

We welcome you to this service of prayer and praise! Out of courtesy for the people around you, please ensure that your mobile devices are set to silent mode.

Regular Print: Leader

Bold: Congregation

**Asterisk: Please stand if able*

“When Chekhov saw the long winter, he saw a winter bleak and dark and bereft of hope. Yet we know that winter is just another step in the cycle of life. But standing here among the people of Punxsutawney and basking in the warmth of their hearths and heart, I couldn’t imagine a better fate than a long and lustrous winter.”

Phil Connors – Groundhog Day

✝ WE GATHER AROUND GOD’S WORD ✝

Welcome & Announcements

Minute for Mission: Souper Bowl Sunday *Kendra Fischer (8:30); Brandi Schutz (11:00)*

Choral Introit (11:00) *O Come, Let Us Sing* Hal Hopson (b.1933)

Call to Worship: (from Job 37)

For to the downpours of blizzards of snow and to the torrents of rain, the Lord says:
“Fall on the earth!”

The Lord makes known his wonders of creation to all of humanity!

The animals and beasts run to their dens seeking shelter.

The work of God’s hand touches all of the earth.

From its chamber comes the tempest and the whirlwind bringing the cold from the scattering winds.

By the breath of God ice is given, and the broad waters are frozen fast.

He fills His clouds with water and scatters His lightning within them.

All of nature is caught in God’s hand. He blesses, provides, sends, and rends. Great is our God! May all creation rejoice and tremble at the Lord who commands the skies.

Prayer of Adoration

*Opening Hymn: #41 *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above* LYONS

*Prayer of Confession:

God of love, in the wrong we have done and in the good we have not done, we have sinned in ignorance; we have sinned in weakness; we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to you. Forgive us and renew our lives through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon (from Ephesians 2)

God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead in our sins, made us alive together in Christ. By his surpassing grace we have been saved! Friends, believe the good news of the gospels.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*The Gloria Patri

Kevin Dill (2015)

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit, — as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and shall be for-ev-er, A-men, A-men!

✝ WE LISTEN AS THE SCRIPTURES ARE PROCLAIMED ✝

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading: Job 37:5-14

Pew Bible p.595

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message for Young Disciples: PW Blanket Sunday *Sarah Black (8:30); Madalyn Davis (11:00)*

Choral Anthem (11:00) *Give Me Jesus* Spiritual, arr. William Withrup (1944-2020)

New Testament Reading: I Peter 1:22-2:3 *Pew Bible p.287*

Sermon: “WELL, IT’S GROUNDHOG DAY...AGAIN” *The Rev. Benjamin Black*

✝ WE RESPOND IN FAITH AND GRATITUDE ✝

*Sung Affirmation of Faith: #29 *O God, You Search Me* *O GOD YOU SEARCH ME*

Offertory Interlude (11:00) *Andante Tranquillo* Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

(Your prayer requests may be written on the blue prayer cards and placed in the offering plate.)

*Hymn of Thanksgiving: #643 (v.1) Now Thank We All Our God NUN DANKET ALLE

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.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion (8:30)

✠ WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD ✠

*Closing Hymn: Singing Songs of Expectation CORVEDALE

Bernard Ingemann, 1825
translated from the Danish by Sabine Baring-Gould, 1867 Maurice Bevan, 1987



1 Sing-ing songs of ex-pec-ta-tion, on-ward goes the pil-grim band,
2 One the song that lips of thou-sands lift as from the heart of one;



past the night of doubt and sor-row, march-ing to the prom-ised land.
one the con-flict, one the per-il, one the march in God be-gun:



Clear be-fore us through the dark-ness gleams and burns the guid-ing light:
one the glad-ness of re-joic-ing on the far e-ter-nal shore,



trust-ing God, we march to-geth-er step-ping fear-less through the night.
where the one al-might-y Fa-ther reigns in love for ev-er-more.

