



First Presbyterian Church

October 10, 2021 | 10:30 AM (ET) | 20th Sunday After Pentecost

Gregg D. Townsend, Pastor

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Pastor Gregg: (814) 460-3123

Jane Livingston, Music Director

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Facebook: [First Presbyterian Church of North East](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchofNorthEast)

**Indicates to stand if you are able*

GATHERING MUSIC: “Abide with Me”

GREETING

Rev. Carl Hull, Guest Preacher

*** CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER**

Leader: The earth is the Lord’s, for he made it: Come, let us adore him. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:

Together: Come, let us adore him. The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

Come, let us adore him. Lord, open our lips.

And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

Let us pray:

O Lord, our God, you are always more ready to give your good gifts to us than we are to seek them, and you are willing to give more than we desire or deserve. Help us so to seek that we may truly find, so to ask that we may joyfully receive, so to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened to us through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

*** OPENING PRAISE:** “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

1. Called as partners in Christ’s service. Called to ministries of grace.
We respond with deep commitment, fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing. Side by side and friend with friend.
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God’s chosen end.

2. Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring, Christ’s clear call to work and worth.
Let us follow never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.

Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people young and old.
Blending human skills together. Gracious gifts from God unfold.

3. Thus new patterns for Christ's mission in a small or global sense.
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort words of vision. Words of challenge said with care.
Bring new power and strength for action. Make us colleagues free and fair.

4. So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life.
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living. Our compassion to increase.
Messengers of faith, thus giving, hope and confidence and peace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Together: Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and turn them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, 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.

Together: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

—Ezekiel 36:25-26, NRSV

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

John 10:11-18; 2 Timothy 1:3-7; and 1 John 3:16-24

MESSAGE: "Called by Name"

RESPONDING IN SONG: "Abide With Me"

1. Abide with me fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens. Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee. Help of the helpless, abide with me.
2. Thou on my head in early youth didst smile. And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile.
Thou hast not left me though I oft left Thee. On to the close, Lord, abide with me.
3. I need Thy presence every passing hour. What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be. Through cloud and sunshine abide with me.
4. I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless. Ills have no weight. Tears lose their bitterness.
Where is thy sting, death? Where grave thy victory? I triumph still abide with me.
5. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes. Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee. In life in death, Lord, abide with me.

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.

* CLOSING SONG: "The Same Love"

You choose the humble and raise them high. You choose the weak and make them strong.
You heal our brokenness inside and give us life.

**The same love that set the captives free. The same love that opened eyes to see
Is calling us all by name. You are calling us all by name.
The same God that spread the heavens wide. The same God that was crucified
Is calling us all by name. You are calling us all by name.**

You take the faithless one aside and speak the words you are Mine.
You call the cynic and the proud: Come to Me now. **(Chorus)**

Oh oh. Oh oh. Oh oh. Oh oh
You're calling You're calling. You're calling us to the cross.
You're calling You're calling. You're calling us to the cross. **(Chorus)**

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

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OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

There are four easy ways to give your financial gift to the church:

1. For in-person worshippers, place your envelopes in the plates at the back of the sanctuary.
2. Send in your financial support via the **USPS to 25 West Main Street, North East PA 16428.**
3. Contact the church office (814-725-8641) to set up **direct deposit** from your bank account to the church.
4. You can also now give through **PayPal**. Just click on the link: paypal.me/fpcne. Or click on the "Shop Now" button on the church Facebook page, which will take you to the link.

CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY WE WELCOME THE REVEREND CARL HULL to lead us in worship and preach for us today. Rev. Hull is no stranger to our church. He has delivered God’s word to us before. He is an honorably retired member of the Presbytery of Lake Erie. As October is Pastor and Clergy Appreciation Month, we give thanks for Rev. Hull and his ministry.

CLOTHING GIVEAWAY DAY IS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6! New and gently used clothes are needed, especially children’s clothes, and adult and children’s coats. Please consider purchasing affordable coats and sending or bringing them to the church. Drop off your donations in the Assembly Room.

VOLUNTEER FOR OUR CLOTHING MINISTRY. Help is needed to (1) sort clothing on Saturday, October 23 at 10:00 AM, (2) set-up for the giveaway on Friday, November 5 at 6:30 PM, and (3) work the event on Saturday morning and early afternoon, November 6. Sign-up sheets to help with sorting, set-up, and serving at the event are in the Assembly Room. Take a minutes after worship today to sign up!

GOT ANY FALL GOALS? JOIN US FOR THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT: AN ONLINE BIBLE STUDY & CHAT GROUP. Deepen your faith life with this easy daily chronological reading schedule to follow, plus monthly chats on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM (ET). Download the schedule at WWW.FPCNE.ORG. Questions? See Pastor Gregg.

THIS WEEK’S NEW TESTAMENT READING SCHEDULE		
Date	Scripture Readings	Completed ✓
Sunday, October 10	Matthew 5-7	
Monday, October 11	Matthew 8:1-13, Luke 7	
Tuesday, October 12	Matthew 11	
Wednesday, October 13	Matthew 12:22-50, Luke 11	
Thursday, October 14	Matthew 13, Luke 8	
Friday, October 15	Matthew 8:14-34, Mark 4-5	
Saturday, October 16	Matthew 9-10	

BEAUTIFY OUR CHANCEL WITH FLOWERS. Please speak with Jane if you can help to provide flowers.

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 or text Jane Livingston at (814) 504-1135.



WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER AND DEVOTION

Join Pastor Gregg on Facebook LIVE on Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM (EDT) for a time of prayer and devotion. Please contact Pastor Gregg directly to share any prayer requests.



WE ARE HIRING

FPCNE CHURCH IS SEEKING TO FILL TWO PART-TIME JOB OPENINGS. Persons interested in one or both positions should contact Pastor Gregg.

- **Youth Worker and Director of Christian Education** is responsible for planning, overseeing, and directing Sunday School, special events such as Vacation Bible School, and leading the church Youth Group. They should demonstrate a deep faith commitment to Jesus Christ, a basic understanding of Christianity and the Bible, an ability to work well with volunteers, and a passionate concern for children and youth.
- **Communications Administrator** is responsible for overseeing and promoting church announcements, events, and information both within the congregation (e.g. newsletters & emails) and in the community (e.g. Facebook posts, press releases, and webpage uploads) along with a few basic office administration tasks. Interested persons will demonstrate a knowledge of Microsoft Office applications, be comfortable with using social media applications, and willing to learn basic website.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

WE HAVE BEGUN CHANCEL AND BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS ON THURSDAY EVENINGS. We need both men and women, both singers and ringers! We welcome our youth from grade 8 and up to join as well. Singing or ringing in choir is really a lot of fun, doesn't require a big-time commitment and is a great way to serve the church. Speak with Jane Livingston for more info.

- **BELL CHOIR PRACTICE** is held on Thursdays at 6:00 PM
- **CHANCEL CHOIR PRACTICE** is held on Thursdays at 7:00 PM.

WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR AV TEAM. We'd like to set up multiple cameras for our online worship service, which will allow us to put our sanctuary back into its normal set-up. But we need a few more folks to help manage the sound and AV equipment. The only skill you need is the ability to pay attention! Otherwise, Jane will provide training and sets up each week. Please speak with Jane Livingston for more info.

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.
- **Please send announcements or calendar events to Jane.**