

First Presbyterian Church OF PARKERSBURG

GATHERING, GROWING, CARING, GOING

1341 Juliana Street ♦ Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101
304-422-5426 ♦ office@fpcpborgwv.org
www.fpcpborgwv.org ♦ facebook.com/fpcpborg

Rev. Annie McMillan - *Pastor*
Scott Rockhold - *Organist* ♦ Chris Alfred - *Financial Manager/Treasurer*
Judi Echard - *Office Secretary* ♦ Senta Goudy - *Clerk of Session*

February 16, 2025
10:30 a.m.



WE ARE A NURTURING, VIBRANT CONGREGATION,
REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY
AND STANDING AS A BEACON OF CHRIST'S LOVE AND PROMISE.

Sharing the Life of the Church

WELCOME TO WORSHIP. GOD PLANTS US LIKE TREES BESIDE STREAMS OF LIVING WATER, PROVIDED BY JESUS HIMSELF (JEREMIAH 17:8; JOHN 4:14). ALL WHO ARE THIRSTY, COME AND DRINK!

Coffee Hour - Join us at 10 a.m. in the Harris Room for snacks and fellowship. If you would like to host a Coffee Hour, sign up outside the Harris Room, or call Joyce Boso, 304-488-1205.

Calendar Read-thru - Committee chairs and office staff will meet today in the Harris Room immediately following 10:30 Worship, to coordinate schedules for meetings and events.

Book Study - Pastor Annie's book study of Eric Elnes's *Gifts of the Dark Wood* is in progress. All are welcome to attend, each Wednesday* in the Harris Room, at **11:30 a.m.** and **6 p.m.**

*There will be no sessions on the next two Wednesdays, February 26 (Pastor Annie will be on vacation) or on March 5, Ash Wednesday.

Lydia Circle will meet for lunch, a Bible lesson and fellowship on **Thursday, February 20, at 11 a.m.** All ladies are invited to join in. If you plan to attend, text or call Barbara Lucas at 304-580-1274 so she can reserve enough seats

Annual Meeting - The church's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, March 16**, in the Sanctuary immediately following 10:30 Worship. If you served as a committee chair or board moderator in 2024, you are asked to submit your **year-end report**, narrative

and/or financial, to the church office no later than **Thursday, February 27**. Reports should be submitted electronically via email to: office@fpcburgwv.org. If you would like to have a previous report as a reference, call the office (304-422-5426) or email, and one will be provided to you.

Thank you for getting your reports to us on time so that the meeting packets may be prepared and ready for distribution on March 9. If you have any questions you may contact the church office.

ASH WEDNESDAY - This year, on Ash Wednesday (March 5) Pastor Annie will offer two opportunities for those who wish to receive ashes early in the day. You may drive up to the front door from **7 - 8 a.m.**, and again from **12 - 1 p.m.** to meet her there. Then, at **7 p.m.** in the Sanctuary, all are invited to our worship service, with the imposition of ashes and Communion. We will also begin our Lenten journey with the Worship Series, *Gifts of the Dark Wood*.

* * * * *

When it came time for the pastoral prayer at the church Abraham Lincoln attended, the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, in Washington, D.C., the president stood up. Because most of the worshipers remained seated, someone asked the president why he stood. The president responded, "When my generals come into the Oval Office, they stand for their commander-in-chief. Isn't it proper then, that I stand for my commander-in-chief?"

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 16, 2025

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

Preparation for Worship

Welcome

Sharing the Life of the Church

Prelude

God of Grace and God of Glory

W. Williams, J. Hughes
arr. R. Kingsmore

***Call to Worship**

Rejoice, for the power of God has come—

The same transforming power encountered in the risen Christ:

Promising to the destitute the realm of heaven;

Promising to the hungry a time of satisfaction;

Promising to the weeping a life of joy;

Promising to the reviled the gift of acceptance.

Rejoice, O people of God, the transforming power of Christ is here!

***May our worship teach us to rejoice as we live out the good news
in our families, community, and world!***

***Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray:

God of blessings and woes, bless us this day with lives

filled with love, caring, generosity, and deep, abiding hope.

We pray that your kingdom will dwell among all people,

and that we may be instruments of your love and your grace.

Open our hearts with the joy of healing a world

filled with brokenness and pain.

In the name of the one who taught us the ways of light and love,

be in our worship and in our lives;

through Christ, your Word fulfilled. Amen.

***Hymn 307**

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONNDA

Children's Time

Cents-Ability Offering

*Those who are able, please stand.

