



First Presbyterian Church
of Watertown
 January 28, 2024
 The Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

This illuminated manuscript from the Vatican archives depicts Jesus rebuking the demons who were possessing the man from our gospel reading today. Jesus' body language is both strong and comical.

Gathering Music

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart
God Has Spoken by His Prophets
I Heard the voice of Jesus Say
All Creatures of Our God and King

Gilbert Martin
 Dale Wood
 David Paxton
 Alfred Fedak

+Gathering+

Pastor's Greeting and Words of Welcome

Prelude *We Have Met to Worship*

Douglas Wagner

***Call to Worship** *Psalm 111*

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
 in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**Great are the works of the Lord,
 studied by all who delight in them.**

Full of honour and majesty is his work,
 and his righteousness endures for ever.
**He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
 the Lord is gracious and merciful.**

He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
**He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.
**They are established for ever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant for ever.
Holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practise it have a good understanding.
His praise endures for ever.

Let us worship together!

***Opening Hymns #169 “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart” & #170 “Give Thanks”**

***Prayer of The Day**

Confession of Sin *and* Assurance of Pardon

The One who pardons, heals, and strengthens calls us to repent of our sinful ways and to name our failings and our hopes. Only Christ is in a position to condemn and he stands ready to welcome us back with the amazing grace of God like a parent welcoming a prodigal child home. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Holy and just God, who commands all spirits, comforts those in distress, and casts out destructive forces, we confess that we are unable to do your will. We protect what is familiar and reject what is unknown. We admire those with courage but excuse ourselves when we falter from the truth. We forget that you are always with us, and that with you all things are possible.

Forgive us, lead us, make us new. Remove our desire to heed false prophets, and show us your way. We pray in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The Lord is my light, my Light and sal - va - tion: in
 3 God I trust, in God I trust. The

And together we say: **Amen.**

The God who made you and knows your
 every thought hears you and forgives all your sin.
 You have been redeemed through Jesus Christ,
 God's Son, our Savior, who is Alpha and Omega, all in all.
Thanks be to God!

Response *Gloria Patri*

A Time With Young Disciples

+We Listen for God+

Prayer for Illumination

Anthem *The God I Serve*

Marty Hamby

I am amazed that the God of the universe
 loves me and knows me by name.
 I'm overwhelmed that the voice of creation
 speaks to my heart just the same.
 He tells the winds when to breathe and be still,
 And He calms my heart when nothing else will.

Refrain: The God that I serve is the God of Abraham,
 Jacob and Isaac and all who believe.
 He is the Lamb and the Light of Jerusalem,
 Bethlehem's Holy One, Messiah my King.
 Master and Ruler of heaven and earth.
 That's the God I serve.

The God that I serve is the Hope for the broken,
 The Lamp for the lost lonely soul.

He suffered the weight of our sin on Mt Calvary,
And by his stripes we are made whole.
Why should I worry when trouble is near,
He's my Deliverer I will not fear!

Refrain

My Healer, my Helper, My Savior who died.
Redeemer, Deliverer, He's still alive!

The First Scripture Lesson 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

The Second Scripture Lesson Mark 1:21-28

This is the Word of The Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon *And when the sabbath came...*

***Hymn** "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" (insert)

***Affirmation of Faith** *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.

We Respond To God

Community Connect

At this time in worship we share information on how you can connect even better with the community at FPC Watertown and any other relevant information to our life together.

Song of Offering *from "Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated"*

**Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days -
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my silver and my gold -not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Every pow'r as Thou shalt choose,
Every pow'r as Thou shalt choose.**

**Take my will and make it Thine -it shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart - it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne,
It shall be Thy royal throne.**

Musical Offering *Show Me The Way*
David Elmer, soloist

Dennis DeYoung

Every night I saw a prayer in the hopes that there is a heaven.
But ev'ry day I'm more confused as the saints turn into sinners.
All the heroes and legends I knew as a child have fallen to idols of clay.
And I feel this empty place inside.
So afraid that I've lost my faith.
Show me the way.

Take me tonight to the river and wash my illusions away.
Please show me the way.

And as I slowly drift to sleep, for a moment, dreams as sacred.
I close my eyes and know there's peace in a world so filled with hatred
that I wake up each morning and turn on the news to find we've so far to go.
And I keep on hoping for a sign so afraid
I just won't know.
Show me the way.