*Benediction

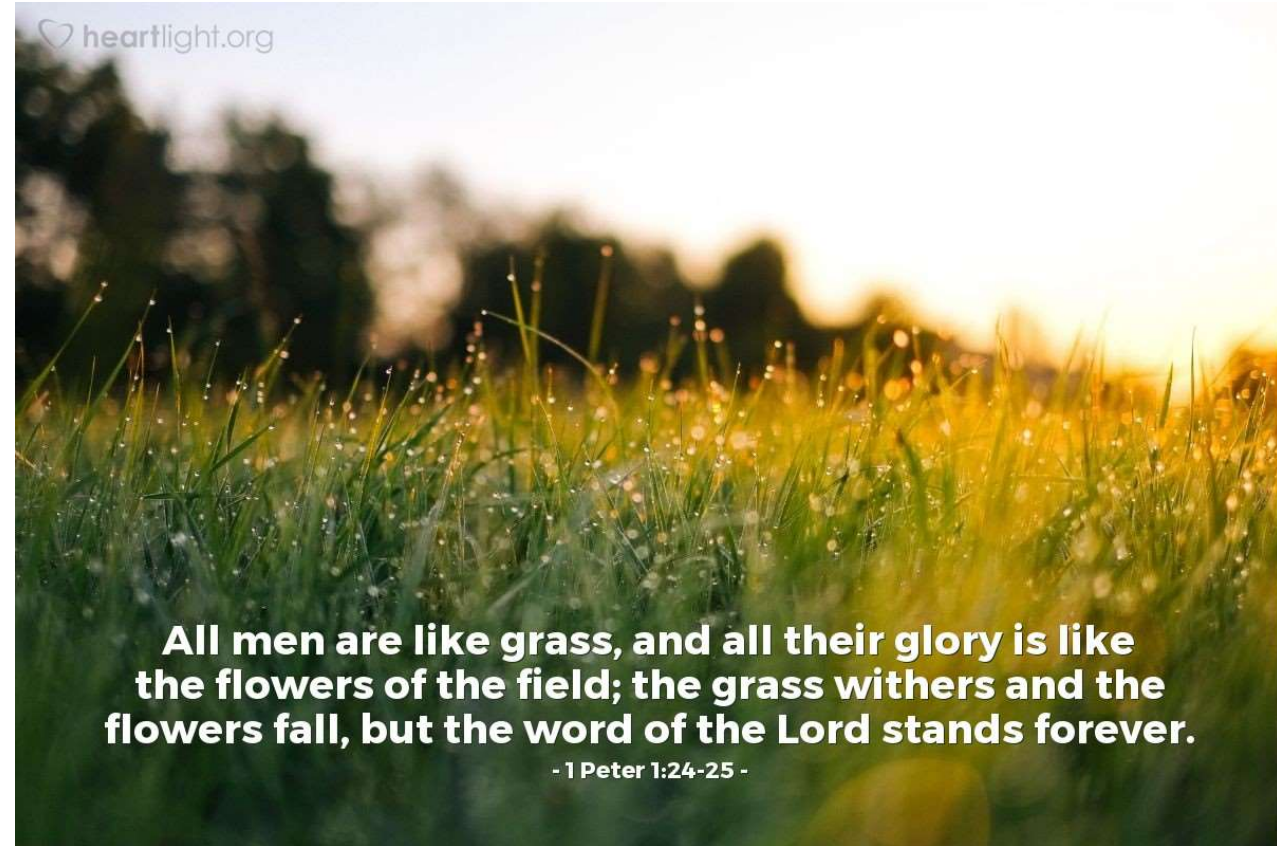
Postlude (11:00) Rondo Henry Purcell (1659-1695)



First Presbyterian Church

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, February 2, 2025 • 8:30 & 11:00 AM



The First Presbyterian Church of Meadville, Pennsylvania • *founded 1800*

www.meadvillefpc.org • 814-333-2161

The Rev. Benjamin Black • *Senior Pastor*

Mary Zahora • *Administrative Assistant*

Kevin Dill • *Director of Music*

Kris Lubomski • *Financial Secretary*

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Elijah Boyd • *Custodian*

Chris Wade • *Evening Custodian*