sunday, **May 28th**. Please wear something Red.

Meetings in Blough Hall – Any meetings held in Blough hall between **Sunday May 28th-Monday, June 5th** will need to be relocated to Samford House or rescheduled.

2023 Graduates - If anyone has a Graduate from High School or College this May or June they would like to acknowledge, please forward the following information to the church office by **May 28th** so that we can recognize our Graduates in June. Information needed: Student Name, Connection to You, School Graduating From, College Degree, Future Plans. Our office email is fpoffice@ptd.net.

Pickleball - The Pickleball fundraiser for the Church will be on **June 24th & June 25th**. Location: Drop Shots: 180 White Mills Road, White Mills. June 24th - Cucumber Class (9am-10am, 12pm-1pm, 1pm-2pm). The cost is \$20.00 pp (half cost goes to the Church). June 25th - Open Play (10am-12pm). \$20.00pp (full cost donated to the Church). If you have any questions, please call (570) 228-2855. To Register: <https://dropshotspb.com/events/>.

Tags and Treasures - Our Tags and Treasures fundraiser is drawing closer. We encourage you to drop off your items early and to tell your friends and family members about this opportunity to let go of things they no longer need. There are several options for dropping items off: **you can leave your donations in the Sunday School area in Blough Hall; you can contact Bill Rockafellow to meet "by appointment"** if you need help with large items or numerous boxes, or you can utilize these official drop off dates and times when a volunteer will be there to help you: **Sunday, May 21st 12 pm to 2 pm and Thursday, May 25th from 12 pm to 2 pm**. We will be reaching out to you to line up volunteers for the days leading up to the event and for help on the days of the event. See Pat Bartleson, Bill Rockafellow or Karen Lutz if you have questions. Thank you in advance for all of your support.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study Class - Final class will be **May 31st**.

Memorial Day – Monday, **May 29th**, the office will be closed.

Vacation Bible School – Registration for Vacation Bible school has begun for **July 24th-July 28th** from 9am-12pm. To register please go to www.myvbs.org/fpch.

Please sign up in the vestibule to be an usher and to host coffee hour.

Liturgists see Adele Harrison
Help with Communion – See Ann Marie

CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

Monday, May 22nd 12:00pm – AA		Thursday, May 25th 12:15pm – Worship & Music Mtg.	
Tuesday, May 23rd 10:00am – Handbell Choir 11:00am - Chancel Choir 8:00pm – NA		Saturday, May 27th 1:00pm - Decorating the Church 11:30am-1:00pm – Good News Café	
Wednesday, May 24th 12:00pm – AA Meeting		Sunday, May 28th - Pentecost 10:00am Worship Service (Communion) 11:am – Coffee Hour	
Liturgist Schedule: 5/21 John Ehlers 5/28 Jen Kiesendahl	Usher Schedule: 5/21 – Tom & Melanie Tek-Visgilio 5/28 – John & Sue E.	June Communion Set Up: Cathy B. Servers: Alesia B., Cathy B., Michelle W., Pat G., Heather C. Clean Up: Cathy B	

JOYS and CONCERNS FOR WEEK OF 05/21/23

New Joys and Concerns:

- *Prayers for Ellen, sister of Beth C.
- *Prayers for Brenda N.
- *Prayers for Ann Marie’s friend, Lynn’s family who passed away on Saturday in hospice
- *Prayers for Timothy, nephew of Sherry M.
- *Prayers for Gary Wolf for knee surgery.
- *Prayers for Marceline, Matt’s niece, who has a brain tumor.
- *Prayers for Oressa M.’s Aunt Becky.
- *Prayers for Sue P who is having heart issues.
- *Prayers for Brandon, grandson of Pat G.’s friend.
- *Prayers for Jessica C.’s 3-year-old nephew.
- *Prayers for Kathy Burton’s granddaughter, Kinsley
- *Prayers for Joan V.’s grandson struggling with addiction
- *Prayers for Megan, Joan’s D.’s daughter-in-law.
- *Prayers for Brenda, who is suffering from substance abuse.
- *Prayers for Desiree N, friends of Pat B., who had surgery for cancer and who moved from AL to TX.

***Congregational Response, Hymn #610,
“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”**
O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace!

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST **Rev. Dr. Joanne Weiss**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION **John Ehlers**

As the disciples heard again the message of the Risen One before the ascension, help us to hear with freshness these words of Scripture. Nurture our imaginations, touch our feelings, increase our awareness, and challenge our assumptions so that we may truly embrace our part in the ongoing story of Easter. Amen.

First Lesson: Psalm 68: 4-10, 32-35 **John Ehlers**

Second Lesson: Acts 1: 6-14 **Rev. Dr. Joanne Weiss**

Musical Meditation *We Will Rejoice and Be Glad* **Patterson**
 Matthew Rupcich, piano

TIME WITH YOUNG CHRISTIANS

SERMON “Letting Go...AGAIN!” **Rev. Dr. Joanne Weiss**

Hymn #738: “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

INVITATION TO OFFERTORY

Offertory *Improvisation inspired by DM*
 Matthew Rupcich, piano

***Doxology, “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER
(using debts and debtors)

***Hymn #686: “God of Our Life”**

THE BENEDICTION

Choral Benediction: Seven-Fold Amen Lutkin

POSTLUDE

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* *arr. Mansfield
Adele Harrison, organ

***Please stand if you are able.**

First Presbyterian Church of Hawley

“Come to Grow in Love, Spirit, and Faith”



May 21, 2023

10 AM

7th Sunday of Easter
First Presbyterian Church
815 Church Street, Hawley, PA 18428
570-226-4835
Web: fpchawley.org

“Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord, Selah”
Psalm 68:32

Please take time to prepare for worship through meditation and prayer during the prelude. As the prelude begins, quiet your voice and soul. With music and prayer let us move from ‘getting to church’ to ‘being the church’ as we worship together.