Confession and Pardon

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

*Merciful God, heal our foolish ways.
Our delight is in your word
and we have a deep sense of your presence
when we allow it to fill our lives night and day.
But so often we turn away from you.
We are sorry for so much—
for words we cannot bear to say
for memories we cannot bear to relive
for thoughts we cannot bear to admit.
You know our hearts. Forgive us.
Relieve us of our burdens.
Turn us again to the healing you so freely offer,
and mend the brokenness in our lives
and in our world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

SILENCE for personal confession ...

Words of Assurance and Pardon

“Do not fear,” says the Lord, “for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name; you are mine.”

So listen to the sound of the waters and remember that

in baptism you have been marked as a beloved child of God.

Whatever you have done, whatever you have failed to do,

you are accepted, you are washed clean.

In the love of Jesus Christ, you are loved forever.

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Response

Hymn 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

***Ritual of Friendship**

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Exchange words of peace and greetings with those around you.

GROWING

***Hymn 218**

Ah, Holy Jesus

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

Prayer for Illumination

Creator of all that is in the heavens and on the earth,
 quiet the chatter of our minds and still the anxiety of our hearts
 so we can hear your wisdom in all its rich variety,
 and in hearing, let that deep wisdom sink into our lives,
 so that we may joyfully bear your light in all we do and say;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture

Jeremiah 17:5-10
 The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

p. 548

Scripture

Luke 6:17-26
 The gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

p. 729

Sermon

“REJOICE IN THAT DAY”

Rev. Annie McMillan

Affirmation of Faith

from “A Brief Statement of Faith”

*In life and in death we belong to God.
 Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
 we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
 whom alone we worship and serve.
 We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
 In sovereign love God created the world good
 and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female,
 of every race and people, to live as one community.
 In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah
 chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.
 Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel
 from the house of bondage.
 Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
 With believers in every time and place,
 we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us
 from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

4.

CARING

The Offering Lord, I Want to Be a Christian Spiritual/arr. F.J. Garlock

**The Doxology*

Hymn 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

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.

GOING

***Hymn 729** Lord, I Want to Be a Christian I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

***Benediction**

The Postlude Praise to the Father James Southbridge

Worship Participants

Acolytes - *Connor Buchanan, Emily Shuman*

Beadles - *Ellie Buchanan, Avalyn Meckley, Riley Shuman*

Liturgist - *Melanie Thompson*

Sound Technician - *Matt Buchanan*

Organist - *Scott Rockhold*

*Scripture readings for next week, February 23,
the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time:*

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Luke 6:27-38

*Those who are able, please stand.

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Today, Sunday, February 16 *Cents-Ability Offering*

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Morning Prayer - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Class - Room 201
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee - Harris Room
- 10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day - Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. Calendar Read-thru - Harris Room
- 5:00 p.m. Private event - Stevenson Hall

Monday, February 17

- 6:00 p.m. Session meets - Room 204

Wednesday, February 19

- 11:30 a.m. Book Study - Harris Room
- 3:30 p.m. Staff Meeting - Pastor's office
- 6:00 p.m. Book Study - Harris Room
- 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts - Room 124



Thursday, February 20 *Presbytery Meeting via ZOOM*

- 11:00 a.m. Lydia Circle - Mary B's Restaurant
- 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts - Room 123
- 7:15 p.m. Troop 3 Boy Scouts - Scout House

Saturday, February 22

- 12:00 p.m. HA Meeting - Room 204

Sunday, February 23

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Morning Prayer - Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Class - Room 201
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee - Harris Room
- 10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day - Sanctuary

Prayer List – Please remember the following in your prayers:

Richard Hayhurst	Families of plane	Bobby Craig
Doug Anderson	crash victims	Carl Gheen
Dan Sombeck	California fire victims	Ken Stoller
Harriet Litteral	Mary Essenmacher	Ed Ball
Tyler Mackey	Ruth Ann Huddle	Kitty Brown
Derrick Sheppard	Pat & Ann Patterson	Brad Carter
Fleming Family	Homebound Members	Dan Ellis
	Troops – World Peace	

Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷ He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon,
¹⁸ who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, ¹⁹ and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

²⁰ Looking at his disciples, he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² Blessed are you when people hate you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.

Rejoice in that day,



and leap for joy,



for behold, your reward is great in heaven.

Luke 6:23, ESV

²³ “Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have already received your comfort.

²⁵ Woe to you who are well fed now,
for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,
for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.