

We welcome you as we gather in the name of Christ! [Please switch your mobile devices to silent mode.]

Regular Print: Leader

Bold: Congregation

**Asterisk: Please stand if able*

The Lectionary readings for today are from Year A (hymnal page 973): Acts 7:55–60; Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16; 1 Peter 2:2–10; John 14:1–11.

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order **that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you** out of darkness into his marvelous light.” (1 Peter 2:9)

✠ WE GATHER AROUND GOD’S WORD ✠

Welcome and Announcements

This is the day the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Prelude:

For the Beauty of the Earth

Conrad Kocher

Call to Worship:

Long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of your Resurrection:

And the world was changed forever.

Teach us to keep faith with them,

That our witness may be bold and our love as deep

And our faith as true.

Let your face shine upon your servant and keep us steadfast.

Prayer of Adoration

***Opening Hymn: #327** From All That Dwell Below the Skies LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Confession:

As we continue to celebrate your Resurrection, O Lord, we admit that often we take your living presence for granted. We come here on a Sunday, and then maybe do not speak of you or to you for the rest of the week. Too often, we do not share what you have done as witnesses like the women at the tomb or like Peter, Stephen, Paul, Lydia and others. Sometimes we are negative witnesses and keep silent in spite of the opportunity to speak up. Sometimes we ignore the plight of brothers and sisters who are persecuted for speaking on your behalf. Forgive us, Lord. Fill us with wisdom to know what to say and the courage to say it. Amen.

*Silent Confession:

In the quiet now, we offer you our silent confessions from the depths of our hearts...

In Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

*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.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospels:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*The Gloria Patri

music: Henry Greatorex

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost, as it
was in the be-gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, A - men.

✠ WE LISTEN AS THE SCRIPTURES ARE PROCLAIMED ✠

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading: Acts 7:55–60

Pew Bible p.153

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message for Young Disciples

Vickie Fischer

Gospel Reading: John 14:1–11

Pew Bible p.132-133

Sermon: ‘YOU’VE BEEN SERVED’

Ross Feltz

✠ WE RESPOND IN FAITH AND GRATITUDE ✠

* Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed (Traditional)

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.

Offertory Interlude: Grateful Mark Hayes
(You are invited to write your prayer requests on the blue prayer cards and place them in the offering plate.)

*Hymn of Thanksgiving: #468 In My Life Lord, Be Glorified LORD, BE GLORIFIED

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.

✝ WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD ✝

*Hymn: #69 Here I Am, Lord HERE I AM (SCHUTTE)

*Benediction

Postlude Come, Thou Almighty King Felice de Giardini



Acts 7: 59-60

While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he said this, he died.



First Presbyterian Church

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 3, 2026 ▪ 8:30 and 11:00 AM



Stephen and the Dispute before Sanhedrin
Angelico, fra, 1400-1455/Vatican City

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

Chris Wade · Custodian