

I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was  
a stranger, and you welcomed me,  
I was sick, and you took care of me,

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MATTHEW 25:35-36

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something to drink, I was  
naked, and you gave me clothing,  
I was in prison, and you visited me,  
I was thirsty, and you gave me  
something to drink,

## FPCNE In Action

### MISSION AT WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY.

During the month of May, we will be collecting "Sundry Items" for Community Shelter Services. These include trial size items of shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, disposable razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, skin cream, etc. Even if you have unopened items at home that are full size or trial size, the shelter will be grateful for any contribution.

Community Shelter Services provides emergency shelter, supportive services, and safe, affordable housing for people in Erie who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. They offer immediate care, long-term housing options, and compassionate support to help individuals and families move toward stability and hope.



# GRACE

enters this house.

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## First Presbyterian Church

25 West Main Street | North East, PA 16428  
(814) 725-8641 | FPCNE.ORG | Follow us on Facebook

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## 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 at the back of the sanctuary or give directly to Pastor Gregg. We are glad you are here.

**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.

**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 during evening hours and on Sunday mornings.

**TODAY'S LITURGICAL COLOR IS WHITE,** which is used for special days of great joy.

### CONTACT INFO YOU MIGHT NEED

- Contact Pastor Gregg anytime at (814) 460-3123 (call or text) and [pastortownsend@yahoo.com](mailto:pastortownsend@yahoo.com).
- Contact music director Jane Livingston at (814) 504-1135 (call or text) and [jmlivingston20@outlook.com](mailto:jmlivingston20@outlook.com).
- Please send announcements or calendar events to Jane.

## CHURCH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY WE WELCOME PASTOR KIM HUMMEL.** Kim is a Lay Pastor in the United Methodist Church. She has served numerous congregations in our region. Welcome, Kim!

**THANKS TO BARB SWEET** for leading our music today.

**PLEASE SIGN UP TO HOST COFFEE HOUR.** Many hands make light work! We appreciate your help in making our Coffee and Fellowship Hour a success!

**SIGN UP TO PROVIDE FLOWERS ON SUNDAY MORNING IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE OR OCCASION.** Please email [jmlivingston20@outlook.com](mailto:jmlivingston20@outlook.com) with bulletin details.

**IF YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST, JOY OR CONCERN TO SHARE,** please speak with Pastor Gregg or call or text his cell phone at (814) 460-3123. You can also email our prayer chain at [jmlivingston20@outlook.com](mailto:jmlivingston20@outlook.com) or text Jane at (814) 504-1135.

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**Bulletin submissions are due  
on Wednesdays by 12:00 Noon.**

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### OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

1. Place your envelopes in the plates at the back of the sanctuary.
2. Give through PayPal at [paypal.me/fpcne](https://paypal.me/fpcne) or at [FPCNE.ORG](https://www.fpcne.org).
3. Scan the QR code with your phone camera using the card located in the pew pockets to go right to the church's Paypal account.
4. Speak with Pastor Gregg for information on setting up direct deposit.

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"God of Grace and God of Glory" Harry Emerson Fosdick | John Hughes CCLI Song #43107 © Public Domain | "Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah" CCLI Song #1448 John Hughes | Peter Williams | William Williams © Public Domain | "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" CCLI Song # 27714 Charles Crozat Converse | Joseph Medlicott Scriven © Words & Music: Public Domain | "Our God Our Help In Ages Past" © Public Domain

## 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.**

## SENDING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

### \* CLOSING HYMN “Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah”

Guide me O Thou great Jehovah.  
Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak but Thou art mighty.  
Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven.  
Feed me till I want no more. Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow.  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar,  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,  
Be Thou still, my strength and shield.  
Be Thou still, my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death, and hell's destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs and praises, songs and praises,  
I will ever give to Thee. I will ever give to Thee.

### \* OFFERING OUR TENTH AND GIFTS BEYOND

### \* BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE

## First Presbyterian Church

North East, PA

May 3, 2026, 10:30 A.M.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Jane M. Livingston, Director of Music

Gregg D. Townsend, Pastor

*\*Indicates to stand if you are able*

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

### GATHERING MUSIC

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Elder Steve Seymour

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP** Cindy Lilly

Leader: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

**Congregation: Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.**

—Psalm 95:1-2, NIV

\* **OPENING PRAISE** “God of Grace and God of Glory”

God of grace and God of glory on Thy people pour Thy power.  
Crown Thine ancient church's story. Bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour.  
For the facing of this hour.

Lo the hosts of evil 'round us. Scorn Thy Christ assail Thy ways.  
From the fears that long have bound us,  
Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days.  
For the living of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness. Bend our pride to Thy control.  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.  
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places. Gird our lives that they may be.  
Armored with all Christ-like graces, pledged to set all captives free.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage that we fail not them nor Thee.  
That we fail not them nor Thee.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Please join me in our prayer of confession:

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.**

**In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

—based on Psalm 51:10-12

**LAMENT**            “What A Friend We Have In Jesus”            #403

What a friend we have in Jesus. All our sins and griefs to bear.  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer.  
O what peace we often forfeit. O what needless pain we bear.  
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged. Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful? Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness. Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden? Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior still our refuge. Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise forsake thee. Take it to the Lord in prayer  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee. Thou wilt find a solace there.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand;

**and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God!**

—Romans 5:1-2, NRSV

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### CHILDREN'S BLESSING

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Jeremiah 29:10-11

Luke 19:1-10

**MESSAGE**            “God Believes in You!”            Pastor Kim Hummel

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\* **RESPONDING IN SONG**            “Our God Our Help In Ages Past”

Our God our help in ages past. Our hope for years to come.  
Our shelter from the stormy blast and our eternal home.

Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame.  
From everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone.  
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time like an ever rolling stream soon bears us all away.  
We fly forgotten as a dream dies at the opening day.

Our God our help in ages past. Our hope for years to come.  
Be Thou our Guard while life shall last and our eternal home.