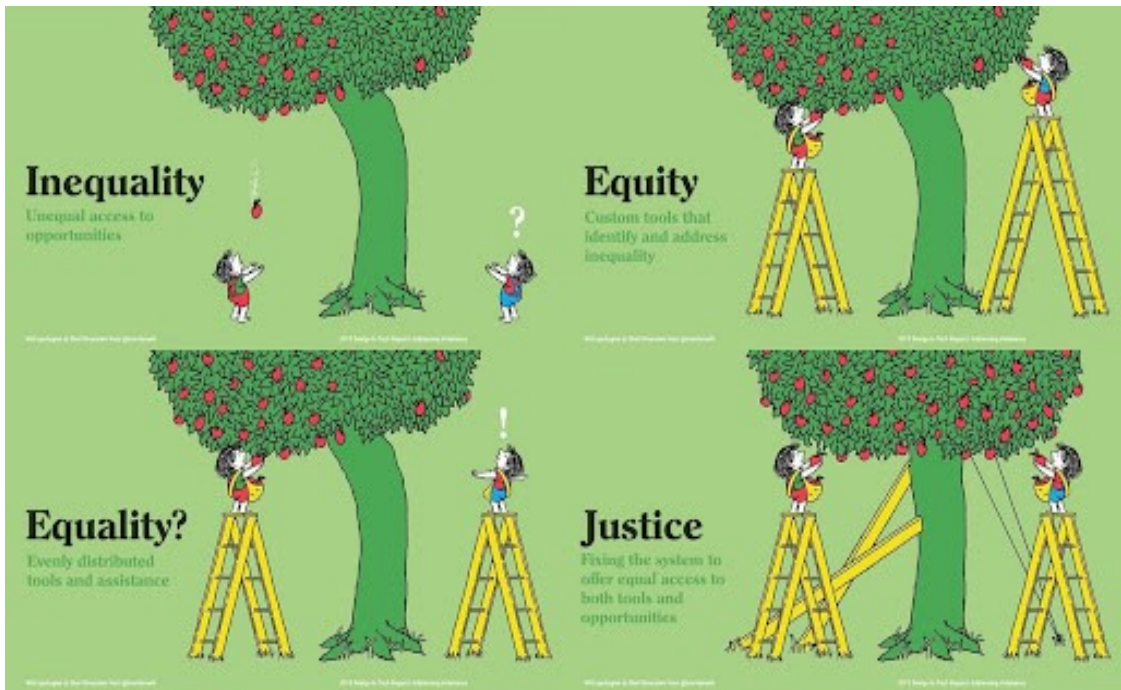




# First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + [www.watertownfirstpres.org](http://www.watertownfirstpres.org)

August 27, 2023 + 10:00 a.m.



## Text on graphic:

**Inequality:** unequal access to opportunities

**Equity:** custom tools that identify and address inequality

**Equality:** evenly distributed tools and assistance

**Justice:** facing the system to offer equal access to both tools and opportunities

# 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](mailto: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 September 10th.**

## Gathering Music

“Be Thou My Vision”

“Jesus Shall Reign”

“We Come as Guests Invited”

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

**Carl Bingle, FPC Organist**

Irish tune, arr. Jason Payne

Hatton/ arr. Anna Laura Page

Steuerlein/ arr. Emma Lou Diemer

Malan/ arr. Jeff Perks



## Gathering



## Pastor's Greeting *and* Words of Welcome

### Prelude

“Londonderry Air”

arr. Coulter, Galway

### \*Call to Worship *from Psalm 138*

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;

**I bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name for your  
steadfast love and your faithfulness;**

**for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.**

On the day I called, you answered me,  
you increased my strength of soul.

**All the kings of the earth shall praise you,**

**O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

**They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,  
for great is the glory of the Lord.**

For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;  
but the haughty he perceives from far away.

**Though I walk in the midst of trouble,**

**you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;**

**you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.**

**Let us worship God together!**

**\*Opening Hymn #128**

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon**

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. There is nothing we have done or can do that passes the sight of God. But we should not be afraid. Confident in this ever-gracious, never-failing help of God, let us confess our sins and seek forgiveness from God and one another.

**Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.**

**By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.**

*a time of silence is kept*

**Amen.**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.  
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ,  
we are forgiven!  
**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**

“Simple Gifts”

Shaker hymn/ arr. S. M. Müller

## **The First Scripture Lesson**

Isaiah 51:1-8

## **The Second Scripture Lesson**

Matthew 16:13-20

## **The Sermon**

*The Justice of God*

## **\*Hymn (see insert)**

“My Soul Cries Out”

## **\*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. 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

“Desert Song”

Hillsong United

## \*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.

For your church in every place,  
that we may worship and serve you faithfully . . .

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For leaders and people in every land,  
that they may know your way and do your will . . .

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For justice throughout the world,  
that there may be peace and plenty for all . . .

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the earth you have made,  
that it may flourish in beauty and show your glory . . .

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all those who hunger and thirst,  
that they may be filled with good things . . .

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who are ill or close to death,  
that they may know your loving care . . .

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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 #375**

“Jesus Shall Reign”

**\*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 Mighty Power of God”

Ellacombe, arr. Albert Travis

Good morning from the **Radio Ministry** to our radio and internet listeners.

**Leading in Worship Today:**

Rev. Dr. Andrew Philip Long, preaching

Bob Kimball, Liturgist

Carl Bingle, Organist

Michele Bariteau, Flute

## ***Desert Song***

This is my prayer in the desert  
When all that's within me feels dry  
This is my prayer in my hunger and need  
My God is the God who provides

And this is my prayer in the fire  
In weakness or trial or pain  
There is a faith proved of more worth than gold  
So refine me Lord through the flame

I will bring praise  
I will bring praise  
No weapon formed against me shall remain  
I will rejoice  
I will declare  
God is my victory and He is here

This is my prayer in the battle  
When triumph is still on its way  
I am a conqueror and co-heir with Christ  
So firm on His promise I'll stand

All of my life  
In every season  
You are still God  
I have a reason to sing  
I have a reason to worship

This is my prayer in the harvest  
When favor and providence flow  
I know I'm filled to be emptied again  
The seed I've received I will sow

