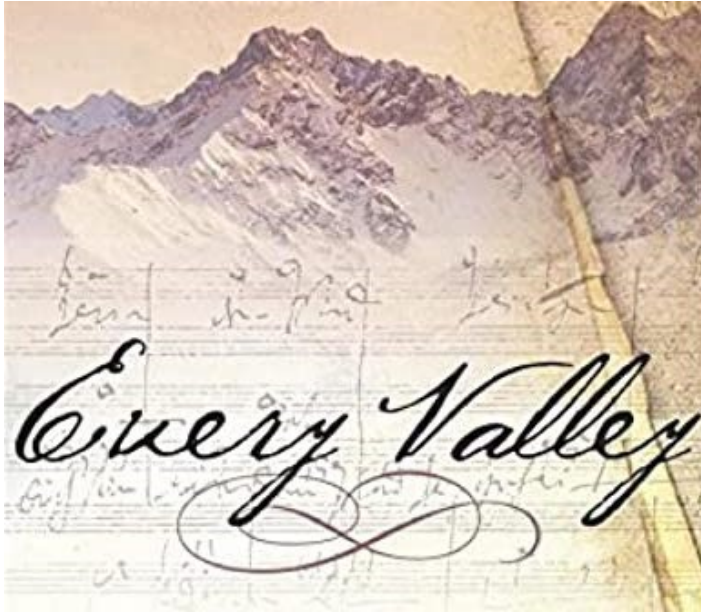




First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

December 11, 2022 + 10:00 a.m.



*There were shepherds abiding in the fields,
keeping watch over their flocks by night.*

*And lo! the angel of the Lord came upon them,
and the glory of the Lord shone round' about them,
and they were so afraid.*

*And the angel said unto them,
Fear not: for behold, I bring you tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all people.*

*For unto you is born this day in the city of David
a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.*

*And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude
of the heavenly hosts praising God, and saying:
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace on earth, goodwill towards men.*

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 measure our lives according to God's Word. 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” teaching today will be Heather White.

Gathering Music

“Un flambeau, Jeannette, Isabelle”

“Une vierge pucelle”

“Gabriel’s Oboe” (Luke 1:21,37)

arr D. Cherwien

Louis Claude Daquin

E. Morricone

Pastor’s Greeting and Words of Welcome

† **We Approach God In Worship** †

Advent Gathering Song

ADVENT GATHERING SONG

James J. Chepponis

Gently *mp*

Come, come Em - man - u - el.

Come, Em - man - u - el.

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***Call to Worship** *from The Iona Community of Scotland*

The desert shall sing and rejoice
and the wilderness will blossom with flowers;
and will see the Lord's splendor,
see the Lord's greatness and power.

Tell everyone who is anxious:
be strong and don't be afraid.
The blind will be able to see;
the deaf will be able to hear;
the lame will leap and dance;
those who can't speak will shout.

They will hammer their swords into plows
and their spears into pruning-knives;
the nations will live in peace;
they will train for war no more.

This is the promise of God:
God's promise will be fulfilled.

***Opening Hymn #245**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

***Prayer of the Day**

**The Sacrament of Baptism
Presentation**

On behalf of the Session,
I present Violet Cynthia McGuire
to receive the sacrament of baptism.

Caleb and Emily,
putting your whole trust in grace
and love of Jesus Christ, do your desire for Violet
to be baptized? **We do.**

Replying on God's grace,
do you promise to live in faith,
and teach the faith of Christ to your child? **We will.**

Will you, the members of the church,
help Violet grow into the full stature of Christ
by your prayers and witness? **We will.**

Will you encourage her to know and follow Christ,
and show her the ways of faith that she might
grow in fullness into a child of God? **We will.**

Profession of Faith

Through the Sacrament of Baptism
we enter the covenant God established in Jesus Christ. Within this
covenant God gives us new life,
strengthens us to resist evil,
and nurtures us in love.

Through this covenant,
we choose whom we will serve,
by turning from evil and turning to Jesus Christ.

Caleb and Emily,
trusting in the gracious mercy of God,
do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil
and its power in the world? **We do.**

Who is your Lord and Savior?
Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and
showing his love? **I will, with God's help.**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body , and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Baptism

Welcome

Let us welcome the newly baptized:

O Lord, uphold Violet Cynthia

by your Holy Spirit.

Give her the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and might,

the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,

the spirit of joy in your presence,

both now and forever. Amen.



We Listen for God's Word



Prayer for Illumination

The First Lesson in Song

“Glory to God” from G.F. Handel's Messiah

The Second Lesson

Isaiah 35:1-10

The Sermon
“Can it Be?”

Hymn #244
“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”



We Take God’s Word Into The World



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

“Mary, Did You Know?”
Michele Bariteau, flute

M. Smith, arr. Raney

***The Doxology** to the tune of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

The Prayers of The People and The Lord’s Prayer

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 (see insert)**

“O Christ, the Great Foundation”

***Blessing and Benediction**

Christmas Caroling

#265 “The First Noel”

#273 “Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

This morning the **Radio Broadcast** is given to the honor and glory of God, with grateful thanks for the lives of **Edward and Alice Stysick**, and **Charles R. and Vivian R. Pyke**, by Lynn and Robert Pyke.

Leading in Worship Today:

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Philip Long, preaching

Linya Bell, Liturgist

Carl Bingle, Organist

Sara Gleason, Director of Music

Chancel Choir

Michele Bariteau, flute