

First Presbyterian Church OF PARKERSBURG

GATHERING, GROWING, CARING, GOING

1341 Juliana Street ♦ Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101
304-422-5426 ♦ office@fpcburgwv.org
www.fpcburgwv.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*

April 28, 2024
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

JESUS SAID, “MY FATHER IS GLORIFIED BY THIS, THAT YOU BEAR MUCH FRUIT AND BECOME MY DISCIPLES” (JOHN 15:8, NRSV). PART OF DISCIPLESHIP IS WORSHIP, WHICH STRENGTHENS US TO BEAR THE FRUIT OF LOVE. WELCOME.

Coffee Hour - Join us at 10 a.m. in the Harris Room for light snacks and fellowship. Today's Coffee Hour is hosted by **Deb Karr**. If you would like to host a Coffee Hour, sign up outside the Harris Room, or call Joyce Boso, 304-488-1205.

The Gathering - This week's meal will be *Pork BBQ (provided)*. We are asking you to bring buns/rolls, coleslaw, salads/veggies, or desserts. Please sign up in the foyer and plan to join us.

New StoryTrek Book - Check out the new book in the StoryTrek in our Prayer Garden. It is titled *Something, Someday* by Amanda Gorman, #1 New York Times Bestselling Author, and illustrated by Christian Robinson. We invite you to take a quiet walk through our beautiful garden and labyrinth. **Note:** Saturday, May 4, is World Labyrinth Day.

Memorial Day Observance - We will remember and honor deceased veterans during 10:30 Worship on **Sunday, May 26**. If you would like to list the name of a friend or loved one in the bulletin that day, fill out the form in today's bulletin and place it in the offering plate, or return to the church office no later than **Monday, May 20**. The form will also be available in the May newsletter and in the foyer. If you have already submitted a name or names in a previous year, it will still be in our database.

Bluestone Events - Check out the following opportunities at Bluestone Camp and Retreat:

- **May 3-5 - Spring Retreat**
(for the whole family)
- **Summer Camp - Beginning June 16**
For rising 3rd thru 12th graders;
payment plans and scholarships
available.

For more information or registration, visit their website <https://bluestonecamp.org> or pick up a flyer from the table outside the Sanctuary.

We encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities to relax, work, play and fellowship. Bluestone is a beautiful setting and offers a truly memorable experience - ask anyone who's been there.

Church Directories - Updated church directories are available outside the Sanctuary. Please take as many as you need. Contact the church office if you would like an electronic copy.

Sympathy - Our sincere condolences and prayers are extended to the family of Patricia "Pat" Douglass, who passed away last week.

* * * * *

“In times of stress, the best thing we can do for each other is to listen with our ears and our hearts and to be assured that our questions are just as important as our answers.”

—Fred Rogers

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

Preparation for Worship

Welcome

Prelude

To Thee, O Newly Risen Lord

Sylvia K. Riggs

***Call to Worship**

Open your hearts to Christ's love this day.

Christ is risen!

Love is victorious over death!

God is love; abide in God, and God will abide in you.

God's love abides in us.

We come to worship with joy,

trusting God's holy word will inspire us.

God's love abides in us. May God hear our praise!

***Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray:

Thank you, loving God,

for bringing us to this time of worship.

Lead us today and every day to the font of new beginnings.

Teach us to love as you have commanded.

Guide our hearts and our spirits that we may hear your words

and our souls may be stirred into active service to your people.

We pray in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

***Hymn 157**

I Danced in the Morning

LORD OF THE DANCE

Children's Time

Confession and Pardon

Call to Confession

*Those who are able, please stand.

Prayer of Confession

*God of all hope and joy, we confess that we continue to live in fear.
You extend your promise to all, yet we seek to cut off and exclude.*

You know when we are afraid to love;

you know when we are too cowardly to show mercy.

Forgive us, God of love.

Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears.

*Sanctify us in your perfect love, the love that casts out all fear,
so that we may truly love one another.*

*Fill us with your healing love and help us to become
the disciples that you need to serve in this world;
through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.*

SILENCE for personal confession ...

Words of Assurance and Pardon

See what love the Father has given us,
that we should be called children of God.

So listen to the sound of the waters and remember
you have been marked as a beloved child of God.

As beloved children, we are made one with Christ
and brought into the righteousness of God.

Friends, believe the good news with great joy!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*Response

Hymn 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.

In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

***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.

Sharing the Life of the Church

Special Music

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth

James H. Filmore
arr. Hugh Livingston

GROWING

Prayer for Illumination

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word.
Enlighten our minds and kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture John 15:1-8 p. 764

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Scripture 1 John 4:7-21 p. 863

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon “MORE LOVE” Rev. Annie McMillan

Confession 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 of the Dance Trad. Shaker Melody
arr. Cindy Berry

*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 300**

We Are One in the Spirit

THEY'LL KNOW
WE ARE CHRISTIANS

***Benediction**

The Postlude

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

arr. Edward Broughton



Worship Participants

Beadles - *Connor Buchanan, Ellie Buchanan,
Audrey Hickman, Avalyn Meckley*

Liturgist - *David Hickman*

Sound Technician - *Matt Buchanan*

*Those who are able, please stand.

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Today, Sunday, April 28 **5th Sunday of Easter**

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

Monday, April 29

- 2:00 p.m. Henderson Hall Docents - Harris Room

Wednesday, May 1

- 5:30 p.m. The Gathering Meal [Pork BBQ] - Stevenson Hall

Thursday, May 2 **National Day of Prayer**

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



Saturday, May 4

- 8:30 a.m. Saturday Stewards
- 12:00 p.m. HA Meeting - Stevenson Hall
- 2:00 p.m. Birthday Party (James family) - Stevenson Hall

Sunday, May 5 **6th Sunday of Easter** / *Communion*

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Morning Prayer - Chapel
- 9:15 a.m. Ruth Circle book study - Room 200
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour - Harris Room
- 10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day - Sanctuary



*Scripture Readings for next week: May 5
Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

1 John 4:7-21



⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen

God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

¹³ This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit.

¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. ¹⁶ And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. ¹⁷ This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹ And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

Prayer List – Please remember the following in your prayers:

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Bill Elkins | Family of Pat Douglass | Elsie Coleman |
| Jean Singer | Pat & Ann Patterson | Dennis Bolten |
| Bill Nolen | Melanie Thompson | Mary Withum |
| Peace in Israel | Cunningham Family | Juli Springer |
| Kathy Schlarb | Ruth Ann Huddle | Lynn Linville |
| Butch Shepherd | Marianne Mason | Susan Miller |
| Fleming Family | Becky Holdren & Family | Peter Headlee |
| Harriet Litteral | Homebound Members | Vince Eades |
| Karen Vanoster | Troops – World Peace | Dan Ellis |
| Wayne Sanders | | Brad Carter |