



First Presbyterian Church

Announcements and Things to Know

BELL AND CHANCEL CHOIR PRACTICES will resume on Thursday, January 15. Bell Choir Practice is on Thursdays at 6:00 PM followed by Chancel Choir Practice at 7:00 PM. We welcome new members to join. Speak with Jane Livingston for more info.

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS BY WEDNESDAYS. Please email Pastor Gregg or Jane.

JOIN OUR E-PRAYER CHAIN. Speak with Pastor Gregg or email Jane Livingston at jlivingston@neo.rr.com to be added.

CHURCH OFFICERS			
	2026	2027	2028
Elders	Dave Poor	Al Cramer	Marcia Regan
	Steve Seymour	Dianne Tyler	
		Dave Meehl	
Deacons	Barb Sweet	Selina Uglow	Megan Drab
	Cathy McClure	Donna Roesch	Jenn McClure
	Beth Seymour		Janice Hirneisen
	Bev Walz		
Trustees	J.B. Salter	Rick Anderson	Jerry Weinheimer
	Bob Murray	Fred Lucore	Neil Hirneisen
			Jamison Drab

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| “In the Bleak Midwinter” CCLI Song # 294736 Christina Georgina Rossetti | Gustav Theodore Holst ©
Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain) | “Wonderful, Merciful Savior” CCLI Song #106879
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Baptism of the Lord

First Presbyterian Church

25 West Main Street | North East, PA 16428

(814) 725-8641 | 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 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 jmlivingston20@outlook.com.

Almighty, infinite Father, faithfully loving Your own
Here in our weakness You find us Falling before Your throne,
O we're falling before Your throne.

You are the One that we praise! You are the One we adore!
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

* OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

* BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

* * * * *

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 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.

Our God heav'n cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain.
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed.
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there.
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air.
But His mother only in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part.
Yet what can I give Him? Give my heart.

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

*** CLOSING HYMN** "Wonderful, Merciful Savior"

Wonderful, merciful Savior, Precious, Redeemer and Friend.
Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?
O You rescue the souls of men.

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace.
You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way.
O, we hopelessly lost the way.

You are the One that we praise! You are the One we adore!
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

First Presbyterian Church

North East, PA
January 11, 2026, 10:30 A.M.
Baptism of the Lord

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 AND INVOCATION

Beth Poor

Leader: God anointed Christ to console the afflicted.

Congregation: Come, let us worship the Lord our Comforter!

God anointed Christ to emancipate the enslaved.

Come, let us worship the Lord our liberator!

God anointed Christ to bind up the wounded.

Come, let us worship the Lord our healer!

God anointed Christ to deliver the troubled.

Come, let us worship the Lord our Savior!

Lord God, gracious and merciful, you anointed your beloved Son with the Holy Spirit at his baptism in the Jordan, and you consecrated him prophet, priest, and king. Pour out your Spirit on us again that we may be faithful to our baptismal calling, ardently desire the communion of Christ's body and blood, and serve the poor of your people and all who need your love, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

* OPENING PRAISE

“Baptized In Water”

Baptized in water. Sealed by the Spirit.
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King.
Heirs of salvation, trusting His promise.
Faithfully now God’s praises we sing.

Baptized in water. Sealed by the Spirit.
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King.
One with His rising, freed and forgiven.
Thankfully now God’s praises we sing.

Baptized in water. Sealed by the Spirit.
Marked with the sign of Christ Our King.
Born of one Spirit. We are His children.
Joyfully now God’s praises we sing.

INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

* HYMN

“Here I Am, Lord”

I, the Lord of seas and sky. I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin, my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night. I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.**

I, the Lord of snow and rain. I have borne My people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone. Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send? **(Chorus)**

I, the Lord of wind and flame. I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send? **(Chorus)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all mercy, in our baptisms you have marked us as your own; you have given us a new identity and made us part of the body of Christ. In doing so, you have called us to rise to new life and to live together in community. However, we have not been faithful to your call. We have forged our own identity and held to destructive habits. We confess we have failed to welcome others, broken bonds we have had with brothers and sisters, and served ourselves more than you. Forgive us, we pray, for the sake of Christ, our Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, hear the good news! Though we are unworthy, we are granted God’s favor in Jesus Christ and are baptized into the church of his beloved Son. Friends, believe the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN’S BLESSING

SPECIAL MUSIC

Bell Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:14-18

MESSAGE

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* RESPONDING IN SONG

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan.
Earth stood hard as iron. Water like a stone.
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow.
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.