

**ANTHEM** “Faith To Carry On”

D.Besig/N.Price  
Debbie Ellsworth, Flute

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**SERMON** “As Easy as ABC”

Pastor Ken

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS)**

**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 and ever. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #306** “Blest, Be the Tie That Binds”

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** “Morning Has Broken”

arr. By John Wilson  
Belinda Vair – Accompanist/Choir Director

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There will be no Bible Study this week. We will resume **May 28 at 6:00 PM** with **Mark chapters 8-10**.

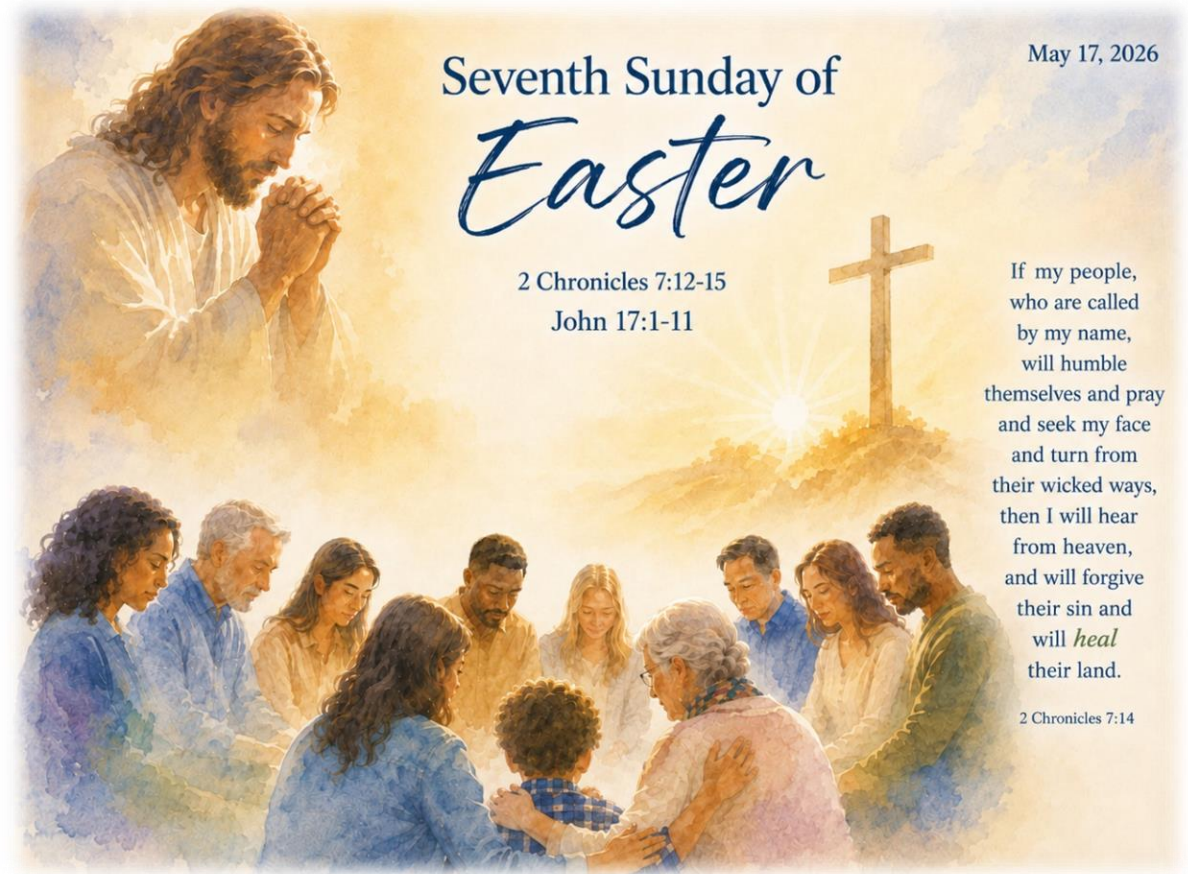
Thank you to Worship & Music for providing us with this morning’s coffee hour.

The flowers that are beautifying the sanctuary are given by Kaitlyn Thompson for Dakota B. Engle.

**First Presbyterian Church of Johnstown, NY – YouTube link:**



<https://www.youtube.com/@FirstPresbyterianJohnstown>



**May 17, 2026**

**10:30am**

Welcome to worship at the First Presbyterian Church, Johnstown. Whether you are here in the sanctuary or joining us online, we are glad you are with us. Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome here, and we give thanks for the gift of worshiping together today!

Pastor Ken

**MISSION OF THE MONTH** Domestic Violence of Fulton County

**PRELUDE** “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

arr. by James Koerts

Belinda Vair – Accompanist/Choir Director

**CHORAL INTROIT**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

(PLEASE RISE)

**Leader:** Come, people of God, for the Lord has heard our prayers.

**People:** God listens with mercy and welcomes us with grace.

**Leader:** Come, followers of Christ, for Jesus prays for his disciples.

**People:** Christ holds us together and calls us to be one.

**Leader:** Come with your polished prayers and your stumbling words.

**People:** Come with your silence, your sighs, your hopes, and your needs.

**Leader:** Come seeking God's face and opening your heart.

**People:** Come ready to be healed, renewed, and united in love.

**Leader:** Let us worship the God who hears us.

**People:** Let us worship the Christ who prays for us.

**All:** With grateful hearts, we come to worship. Amen.

**\*OPENING HYMN #804** "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!"

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Pastor Ken

**Leader:** Jesus prayed that his followers would be one, united in love, held together by grace, and kept in the care of God. Yet we know how easily we drift from that prayer. We let pride, fear, impatience, and division shape us more than the love of Christ. But the God who hears our prayers also hears our confession. So let us come honestly before God, trusting in mercy, and confess our sins together.

**CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All:** Merciful God, you call us to be one in Christ, but too often we choose our own way. We confess that we have allowed pride, fear, impatience, and division to shape our words and actions. We have carried our worries alone, judged others too quickly, and cared more about being right than being faithful. Forgive us, Lord. Teach us to pray with honest hearts, to seek your face, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Unite us again by

**your grace, so that our life together may reflect your mercy, healing, and peace.**

**By your Spirit, make our lives a faithful offering of prayer and praise. Amen.**

**Leader:** Let us take a moment for our own personal confession to the God we worship.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Leader:** Friends, hear the good news: The God who calls us to confession also meets us with mercy. The Christ who prays for us also forgives us, restores us, and gathers us together in grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. We are loved. We are made new.

**All:** Thanks be to God. Amen.

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end, amen! Amen.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Leader:** Gracious God, as we hear your Word today, open our hearts to your voice. Teach us to pray with honesty, to listen with humility, and to seek the unity Jesus prayed for among his people. By your Spirit, draw us closer to you and closer to one another, so that your Word may shape our faith, our worship, and our life together.

**Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Siciliano"

J.S. Bach

Debbie Ellsworth, Flute

**SCRIPTURE READING**

2 Chronicles 7:12-15 (Pew Bible Pg.#393)

John 17:1-11 (Pew Bible Pg.#111)

**Leader:** This is the word of God for the people of God. And we all say:

**People:** Thanks be to God.