Bring me tonight to the mountain and take my confusion away.
And show me the way.
And if I see a light should I believe?
Tell me how will I know?
Show me the way.

Take me tonight to the river and wash my illusions away.
Show me the way.
Give me the strength and the courage
to believe that I'll get there some day.
And please show me the way.

The Prayers of The People *and* The Lord's Prayer

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the healing of Earth and all its creatures;
hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

For the church's willingness to cast out demons in its midst,
for congregations that are in turmoil,
for the healing of divisions between the followers of Christ Jesus;
hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

For leaders of nations,
for those who have great wealth,
for those who have too much power,
for those who have destructive weapons,
and for those who have none;
hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

For those who are victims of others' idolatry,
for children who have no one to listen to their cries for food and shelter,
for parents who cannot answer the needs of their children,
for peacemakers and diplomats,
for those who give through charities,
and for those who use the law
to make policies for the greater good;
hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

For all who are in pain and in need of care...
hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

For the wisdom to fear you rightly,
the power to withstand changes in our own lives

that bring us closer to you,
for the ability to give thanks for the people
who have brought us to this time—
our ancestors, teachers, pastors, and the martyrs of every age;
hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

Into your hands we commend all those for whom we pray
and those it would be easy to forget.
We ask your blessing on all your people,
that we may come at last to the truth
around your banquet table that has no end;
hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

Hear us now as we pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us:

**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.**

***Closing Hymn** #33 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

***Blessing and Benediction**

***Passing The Peace of Christ**

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Please share some sign of
Christ’s peace with your neighbors.

Postlude *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* Welsh hymn, arr. Jason Payne

Leading Worship Today:

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Philip Long, preaching
Russ McCullough, liturgist
Sara Gleason, Director of Music
Carl Bingle, organist
Dave Elmer, soloist
The FPC Chancel Choir

We pray for healing for:

Deanne, Gerda, Jennifer, Elise, John, Pat, Jane, Millie.

We pray for those who are unable to join us in-person:

Linda, Jamie, Dorothy, Shane, Ed, Annie.

We pray for our mission partners:

Tyler, Rochelle, and Mphatso, Grace, Sam, and Ruth, Isaiah, MELT, The Women of Grace, NNY Presbytery, Synod of The Northeast, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Josh Garry and Family (preparing for ministry).

We pray for our local and national leaders:

Watertown's Mayor and City Council, the President of The United States and Congress, the Governor of New York and State Legislature.

We pray for those serving our nation:

The Wright Family, those in conflict in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, and Sudan.

Important Dates To Remember:

February 4: Celebration Sunday (annual meeting) following worship—use the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall to RSVP and indicate what you are bringing to share.

February 3 & 10: Volunteer Church Work Days, 9am-2pm—please use to the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall to let us know you're coming!

February 11: Souper Bowl of Caring—we'll be collecting monetary and canned soup donations for the Watertown Urban Mission Food Pantry.

February 14: Ash Wednesday Worship, 7pm

March 4: Special Congregational Meeting, following worship



First Presbyterian Church
403 Washington St.
Watertown, NY 13601
(315) 782-1750
watertownfirstpres.org

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Philip Long, pastor

This Week

Sunday, 1/28

Morning Worship, 10am
fellowship following worship
Pastor's Study, 11:30am
Christ's Faith Christian
Project, 12pm

Tuesday, 1/30

Spare Closet, 10am-2pm
Staff Meeting, 12pm
Al-Anon, 7:30pm

Thursday, 2/1

Spare Closet, 10am-2pm
Special Session Meeting, 5pm
Music rehearsals, 6-9pm

Saturday, 2/3

Spare Closet, 10am-2pm
Work Day, 9am-2pm
AA, 8pm

*The church office is open by
appointment only at this time.
Please contact Pastor Andrew or
Stacey Bristow if you have a need.*

Church Staff

Andrew Philip Long
Pastor

andrew.long1085@gmail.com
(410) 916-1673

Stacey Bristow
Church Administrator
stacey.wfpc@gmail.com
(315) 783-3635

Art Boughton
Building Supervisor

Sara Gleason
Director of Music

Carl Bingle
Organist

Jenny Whiteknack
Bell Choir Director

Jillian Noris
Aleesha Gill
Nursery Staff