

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.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO PROVIDE FLOWERS FOR OUR CHANCEL IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE OR OCCASION, the sign-up sheet is located outside the church office. Please email Jane (jlivingston@neo.rr.com) with bulletin details.

JOIN OUR E-PRAYER CHAIN. Speak with Pastor Gregg or email Jane Livingston at jlivingston@neo.rr.com to be added. We have a very active prayer chain. It's wonderful to participate and be a prayer warrior!

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"Knowing You" CCLI Song #1045238 Graham Kendrick © 1993 Make Way Music (Admin. by Music Services) | "Arise My Soul Arise" CCLI Song # 2570138 Charles Wesley | Kevin Twit © 1996 Twit, Kevin



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

STAY FOR COFFEE HOUR after the worship service for snacks and fellowship. 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." Easy!

SERVE THE CHURCH BY JOINING ONE OF OUR CHOIRS.

We've started Chancel and Bell Choir rehearsals on Thursday evenings, and we're looking for both men and women, and both singers and ringers! Singing or ringing in choir is really a lot of fun and doesn't require a big time commitment. Chancel Choir practice is on Thursdays at 7:00 PM, while Bell Choir has a flexible schedule that is still being finalized. Speak with Jane Livingston if you have questions or for more info. We'd love to have some new members join us. We'll teach you all you need to know!

FPCNE BOOK CLUB meets on the second Thursday of each month at 2:00 PM. The next club meeting will be on Thursday, October 12 in the church conference room to discuss "Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingsolver. Everyone is invited.

OCTOBER IS FPCNE'S MONTH TO HELP ON SATURDAY MORNINGS at the North East Community Food Pantry. There are sign-up sheets in the Assembly Room. Remember Matthew 25: "For I was hungry, and you gave me food..."

HELP SUPPORT OUR CLOTHING MINISTRY. Please consider donating your gently used winter clothing to the clothing ministry. We need winter clothing for men, women, and children of all ages. You can place your donations in the Assembly Room or send to the church and we'll put them to very good use!

Goodbye
September

SENDING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

* CLOSING SONG “Arise, My Soul, Arise”

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears.
The bleeding sacrifice, in my behalf appears.
Before the throne my Surety stands,
Before the throne my Surety stands,
My name is written on His hands.

Arise, arise, arise, arise, my soul, arise.
Arise, arise, arise, arise, my soul, arise.
Shake off your guilty fears and rise.

He ever lives above, for me to intercede.
His all redeeming love, His precious blood, to plead.
His blood atoned for every race,
His blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace. **(Chorus)**

Five bleeding wounds He bears; received on Calvary.
They pour effectual prayers. They strongly plead for me:
“Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry.
“Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry.
“Nor let that ransomed sinner die!” **(Chorus)**

My God is reconciled. His pardoning voice I hear.
He owns me for His child. I can no longer fear.
With confidence I now draw nigh, with confidence I now draw nigh,
And “Father, Abba, Father,” cry. **(Chorus)**

* OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

* * * * *

First Presbyterian Church

North East, PA

September 24, 2023, 10:30 A.M.

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Jane M. Livingston, Director of Music

Gregg D. Townsend, Pastor

**Indicates to stand if you are able*

SHARING OUR JOYS AND PRAYER REQUESTS. Please fill out one of the Prayer Cards located in the pew racks to share your joys, concerns, and prayer requests with your church family. The ushers will collect them during the first hymn.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Gregg Townsend

* GREETING

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** Kathy Taylor
Leader: “Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.”
Congregation: What did God do to help us, Kathy?

God chose the people of Israel to make a new beginning.
They received God’s covenant and prepared the way for Jesus to come as our Savior. Let us worship the God of the covenant, the God of heaven and earth.

—based on Psalm 124:8

* OPENING HYMN “O Christ, The Great Foundation”

O Christ, the great foundation on which your people stand.
To preach Your true salvation in every age and land:
Pour out Your Holy Spirit to make us strong and pure,
To keep the faith unbroken as long as worlds endure.

Baptized in one confession, one church in all the earth,
We bear our Lord's impression, the sign of second birth:
One holy people gathered in love beyond our own,
By grace we were invited, by grace we make You known.

Where tyrants' hold is tightened, where strong devour the weak,
Where innocents are frightened, the righteous fear to speak,
There let Your church awaking attack the powers of sin,
And, all their ramparts breaking with You the victory win.

This is the moment glorious when He who once was dead
Shall lead His church victorious, their champion and their head.
The Lord of all creation. His heavenly kingdom brings,
The final consummation, the glory of all things.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

—Psalm 147:2-3, 5, NRSV

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 1:4

MESSAGE

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*** RESPONDING IN SONG**

“Knowing You”

All I once held dear built my life upon;
All this world reveres and wars to own..
All I once thought gain, I have counted loss.
Spent and worthless now compared to this.

Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You.

There is no greater thing.

You're my all! You're the best!

You're my joy my righteousness, and I love You Lord.

Now my heart's desire is to know You more,
To be found in You and known as Yours/
To possess by faith what I could not earn,
All surpassing gift of righteousness. (Chorus)

Oh to know the pow'r of Your risen life.
And to know You in Your sufferings.
To become like You in Your death, my Lord,
So with You to live and never die.

Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You.

There is no greater thing.

You're my all! You're the best!

You're my joy my righteousness, and I love You Lord.

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.