



WELCOME



WELCOME TO ALL. You enter this church not as a stranger, but as a child of God, joining in worship with our Christian family. Please take a moment to complete a Visitor/Guest Card, located in the pew racks, and place it in the collection plate at the back of the sanctuary or give directly to Pastor Gregg. We are glad you are here.

TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP, please turn off or silence cell phones, tablets, and all other wireless electronic devices upon entering the sanctuary.

FOR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN: Nursery care is available for infants and young children through pre-K.

RESTROOMS are located across from the office area and down the hallway in the Christian Education wing.

PARKING IS AVAILABLE in the designated church parking spaces on the south and east side of the church, as well as street parking. The municipal building parking lot west of the church is also available during evening hours and on Sunday mornings.

TODAY'S LITURGICAL COLOR IS WHITE, which is used for special days of great joy.

WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL is held on Facebook on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM (ET). Please contact Pastor Gregg directly to share any prayer requests.

CONTACT INFO YOU MIGHT NEED

- Contact Pastor Gregg anytime at (814) 460-3123 (call or text) and pastortownsend@yahoo.com.
- Contact music director Jane Livingston at (814) 504-1135 (call or text) and jlivingston@neo.rr.com.
- Please send announcements or calendar events to Jane.

First Presbyterian Church

North East, PA

April 20, 2025, 10:30 A.M.

Easter Sunday

Jane M. Livingston, Director of Music

Gregg D. Townsend, Pastor

**Indicates to stand if you are able*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

GATHERING MUSIC

“He Is Risen!”

Broughton

“Easter Fanfare”

Chesterton

“Resurrection Joy”

Sewell

ON THIS MORNING

Luke 24:1-12

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

“Love’s Redeeming Work Is Done”

Chancel Choir

Livingston

* GREETING

Pastor Gregg Townsend

Leader: The grace of our risen Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

All: And also with you.

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

* CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION

Jamison Drab

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

Together: his love endures forever.

In our anguish we cried to the Lord,
and he answered by setting us free.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

The Lord is our strength and our song; he has become our salvation.
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

We will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;
The Lord has done this; and it is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

—from Psalm 118:1, 5, 14, 17, 22-24, NIV

Let us pray:

Glorious Lord of life, by the mighty resurrection of your Son you overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him. Grant that we who celebrate with joy Christ’s rising from the dead may be raised from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

* OPENING PRAISE

“Jesus Christ is Risen Today!”

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He’s king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as God's love; Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Christ Is Alive”

Bell Choir

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from the grave and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

—Ephesians 2:4-7, NRSV

* SONG OF THANKSGIVING “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

Lord, I lift your name on high.

Lord, I love to sing your praises.

I’m so glad you’re in my life.

I’m so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way.

From the earth to the cross my debt to pay.

From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky,

Lord, I lift your name on high.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC “That Easter Day with Joy was Bright” arr. Sue

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Joel 3:17-21

Joel McClure, Reader

MESSAGE

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* RESPONDING IN SONG

“Shout to the Lord”

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord there is none like You.

All of my days, I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength;

Let every breath, all that I am never cease to worship You.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing.

Power and majesty, praise to the King.

Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands;

Forever I’ll love You— forever I’ll stand.

Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

My Jesus, my Savior, Risen Messiah and Lord.

You have come back, just as You said; life will never be the same.

You’re living, forgiving, angels are singing Your praise.

We join the throng, lifting in song,

“Grace and mercy have prevailed.”

Shout to the Lord, all the earth let us sing.

Power and majesty, praise to the King.

Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.

I sing for joy at the work of Your Son;

Victory over the grave He has won,

Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“All My Boast Is In Jesus”

Getty

PASTORAL PRAYER 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.

SENDING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

* HYMN

“Alleluia No. 1”

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the Risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His Name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation. **(Chorus)**

Spread the good news o’er all the earth. Jesus has died and has risen.
(Chorus)

We have been crucified with Christ.
Now we shall live forever.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the Risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His Name.

Come let us praise the Living God.
Joyfully sing to our Savior. **(Chorus)**

* OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

* CLOSING SONG

“Love’s Redeeming Work Is Done”

Jesus Christ is risen today. Victory o’er the grave.
Death’s defeat and hope restored, this triumphant Easter day.
Oh where, O death, is your sting? The victory is done.
He lives again, our Redeemer, King.
Lord, by your wounds we are healed. Salvation is won.
Love’s redeeming work is done. Love’s redeeming work is done.
Jesus Christ is risen today. Death’s defeat o’er the grave.
And hope restored, this triumphant Easter day.
This triumphant Easter day!

* BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

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CHURCH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PURCHASED EASTER FLOWERS. Please take them home after the Easter worship service. Our deacons will delivery any flowers that are left to our members who are homebound.

SIGN UP TO PROVIDE FLOWERS ON SUNDAY MORNING IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE OR OCCASION. Please email jlivingston@neo.rr.com with bulletin details.

PLEASE SIGN UP TO HOST COFFEE HOUR. All you need to do is make the coffee and drinks, set out the necessary supplies and “host.” The sign-up sheet is in the Assembly Room.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF FPCNE?

Speak with Pastor Gregg. He’d love to talk with you.

WE’RE LOOKING FOR GRUSHERS—folks willing to pass out bulletins and greet members and guests coming to FPCNE for worship on Sunday mornings. The only requirement is a smile and friendly greeting! Please see Dianne Tyler to be a FPCNE Grusher.

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS by Wednesdays. Email Pastor Gregg or Jane.

OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

1. Place your envelopes in the plates at the back of the sanctuary.
2. Give through PayPal at paypal.me/fpcne or at FPCNE.ORG.
3. Scan the QR code with your phone camera using the card located in the pew pockets to go right to the church’s Paypal account.
4. Speak with Pastor Gregg for information on setting up direct deposit.

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2025 EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS

In Memory of:	Given by:
Al McClure	The Northrup, McClure, and Weber Families
Alan McClure	Cathy McClure
Anna K. Luchs	John Luchs
Bill & Judy Wassink	Bill, Beth & Sara
Birdie Campbell	The Regan Family
Bob & Lois Norris	Bob & Sally Murray
Bob & Louise Murray	Bob & Sally Murray
C. Maurice Youngs and Genevieve Youngs Steadman	Deanna Ott
Charles & Ruth Fink and Wayne Seymour	Steve & Beth Seymour
Chuck & Judy Barton	Leila, Matt and Owen Shields
Cleon & Patricia Livingston	Jane Livingston & Gregg Townsend
Dawn Peterson	Kathy Peterson
Dennis Drab	The Drab Family
Pap Pap (Dennis Drab)	Callahan Drab
Douglas & Catherine Reid	Family
Hal & Emelyn Olson	John & Debbie Olson
James & Elizabeth Burch	Cathy McClure
Jeffrey Duink and Kenneth Duink	Wanda Cochrane
Jerry Kirschner	Hazel Kirschner
Joan and Carl Spacht	The Regan Family
John & Pearl Morton	John & Kerry Morton
Joseph Trojanowski Family	Family
Kathleen & Albert Decker	Janice & Neil Hirneisen
Larry & Dolly McClure	Cathy McClure
Lynn R. Peterson	Kathy Peterson

Marcella Cramer	Al Cramer
Meryl & Sara Bemiss and Al Walz Sr. & Virginia Walz	Bev & Al Walz
Nancy Bea Hefley, Beloved LA Dodgers Organist	Gregg Townsend
Otis & Myrtle Gates	John & Kerry Morton
Our Parents	The Tyler Family
Roberta Louise Nagle	Jan A. Nagle
Shirley Ralston Bemiss	John & Susie Huff
The Weinheimer Family & Heiden Family	Nancy & Jerry Weinheimer

In Honor of:	Given by:
Brittany & Andrew Joseph and Peter Seymour & Autumn Stevens	Steve & Beth Seymour
Brooks Townsend, Calvin University Class of '25	Gregg Townsend & Jane Livingston
Families of Kristen Northrup, Tom McClure & Sara Weber	Cathy McClure
Fred and Barb Brostmeyer	Jenny & Peter Hirneisen
Jack & Louise Norris	Bob & Sally Murray
Jane Livingston	Chancel & Bell Choirs
John & Elizabeth Morton	John & Kerry Morton
Kathleen Peterson	John & Kerry Morton
Neil and Janice Hirneisen	Jenny & Peter Hirneisen
Our Children & Grandchildren	Bob & Sally Murray
Our Children & Grandsons	Fred & Dianne Lucore

