

MISSION/WORK TRIP APRIL 21-26 CLOSE TO HOME

WHERE – Clark Summit, PA Lodging and kitchen facilities at Countryside Community Methodist Church.

WHY – In September there was flash flooding on some small creeks that caused extensive damage to some homes.

WHAT KIND OF WORK – There will be both outside removal of brush & debris, and inside work which could include framing as well as drywall and painting. All skill levels will be needed.

COST – Just sharing in the cost of transportation and meals

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Doug Orbaker
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Worship Participants:
Doug Orbaker, Guest Pastor
Jennifer White, Organist
Carolyn White, Worship Assistant
Nancy Dietterick, Greeter



The First Presbyterian Church

A GRAIN OF WHEAT

John 12:20-36

Berwick, PA
The Order of Worship Sunday March 17, 2024

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Berwick! We are glad that you are worshipping with us today. If you are visiting for the first time today, we invite you to sign the guest book in the back of the sanctuary or scan the QR code to fill it out digitally. Throughout the service, the People make the responses in **bold** print.



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Londonderry Air *Irish Folk Tune*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor We hear God calling us in a far, distant voice. We had nearly forgotten God's care for us.

**People Our souls wait for the refreshment God offers.
Our spirits are filled with great expectation.**

Pastor Christ came as a light to all the world. Christ comes among us today to light our way.

People We hear the teacher calling for us. Christ opens us up so that we may see and believe.

ALL AMEN

OPENING PRAYER

Come, O Lord, lift us from hopelessness as the shadow of the cross draws nearer. Be for us our rock, our fortress. Save us from the foolishness of the world so that we might find our true strength in you. Encounter us here so that we may know your work. Fill us with hope as we walk with Jesus in these times of uncertainty and trouble. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #92 Beneath the cross of Jesus

CALL TO CONFESSION

Come, as God's faithful ones, in this time of healing and renewal. The life of faithfulness for which we strive often runs counter to the ways of the world. God invites us to face our failures and shortcomings and move beyond them as we confess our sin,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, you know how we have pretended to be strong as we have followed the ways of the world. We invest our energies in things that may bring delight for today but are obsolete tomorrow. We

COMMUNION

March 28

March 31

May 19

July 14

October 6

November 24

December 24

PRAYER LIST

DAngelo family

Matthew Boggs

Clio Strausser

Tom & Barb Huntington

Alison Powlus

Bob Feick Family

Pastor Steve Engelhardt

Paul Moskaluk

Nancy Raber

Matt Gabel

Martha Yost

Lauren Sadock

Joann Magners

Wilhelmina Hoover

That morn shall tearless be.

4 O cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from Thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

Announcements

THANK YOU!

This morning we welcome back Doug Orbaker to the pulpit. Welcome back Doug and thank you for leading us in worship this morning!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Don't forget, men's breakfast is held **EVERY Wednesday** at 7:30am downstairs in the kitchen. All men are welcome to attend, fill up on hot cooked grub, join in fellowship and do whatever it is that men do.

OGHS

Our OGHS collection continues through Easter Sunday March 31st. Please use your envelope in your bulletin to participate in this mission.

FELLOWSHIP

Next Sunday, March 24th the Deacons will be hosting fellowship in the lounge. All are welcome!

BIRTHDAY'S

Jennifer White
Celebrates her birthday this week!
Happy Birthday!

IN THE PULPIT

March 17 Doug Orbaker
March 24 Nancy Hardy
March 28 Nancy Hardy
March 31 Sally Dries

neglect the relationships with others and with you that have lasting enduring quality. We are so busy with our business that we have little time for you. Save us, O Lord, and forgive us we pray in Christ's name. AMEN

(Silence for people to examine their hearts in prayer)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

We live by trust, even when the road in front of us is clouded by uncertainty and loss. As we walk in the light we become children of light. We live in that light and we live forgiven. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC Be Thou My Vision

Irish Folk Melody arr. by Mark Hayes

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 31: 31-34 John 12: 20-36

*GLORIA PATRI

SERMON Written On The Heart

*HYMN #388 O Jesus, I Have Promised

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jesus Christ overthrew evil powers that enslaved and degraded people, yet he made no use of power to protect himself. He healed those who were sick in body and mind, yet he did not avoid pain and suffering for himself. He commanded his followers to place loyalty to him above loyalty to family and country, yet he lived among them as a servant. Jesus taught with authority, challenging many time-honored customs and ideas, yet he submitted to humiliation and death without a word on his own behalf. He forgave sinners, yet he was counted among sinners.

We recognize the work of God in Jesus' power and authority. He did what only God can do. We also recognize the work of God in Jesus' lowliness. When he lived as a servant and went humbly to his death the greatness that belongs only to God was manifest. In both his majesty and lowliness Jesus is the eternal Son of God, God himself with us. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN #384 O Love That Will Not Let Me Go vs. 1-3

***BENEDICTION**

Go forth from here walking in the light, and children of light. Go forth with voices ringing with praise. Go forth knowing that God is never far away, and always with is. Go in peace. Amen.

***MUSICAL BENEDICTION #384 O Love That Will Not Let Me Go**
vs 4

**Please stand if you are able*

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

¹ Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock
Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness,
A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat,
And the burden of the day.

² Upon that cross of Jesus
Mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One
Who suffered there for me:
And from my stricken heart with tears
Two wonders I confess:
The wonders of redeeming love
And my unworthiness.

O Jesus, I Have Promised

¹ O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me,
My Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my guide.

² O let me feel Thee near me!
The world is ever near;

I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

³ O let me hear Thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self will;
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

⁴ O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my friend.

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

¹ O love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

² O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

³ O joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to Thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain