



First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

August 20, 2023 + 10:00 a.m.



This image is taken from the opening pages of the St. John's Bible, the first-ever illuminated manuscript of the Bible completed in America. The image depicts the seven days of creation described in Genesis 1. A fuller version of the picture can be seen in the book on the communion table this morning.

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)

There is no Sunday School during July and August. Sunday School will resume in September.

Gathering Music

“Lobe den Herren”

“When, in Our Music, God Is Glorified”

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

“It is Well with My Soul”

Carl Bingle, FPC Organist

Johann Gottfried Walther

Anna Laura Page

Diane Bish

Janet Linker



Gathering



Pastor's Greeting *and* Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Great Is the Lord”

Smith, arr. Leatherman

*Call to Worship *from Psalm 67*

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make
his face to shine upon us,
**that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and
guide the nations upon earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.

**May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.**

Let us worship God together!

*Opening Hymns #188, 189, 190

all stanzas of each

***Prayer of the Day**

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

Let us confess our sins without fear. God yearns to embrace us and welcome us back to the great fold of the redeemed.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are tormented. Our lives have been disrupted by evil and by our own devilish desires and the exploits of people, places, and resources. We are dismayed at your presence, anguished by the awful fallout of our own failures. We cannot take back what we have said or undo what we have done or atone for the agony we have caused. We are haunted by the past, plagued by the present, and fearful of the future.

Yet the faith you have planted in us reaches out for your favor, returns to your presence, and hungers for your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Forgive us. Strengthen our faith. Make us new once again. We pray in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

a time of silence is kept

Amen.

Our God kisses us with kindness,
forgiving our sins,
preserving our lives,
and restoring our souls
through the abundant provision of
our Lord Jesus Christ.

You are forgiven and healed in the name
of Jesus the Christ!

Thanks be to God!

Response *Gloria Patri

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

A Time With Young Disciples

We Listen For God

Prayer for Illumination

Anthem

“At the Water’s Edge”

Jason Krug

The First Scripture Lesson

Genesis 1:24-31

The Second Scripture Lesson

John 1:1-5

The Sermon

*Hymn #424

“The Servant Song”

*Affirmation of Faith *from The Heidelberg Catechism*

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

A. 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 with his precious blood, 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.

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.

The 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

“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

arr. Victor Labenske

*The 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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

God of mercy and healing, you are Lord of all, embracing the estranged, blessing the banished, reconciling the rejected. We cry out to you now, confident that your provision is abundantly more than enough to preserve the church, redeem the world, and deliver the tormented.

Lord, help us. **We trust in you.**

For your people, the house of Israel, and the household of faith near and far; that the church may replicate your reconciliation, model your mercy, and herald your healing for all; for unity and harmony to flow freely among your creatures and throughout your creation.

Lord, help us. **We trust in you.**

For reconciliation and new beginnings among estranged families, races, nations, and peoples; for healing for those who are tormented, rejected, marginalized, fearful, forgotten, cast off, and or those whose names we now lift in your presence, silently or aloud.

Lord, help us. **We trust in you.**

For our ancestors in the faith, now kept in your care and never forgotten by you. As stand in your circle of favor, embraced by you, healed by you, blessed by you, remembered by you, secured by you, grateful for your loving care, preserve us in gratitude and peace, this day and forever.

Lord, help us. **We trust in you.**

Hear us now as we pray to you in the name of Jesus Christ, as he 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 #359**

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

***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

“Majesty”

Hayward, arr. Leatherman

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

God saw all that
he had made,
and it was very good.

Genesis 1:31

