



# First Presbyterian Church

## Announcements and Things to Know

**TODAY IS SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SUNDAY.** Thank you for collecting soup for the North East Community Food Pantry to help our



neighbors. Matthew 25 in action.

**LIBRARY MONTH BOOK REVIEWS:** “Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary/Old Testament” by John H Walton. These books are in original historical and social context with issues like chronology, translation, authorship and are presented in a passage-by-passage commentary. “Illustrated Bible Background Commentary/New Testament” by Clinton E Arnold. The commentary integrates relevant historical and cultural highlights, providing a deeper dimension of perspective to the words of scripture. Thank you to Pastor Gregg for donating these and other wonderful books.

**CHECK OUT A BOOK OR TWO!** For every book signed out, you’ll get a chance to win a \$30 Tia Bookstore gift card or a big stuffed bear. Winners will be announced on February 22.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

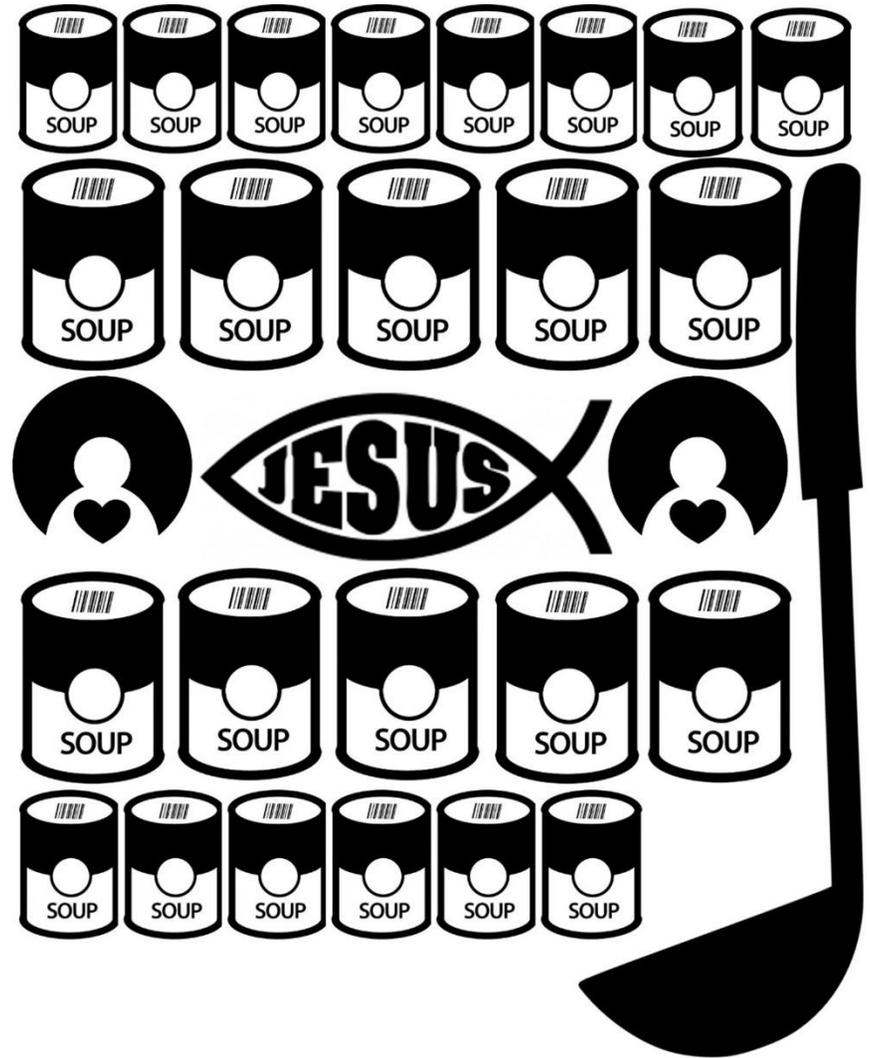
following the worship service. Please plan to stay.

**SIGN UP TO PROVIDE FLOWERS ON SUNDAY MORNING IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE OR OCCASION.**

Please email [jmlivingston20@outlook.com](mailto:jmlivingston20@outlook.com) with bulletin details.

**PLEASE SUBMIT ALL BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS BY WEDNESDAYS.**

Please email Pastor Gregg or Jane.



