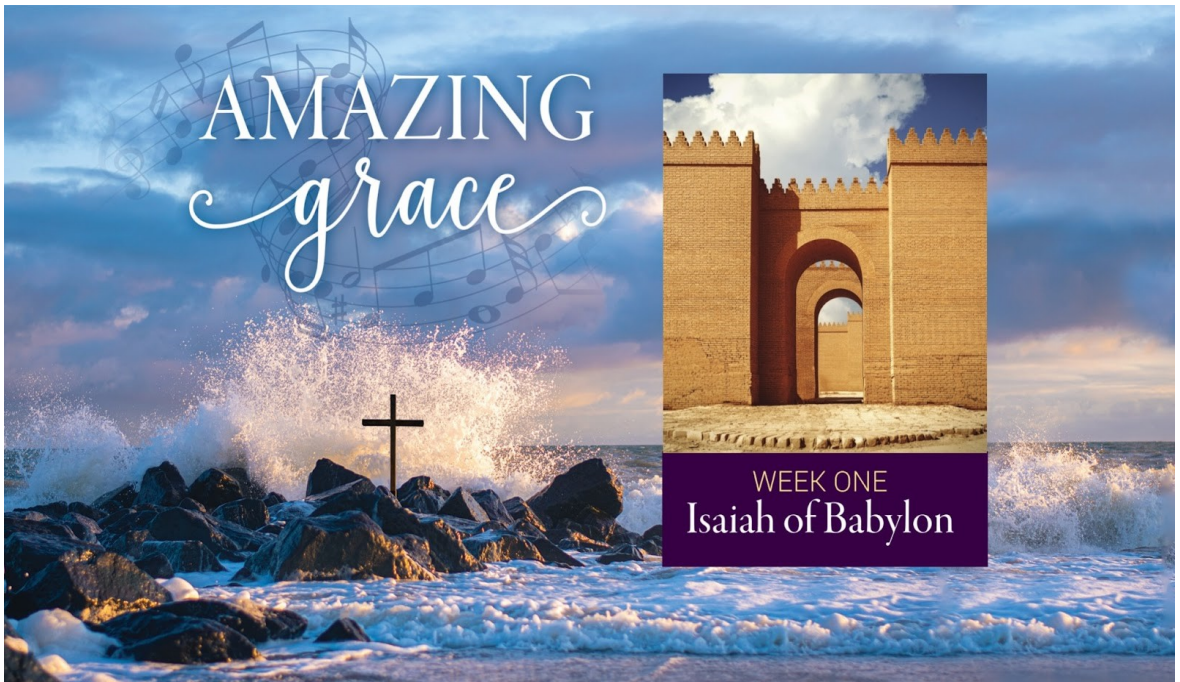




First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

February 26, 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)

NO Sunday School today. Sunday School for pre-school through grade 6 will meet again on March 12th after "Young Disciples Time." Lucy Hiotis will be the teacher.

Gathering Music

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Crusaders’ Hymn, arr. L. Smith

“Amazing Grace”

arr. David Cherwien

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

Anna Laura Page

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Lowell Mason, arr. D. Forrest



We Approach God in Worship



Pastor’s Greeting and Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Draw Us to You”

Michael Burkhardt

*Call to Worship from Psalm 32

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

**Blessed are those against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

**For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;

**I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,”
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Let us worship God together!

*Opening Hymn (See insert)

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

*Prayer of the Day

Confession of Sin *and* Assurance of Pardon

As we come together to worship in the presence of God, we confess our sins and seek God’s grace and mercy. The prophet Isaiah was given a vision of God enthroned in the temple and was frightened by what he saw. He knew that he was a sinner in the presence of the holy God of Israel. With the prophet, we acknowledge and confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

Almighty God, we know that we are sinners. We do not obey your holy law. We follow our sinful desires and listen to the temptations of the world around us. The prophet confessed that he was unclean. We too are unclean. We have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Lead us to new life in Christ, and bring at last to the joy of your eternal kingdom. Amen.

a time of silence is kept

An angel touched the prophet's lips with a coal from the altar of sacrifice and said, "Your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for." Isaiah's guilt was taken away. His sins were forgiven.

As God showed grace to the prophet, he has shown his grace to us through Jesus' atoning death. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God!

***Response from "Amazing Grace"**

**When we've been here ten thousand years,
bright, shining as the sun;
we've no less days to sing God's praise,
than when we first begun!**

A Time With Young Disciples

"This Little Light of Mine"

African-American Spiritual

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.**



We Listen for God's Word



Scripture Introduction and Prayer for Illumination

The First Lesson

Isaiah 6:1-8

Anthem

“On Eagle’s Wings”

arr. Benjamin Harlan

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord
Who abide in His shadow for life
Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain:

And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
Bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun
And hold you in the palm of His hand
You need not fear the terror of the night
Nor the arrow that flies by day
Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come

Refrain

For to His angels He's given a command
To guard you in all of your ways
Upon their hands they will bear you up
Lest you dash your foot against a stone

Refrain

The Second Lesson

Matthew 9:35-38

The Sermon

Grace for the Despairing

*Hymn #314

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

***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's Word



Testimony

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

***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**

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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord

Almighty God, your grace is the favor you show to undeserving sinners. Just as you showed grace to the prophet Isaiah and forgave his sins, you have forgiven us for the sake of Jesus our Savior. Gracious Lord,

Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Almighty God, during this season of Lent, a time of repentance, we remember that Jesus was sacrificed for our sins on the altar of the cross. As Isaiah's sins were burned away with a coal from the temple altar, our sins are washed away in Jesus' blood. Gracious Lord,

Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Almighty God, we pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering illness, sorrow and grief. Lead us by your Spirit to comfort them with the promises of your holy Word and to bring help to them in their time of need. Gracious Lord,

Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Almighty God, Isaiah was quick to answer your call. You sent him out with the message of your power and love. You asked, "Whom shall I send?" Bless the pastors, teachers, missionaries and others who answered your call and said, "Here I am. Send me." Watch power of your Spirit, extend your kingdom through the preaching of the good news. Gracious Lord,

Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you have forgiven our sins. Now, by the power of your Spirit, make us bold witnesses for our Savior. You ask, "Whom shall I send?" Lead us to answer with joy, "Here I am! Send me!"

Have mercy on us and 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**

“Amazing Grace”

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears
relieved.**

How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

**The Lord has promised good to me; His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.**

Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come.

**'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me
home.**

***Blessing**

***Passing The Peace of Christ**

Postlude

“Lyric Psalm for Organ”

George Blake

Today's **Radio Broadcast** is a gift in loving memory of
Dr. Douglas M. Sanford, from his wife, Mary Rose Sanford.