

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 the church office (814-725-8641) to set 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.



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 | 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 during the time of Offering. We are glad you joined us today.

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. An usher will be happy to direct you to the Nursery-Crib Room. 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 LIVE 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.

CHURCH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO TURN IN BOXES FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD! (You can also drop off at the Baptist Church – see the schedule in the paper.) Thank you to everyone who participated and helped us spread the Good News and good cheer at Christmas time to children across the globe.

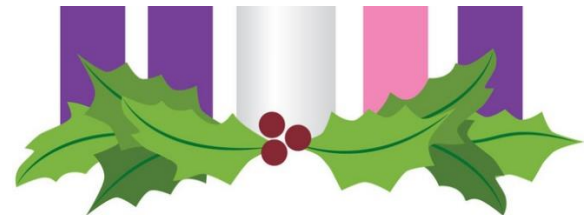
JOIN THE CHANCEL AND BELL CHOIRS FOR ADVENT! Bell Choir practice is at 6:00 PM on Thursdays, followed by Chancel Choir practice at 7:00 PM. We are looking for more ringers and singers. It's fun and a great way to serve the church! Speak with Jane Livingston for more info. Give it a try for the Advent season!

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!

ALL MEN AND WOMEN ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE FPCNE BOOK CLUB. During December, Book Club will meet on December 11 at 2:00 PM and will be reading "The Silent Patient" by Alex Michaelides. We hope you will consider joining us for a fun hour of fellowship and discussion.

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

The first Sunday of Advent is December 3.



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 “Let All Things Now Living”

Let all things now living, a song of thanksgiving,
To God the creator, triumphantly raise.
Who fashioned and made us, protected, and stayed us,
Who guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night.
Till shadows have vanished all fearfulness banished
As forward we travel from light into Light.

By law, God enforces the stars in their courses,
The sun in its orbit, obediently shines.
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing,
With glad adoration a song let us raise.
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving
To God in the highest hosanna and praise.

* OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

* THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!

* BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

First Presbyterian Church

North East, PA

November 19, 2023, 10:30 A.M.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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 & PRAYER OF ADORATION

Al Cramer

Leader: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

Congregation: Let all the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.
Let all the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

—from Psalm 67:4-6, NRSV

Gracious God, your heart abounds with goodness, and your hand pours out abundance. We praise you for the continuous cycle of seedtime and harvest and the order of nature. We bless you for the beauty of autumn and its generous yield. We thank you that you are mindful of us and supply our needs. Accept our thanksgiving and our praise for the cycle of life and for all the joys of living. Amen.

*** OPENING PRAISE** “Come Ye Thankful People Come”

Come ye thankful people come. Raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in ‘ere the winter storms begin.
God our maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied.
Come to God’s own temple come. Raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God’s own field. Fruit unto God’s praise to yield.
Wheat and tares together sown unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest grant that we, wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come and shall take His harvest home.
From His field shall in that day, all offenses purge away.
Give His angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store in God’s garner evermore.

Even so Lord quickly come to Thy final harvest home.
Gather Thou Thy people in. Free from sorrow, free from sin.
There forever purified in Thy presence to abide.
Come with all Thine angels come. Raise the glorious harvest home.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we gather today, rich in blessing, somehow believing that we merit the wealth and comforts we enjoy. Forgive us, our God, for comfortably closing our eyes to the faces of the poor that stare blankly in our direction.

Lord, have mercy on us.

With bellies full of grain and meat, we offer token gestures to the hungry in our world and we feel we have done enough. Forgive us, God, for keeping a distance between “us” and “them,” for closing our ears to the cries of the hungry.

Christ, have mercy on us.

With hands tightly clasping our treasures on earth, we cannot reach out to our oppressed brothers and sisters around this world. Forgive us for clinging to our own possessions rather than to you. Unite us with

hearts of thanksgiving, that we may work to ensure freedom and justice for all.

Lord, have mercy on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him!

—Romans 5:8-9, NIV

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN’S BLESSING

SPECIAL MUSIC

“You Are”

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 1:20-23

MESSAGE

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*** RESPONDING IN SONG**

“How Great Is Our God”

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty.
Let all the earth rejoice! Let all the earth rejoice!
He wraps Himself in light and darkness tries to hide.
It trembles at His voice. It trembles at His voice.

How great is our God! Sing with me.
How great is our God, and all will see how great,
How great is our God!

Age to age He stands and time is in His hands,
Beginning and the End, beginning and the End.
The Godhead three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb. **(CHORUS)**