# First Presbyterian Church

25 West Main Street | North East, PA 16428  
(814) 725-8641 | [FPCNE.ORG](http://FPCNE.ORG) | Follow us on Facebook

## 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 and other 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 GREEN,** which symbolizes spiritual growth and is used during Ordinary time—all time periods during the church calendar not marked by a specific season.

**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](mailto:pastortownsend@yahoo.com).
- Contact music director Jane Livingston at (814) 504-1135 (call or text) and [jmlivingston20@outlook.com](mailto:jmlivingston20@outlook.com).

## 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](https://paypal.me/fpcne) or [FPCNE.ORG](https://www.fpcne.org).
3. Scan the QR code in the pew pocket to go right to the church's Paypal account.
4. Speak with Pastor Gregg for details on setting up direct deposit.

**TODAY'S FLOWERS** are given by Cathy McClure in memory of Alan McClure.

**TODAY'S FLOWERS** are also given by Selina and David Uglow.



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**ASH WEDNESDAY BEGINS THE SEASON OF LENT.**  
Join us for our Ash Wednesday Service on February 18 at 7:00 PM (ET).

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## The First Sunday in Lent is February 22.

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"Creation Sings the Father's Song" Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend CCLI #5333798  
© 2008 Thankyou Music Ltd | "I Will Follow" CCLI Song #5806878 Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram | Reuben Morgan © 2010 SHOUT! Publishing | sixsteps Music | et al. | "Open My Eyes That I May See" Clara H. Fiske Scott CCLI Song #68003 Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain | "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples" © 1989 H. Kenn Carmichael. Oxford University Press

## SENDING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

### \* CLOSING HYMN

“I Will Follow”

All Your ways are good, all Your ways are sure,  
I will trust in You alone.  
Higher than my sight, high above my life.  
I will trust in You alone.

**Where You go, I'll go. Where You stay, I'll stay.  
When You move, I'll move. I will follow You.  
Whom You love, I'll love. How You serve, I'll serve.  
If this life I lose, I will follow You. Yeah, I will follow You. Yeah.**

Light into the world, Light into my life, I will live for You alone.  
You're the One I seek, knowing I will find.  
All I need in You alone, in You alone. **(Chorus)**

In You, there's life everlasting. In You, there's freedom for my soul.  
In You, there's joy unending joy. And I will follow... **(Chorus)**

### \* OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

### \* BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

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## First Presbyterian Church

North East, PA

February 8, 2026, 10:30 A.M.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jane M. Livingston, Director of Music

Gregg D. Townsend, Pastor

*\*Indicates to stand if you are able*

*SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND PRAYER REQUESTS. Please fill out a Prayer Card located in the pew racks and give to Pastor Gregg before the service.*

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

### GATHERING MUSIC

### WELCOME

Pastor Gregg Townsend

### \* GREETING

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Selina Uglow

Leader: Our hearts are ready, O Lord, our hearts are ready!

**Congregation: We will sing and make melody! We will awaken the dawn!**

We will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples, we will sing praises to you among the nations.

**For your steadfast love is great above the heavens, and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**

—based on Psalm 108:1-4

### \* OPENING PRAISE

“Today We All Are Called”

Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord.  
To help to set the captive free. Make plowshare out of sword.  
To feed the hungry quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast.  
To serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last....

God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race.  
To live as stewards of the earth, responding to God's grace.  
But we are vain and sadly proud. We sow not peace but strife.  
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,  
With righteousness in field and town, to cleanse us and redeem.  
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease.  
A world that was created for a harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God act out the living Word.  
And walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.  
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord.  
To God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord! Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

**For your name's sake, O Lord, pardon my guilt, for it is great. Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.**

—Psalm 25:6-8, 11, 16-18, NRSV

#### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

—Psalm 32:3-5, NRSV

## **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

### **CHILDREN'S BLESSING**

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

John 1:40-51

### **MESSAGE**

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

### **\* RESPONDING IN SONG** "Open My Eyes That I May See"

Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free  
Silently now I wait for Thee. Ready my God Thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine.

Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear.  
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,  
Everything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for Thee. Ready my God Thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine.

Open my mouth and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere.  
Open my heart and let me prepare,  
Love with Thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for Thee. Ready my God Thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine.

### **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.**