



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

**ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED! THE SPRING GATHERING OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF LAKE ERIE PRESBYTERY** will be held on Saturday, April 5, at the First Presbyterian Oil City Church. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the Assembly Room or contact Deanna Ott for details.

**SQUARE CIRCLE WILL MEET THIS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 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.

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"Come Ye Souls By Sin Afflicted" Joseph Swain | Kevin Twit CCLI Song #7079450 © 2013 Twit, Kevin | "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" CCLI Song #36499 © Public Domain Ithamar Conkey | John Bowring | "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" CCLI Song # 1038991 Charles Wesley | Word & Music © 1986 Word & Music - The Jubilate Group (Admin. by Jubilate Hymns Ltd, sub to Hope Publishing for various regions) (Admin. by Hope Publishing Company) | "We Will Feast In The House Of Zion" Joshua Moore, Sandra McCracken CCLI Song #7041364 © 2015 Integrity Worship Music; Paper News Publishing; joshmooreownsthismusic

Return  
to the  
**LORD**  
your **God**  
for he is gracious  
and merciful.

Joel 2:13



## Second Sunday in Lent

### 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, 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.

**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 PURPLE**, which is used during the penitential season of Lent as a vivid reminder of the contempt and scorn Christ endured and the sacrifice he made for our eternal salvation.

**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 [jlivingston@neo.rr.com](mailto:jlivingston@neo.rr.com).

## CHURCH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PICK UP A LENTEN FLIER AND EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM** at the back of the sanctuary.

**NORTH EAST FOOD PANTRY IS ASKING FOR EGG NOODLES.** If you'd like to support our neighbors in need, pick up a few bags next time you're at the store and drop them in the Assembly Room.

**SIGN UP TO PROVIDE FLOWERS ON SUNDAY MORNING IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE OR OCCASION.** Please email [jlivingston@neo.rr.com](mailto: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." If you'd like to provide snacks or cookies, it is appreciated but not required. The sign-up sheet is in the Assembly Room. It's a wonderful time for fellowship. Let's all pitch in to help!

**IF YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST, JOY, OR CONCERN TO SHARE**, please speak with Pastor Gregg or call or text his cell phone at (814) 460-3123. You can also email our prayer chain at [jlivingston@neo.rr.com](mailto:jlivingston@neo.rr.com) or text Jane Livingston at (814) 504-1135.

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



**Check out the bulletin boards throughout the Assembly Room and hallways.**

## SENDING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\* **CLOSING SONG**      “Come Ye Souls By Sin Afflicted”  
See insert

\* **OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND**

\* **BENEDICTION**

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



## First Presbyterian Church

North East, PA

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025, 10:30 A.M.

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

### SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leila Shields

Leader: Let us worship God, who has done great things.

**Together: We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the desert of this world.**

Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

**We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship him, and we rejoice!**

Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**We praise God for the grace that has saved us. Alleluia! We rejoice!**

—based on Isaiah 43:19-21

Let us pray:

**Holy and loving God, as we worship you today, we long for your Spirit to both comfort and challenge us, to help us become more holy and more loving. In a world that does not understand repentance, we pray for new understanding, humility, patience, and discipline that will help us die to sin and live for Jesus. Amen.**

**\* OPENING PRAISE**      “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

In the cross of Christ, I glory. Towering o’er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o’ertake me. Hopes deceive and fears annoy.  
Never shall the cross forsake me. Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming. Light and love upon my way.  
From the cross the radiance streaming, adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure. By the cross are sanctified.  
Peace is there that knows no measure. Joys that through all time abide.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth.**

**Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

*Silent Confession*

**\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“We Will Feast in the House of Zion”

See insert

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

**CHILDREN’S BLESSING**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Joel 2:1-17

**MESSAGE**

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**\* RESPONDING IN SONG**      “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Love divine, all loves excelling. Joy of heaven to earth come down.  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling. All Thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus Thou art all compassion. Pure, unbounded love Thou art.  
Visit us with Thy salvation. Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe, Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast.  
Let us all in Thee inherit. Let us find the promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning, Alpha and Omega be.  
End of faith as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come Almighty to deliver. Let us all Thy life receive.  
Suddenly return and never, never more Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing. Serve Thee as Thy hosts above.  
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing. Glory in Thy perfect love,

Finish then Thy new creation. Pure and spotless let us be.  
Let us see Thy great salvation, perfectly restored in Thee.  
Changed from glory into glory till in heaven we take our place.  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee. Lost in wonder, love and praise.

**SILENT REFLECTION**

**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.**