

OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

1. Place your envelopes in the plates at the back of the sanctuary.
2. Send in your financial support via the USPS.
3. Contact Pastor Gregg (814-460-3123) for information on setting up direct deposit.
4. Give through PayPal at paypal.me/fpcne. Or scan the QR code with your phone camera to go right to the church's Paypal account.



CHURCH OFFICERS			
Elders	2024	2025	2026
	Kathy Taylor	Jan Trojanowski	Bob Nelson
	Fred Lucore	Jean LaFuria	Christy Reinsel
	Dianne Tyler	Marcia Regan	Steve Seymour
Deacons	2024	2025	2026
	Deanna Ott	Janice Hirneisen	Barb Sweet
	Sally Murray	Beth Poor	Cathy McClure
	Beth Seymour	Bev Walz	Leila Zorzie
Trustees	2024	2025	2026
	John Morton	Tom McClure	J.B. Salter
	Dave Meehl	Jerry Weinheimer	
		Neil Hirneisen	
		Pete Hirneisen	

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

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FOR IT IS
**BY GRACE
YOU HAVE
BEEN SAVED,
THROUGH FAITH**

and this is not from
yourselves, it is the
GIFT OF GOD

Ephesians 2:8

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

25 West Main Street | North East, PA 16428
(814) 725-8641 | [FPCNE.ORG](https://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 came.

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. Sunday School is available for grade school ages following the Children's Blessing.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED is available. Please contact a member of the media team to use the assisted listening devices.

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 on nights and 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.
- Contact music director Jane Livingston at (814) 504-1135 (call or text) and jlivingston@neo.rr.com.

God of grace, I stand astounded, cleansed forgiven and secure.
All my fears are now confounded, and my hope is ever sure.
God of grace now crowned in glory where one day I'll see Your face.
And forever I'll adore You in Your everlasting grace.

*** OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND**

*** BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE**

*** * * * COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP HOUR * * * ***

CHURCH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BELL AND CHANCEL CHOIR PRACTICES have resumed. Bell Choir Practice is held on Thursdays at 6:00 PM followed by Chancel Choir Practice at 7:00 PM. We need and welcome new members to join. Speak with Jane Livingston for more information.

SQUARE CIRCLE WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, at 6:30 PM at the home of Deanna Ott, 90 Isabella Street. All women are welcome to join us for devotions, prayer, and fellowship.

THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING is on! We're collecting soup for the North East Community Food Pantry now through February 11. Bring in a few cans or cases! Order online and have soup shipped to the church. Or, you can also make a donation, and we'll shop for you!

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. It's a wonderful time for fellowship. Let's all pitch in to help!

SIGN UP TO PROVIDE FLOWERS ON SUNDAY MORNING IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE OR OCCASION. A new 2024 sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board by the church office. Please email jlivingston@neo.rr.com with bulletin details.

By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear.
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
And rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the church was called to go
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost.
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In ev'ry corner of the earth. **(Chorus)**

By faith the mountain shall be moved
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail.
For we know in Christ all things are possible,
For all who call upon His name. **(Chorus)**

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 SONG** "God of Grace"

God of grace, amazing wonder, irresistible and free.
Oh, the miracle of mercy, Jesus reaches down to me.
God of grace, I stand in wonder as my God restores my soul.
His own blood has paid my ransom. Awesome cost to make me whole.

God of grace, who loved and knew me long before the world began.
Sent my Savior down from heaven, perfect God and perfect Man.
God of grace, I trust in Jesus. I'm accepted as His own.
Every day, new grace sustains me as I lean on Him alone.

First Presbyterian Church

North East, PA

January 14, 2024, 10:30 A.M.

Second Sunday After Epiphany

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 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Gregg Townsend

*** GREETING**

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: In your wisdom, O God, you call us here to worship you.

Congregation: We gather, alive to the Word of God.

You call us to be fully alive with your life abundant,
ready to listen and respond with heart, soul, strength, and mind.
We listen, alive to the Word of God.

You call us to be always watchful for your Word of wisdom,
sometimes startling and unexpected, sometimes still and quiet,
but always dwelling among us.

We watch and wait for the Word of God.

*** OPENING PRAISE** "God of Grace and God of Glory"

God of grace and God of glory on Thy people pour Thy power.
Crown Thine ancient church's story. Bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour.
For the facing of this hour.

Lo the hosts of evil 'round us. Scorn Thy Christ assail Thy ways.
From the fears that long have bound us,
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days.
For the living of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness. Bend our pride to Thy control.
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places. Gird our lives that they may be.
Armored with all Christ-like graces, pledged to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage that we fail not them nor Thee.
That we fail not them nor Thee.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of Thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving Thee whom we adore.
Serving Thee whom we adore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, we groan at our weaknesses, and we ask forgiveness.
Your Word is so clear, and your grace is so good. But we close our
ears to your call, and with our perverse pride we foul the gifts you
have given us. Like your servant Paul, we know what you require
of us; yet, like Paul, what we do is not the good we want to do, and
the evil we do not want to do, that evil we keep on doing. We
mistreat those we love, and we dishonor you, the One who made
us. How long, O Lord, will we continue to ignore your will?**

**Yet you provide streams of living mercy; you invite us again and
again to live renewed lives. So we turn once again to the cross, to
the empty cross, to the stone rolled away, to our interceding Lord
Jesus Christ seated at your right hand, to the gracious gift of your
Spirit. We seek your forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
We draw upon your promises, and we ask once again simply for
mercy. With your Holy Spirit, sanctify us. Hear our prayer, O
Lord, for we ask it in Christ's name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all
your uncleanness, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new
heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will
remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of
flesh.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

—Ezekiel 36:25-26, NRSV

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Chancel Choir

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 2:8-10

MESSAGE

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*** RESPONDING IN SONG**

“By Faith”

By faith we see the hand of God in the light of creation's grand design.
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness
Who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand
A place where peace and justice reign

**We will stand as children of the promise.
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward
Till the race is finished and the work is done.
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.**