



First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

April 16, 2023 + 10:00 a.m.



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!

This is the day the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it! Whether you are visiting First Presbyterian Church for the first time, or are a longtime member or friend, your presence today is a blessing to our community!

Three very important commitments guide our lives together at First Presbyterian Church: *worship, mission* and *discipleship*. In worship we commune with God and with one another, sing and pray, and through mission, both local and international, we live out Jesus' call to 'feed my sheep' and serve the least.' In study, prayer, and community, we develop as life-long disciples of Jesus, working for a more peaceful and just world.

Following worship, please stick around for fellowship time. Enjoy a cup of coffee. Spend time in the sanctuary in prayer. Introduce yourself to me and your fellow worshippers. We're glad you're here!

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

If you are new here, please fill out the card in the pew and place it in the offering plate, so that we can get to know you better.

Hearing help is available during all worship services - please see an usher for assistance.

Nursery Care is available for children to age 4 during all worship Services. You can find the nursery in the education wing of the building. A restroom and quiet room can be found in the narthex.

If you are in need of prayer, please see our Pastor before or after worship, or write your prayer requests in the green book at the front of the sanctuary (by the flags)

Sunday School for pre-school through grade 6 meets after "Young Disciples Time." **Lucy Hiotis is the teacher today**

Gathering

Gathering Music

Four Eastertide Hymns

Michael Burkhardt

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

“This Joyful Eastertide”

“O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing”

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!”

Pastor’s Greeting *and* Words of Welcome

He is Risen!

He is Risen indeed!

Prelude

“O Children of the King of Heaven”

François Dandrieu

*Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 16)

Leader: I bless the LORD, who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.

**People: I keep the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand,
I shall not be moved.**

Leader: my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.

**People: For God will not give me up to darkness
or let the faithful see the pit of despair.**

Leader: You show us the path of life.

**People: In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

Let us worship God together!

*Opening Hymn #367

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

*Prayer of the Day

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we ignore the cries of the oppressed, and are indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

Sung Meditation

Confitemini Domino / Come and Fill

Ostinato Refrain

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo-nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, Al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Psalm 137. *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good*; Taizé Community, 1982
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
© 1982, 1991. Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

*Response

Gloria Patri

A Time With Young Disciples



We Listen For God



Scripture Introduction and Prayer for Illumination

The First Scripture Lesson

I Peter 1:3-9

Anthem

The Second Scripture Lesson

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

The Sermon

Now What?

*Hymn #444

“I Love to Tell the Story”

*Affirmation of Faith

from questions 1, 2, 128 & 129 of *The Heidelberg Catechism*

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**People: That I am not my own,
but belong - body and soul, in life and in death -
to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.
He has fully paid for all my sins,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.
He also watches over me in such a way
that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven;
in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.
Because I belong to him,
Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready
from now on to live for him**

Leader: What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

People: Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

Leader: What does the conclusion of the Lord's prayer mean?

People: "For the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever" means: We have made all these petitions of you because, as our all-powerful king, you are both willing and able to give us all that is good; and because your holy name, and not we ourselves, should receive all the praise, forever.

Leader: What does that little word "Amen" express?

People: "Amen" means: This shall truly and surely be! It is even more sure that God listens to my prayer than that I really desire what I pray for.



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. During this time we also share our joys and concerns, as well as any other relevant information to our life together.

Offering



Donations can be made by either scanning the QR code from the Venmo app or by searching for @First_Pres_of_Watertown.

The Offertory

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above ye heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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

God of love, God of light, and mystery, and surprise, and life . . . We come to you as Easter people. People who have heard the good news and yet we sometimes still struggle to find joy, to accept hope and live in peace with your creation.

We are the women who go to the empty tomb. We mourn the loss of loved ones. We do what we can to keep things moving, because the pain is too fresh, too real for us to bear. So we go on with our day-in-day-out lives to keep things “normal.” But really, deep down, we’re in shambles. We don’t know what to do. We don’t know where to turn. We don’t know what to make of our lives.

We are the women who go to the empty tomb. Lord hear our prayers.

We are Peter, fresh from the denial. If we could go back and change things, we would. If we could have another chance, we’d take it. We spend our lives living in regret for what we’ve done. We wallow in the guilt and where it has left us: stewing, venting, grieving.

We are Peter, fresh from the denial. Lord hear our prayers.

We are those on the walk to Emmaus. We don’t recognize Jesus in our midst, even when he stands there and speaks directly to us. Instead, we question, we doubt, we wander. We even pretend to know who Jesus is, though our explanations are by no means complete. We’re just left walking the road, thinking we know where it’ll take us, when really we’re lost.

We are those on the walk to Emmaus. Lord hear our prayers.

We’re all of these people, who deep down want only to follow you - to the point that we’ll bow our faces to the ground in your presence; we’ll run as fast as we can to see if the tomb really is empty; we’ll let our hearts burn within us if only our eyes will be opened to you.

We’re all of these people who long to be yours. Lord hear our prayers.

God of love, God of light, and mystery, and surprise, and life . . .
Help us live fully as Easter people. So claim us; redeem us; forgive us; save us and bring us joy! Amen.

So claim us; redeem us; forgive us; save us and bring us joy!
Let us now raise our voices together with the prayer Christ taught us saying:

**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 #90**
“Joyful, Joyful”

***Blessing and Benediction**

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please safely share some sign of
Christ’s peace with your neighbors.

Postlude

“The Day of Resurrection”

Michael Burkhardt

This morning’s **Radio Broadcast** is a gift of love from First Presbyterian Church.