

# First Presbyterian Church OF PARKERSBURG

GATHERING, GROWING, CARING, GOING

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

**February 23, 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.

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# Sharing the Life of the Church

FRIENDS AND FRIENDS-TO-BE, WE WELCOME YOU TO THIS TIME OF WORSHIP, FAITH EDUCATION AND CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP. MAY THE WORD OF GOD NOURISH YOU FOR YOUR LIFE AND MINISTRY IN THE DAYS TO COME.

**Coffee** - Coffee is available in the Harris Room between worship services. If you would like to host a Coffee Hour, sign up outside the Harris Room, or call Joyce Boso at 304-488-1205 for more details.

**Book Study** - Pastor Annie's book study of Eric Elnes's *Gifts of the Dark Wood* will resume on **Wednesday, March 12**, in the Harris Room at **11:30 a.m.** and at **7 p.m.** following The Gathering. There will be no study on March 5, Ash Wednesday.

**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*.

**Annual Meeting** - The church's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, March 16**, in the Sanctuary immediately following 10:30 Worship.

**Committee Year-End Reports** - This **Thursday, February 27**, is the deadline for committee chairs and board moderators to submit year-end reports to

be included in the annual report packet. Reports need to be sent via email to: [office@fpcburgwv.org](mailto:office@fpcburgwv.org). If you have any questions, or need to see a previous report as a reference, call the office at 304-422-5426. It is important that we receive your reports by the deadline to give us ample time to prepare packets.

**Prayer Partners Game Day** - On **Sunday, March 9**, the kids and their prayer partners will gather in the Harris Room following 10:30 Worship for Game Day. Both kids and their prayer partners are asked to bring their favorite board games, or other indoor games, for a time of fun and fellowship. Lunch will be provided, so come and join in the fun!

**Community Meal** - Our church is hosting the quarterly Community Meal on **Sunday, March 23, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.** We are in need of volunteers to help with setup, serving and cleanup. If you would like to assist, please sign up in the foyer.

**Pastor Vacation** - Pastor Annie will be on vacation beginning tomorrow, and will return to the office **Monday, March 3**. She will check her email daily, but if you have a pastoral emergency you may contact her at 631-655-2356.

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To handle yourself, use your head.  
To handle others, use your heart.

—Eleanor Roosevelt

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**February 23, 2025**

**10:30 a.m.**

**GATHERING**

**Preparation for Worship**

**Welcome**

**Sharing the Life of the Church**

**Prelude**                                      10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)                      Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman  
arr. M. Hayes, M. Gaspard

**\*Call to Worship**                                      *adapted from Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries*

Jesus teaches us, "Do to others as you would have them do to you."

But who are the others?

***Our enemies and friends, family and strangers.***

Jesus teaches us, "Be merciful as your Father is merciful."

But what is mercy?

***To act with compassion, to help without expecting anything in return.***

Jesus teaches us, "Forgive, and you will be forgiven."

But how do we forgive?

***By recognizing enemies, friends, family, strangers,  
and ourselves as people in need of compassion.***

Let us worship God, who loves us and empowers us  
to love one another with mercy and compassion.

***Come, let us worship God with gladness!***

**\*Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray:

***God of abundant mercy, be with us in our time of worship  
as we seek the love it takes to walk in the ways of your Son.***

***Help us love our enemies and bless those who wrong us,  
for we cannot do so alone.***

***Teach us the joy of treating others with all the same respect  
and goodness with which we hope to be treated.***

***May our every word and deed make known  
that we are your beloved children  
and vessels of your love. Amen.***

\*Those who are able, please stand.

**\*Hymn 250**

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

PROMISE

**Children's Time****Confession and Pardon**Call to ConfessionPrayer of Confession*God of abundant mercy,**we confess we find it hard to love our enemies.**It is difficult to let go of our anger toward those who have hurt us.**We have despised others, even to the point of hatred.**Forgive us, Lord. Help us live into your way of grace—**to meet hatred with kindness, to answer curses with blessing,**to love without holding back, to give without thought of return;**that your love might shine like the sun**through our lives and our ministries;**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.***\*Hymn 218**

Ah, Holy Jesus

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

## GROWING

### 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** Psalm 37:1-9 p. 398  
 The word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God!*

**Scripture** Luke 6:27-38 p. 729  
 The gospel of the Lord.  
*Praise be to you, O Christ!*

**Sermon** “DO TO OTHERS” Rev. Annie McMillan

**Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles' Creed*

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
 and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
 who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried;  
 he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;  
 he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand  
 of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come  
 to judge the quick and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
 the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.*

## CARING

**The Offering** Lord Whose Love in Humble Service arr. Todd Kendall

\*The Doxology

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

Prayer of Dedication

4.

## 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 754	Help Us Accept Each Other	BARONITA
*Benediction		
The Postlude	Sing to the Lord!	Lani Smith

## Worship Participants

Acolytes - *Connor Buchanan, Emily Shuman*  
Beadles - *Ellie Buchanan, Avalyn Meckley, Riley Shuman*  
Liturgist - *Greg Boso*  
Sound Technician - *Matt Buchanan*  
Organist - *Scott Rockhold*

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*Scripture readings for next week, March 2,  
Transfiguration of the Lord:*

Exodus 34:29-35  
Psalm 99  
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2  
Luke 9:28-36 (37-43a)

\*Those who are able, please stand.

## THIS WEEK AT FPC

### Today, 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

### Monday, February 24

*Pastor Annie on vacation thru March 2*

- 7:00 p.m. Parkersburg Pride - Room 204
- 7:00 p.m. Mission Committee - Harris Room & ZOOM

### Wednesday, February 26

- 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts - Room 124

### Thursday, February 27

- 7:15 p.m. Troop 3 Boy Scouts - Scout House

### Saturday, March 1

- 8:30 a.m. Facilities Management / Saturday Stewards
- 11:30 a.m. HA Meeting - Room 204

### Sunday, March 2 *Transfiguration of the Lord*

*Mary Quick, pulpit supply*

**Communion**

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

## Luke 6:27-38

<sup>27</sup> “But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. <sup>29</sup> If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you.



<sup>32</sup> “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. <sup>34</sup> And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup> “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. <sup>38</sup> Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”