

The Calling of Samuel, Gustave Doré, 1877

First Presbyterian Church of Watertown

January 14, 2024

The Second Sunday After Epiphany

Welcome!

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 introduce yourself to our pastor or worship leader.

Hearing help is available during all worship services - hear- ing aids are available in the narthex.

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 black book at the front of the sanctuary

Sunday School for pre-school through grade 6 meets after "Young Disciples Time."

Gathering Music

+Gathering+

Pastor's Greeting and Words of Welcome

Prelude The Quiet Call of Christ

Dennis Eliot

*Call to Worship from 1 Samuel

The one who calls us together today yearns for us and for all people to hear the good news of God's love and be blessed.

Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Blessed is the One who comes bringing trustworthy words for the healing of the world. **Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.**

God is light in God there is no darkness at all! **Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.**

Let us worship together!

*Opening Hymn "Sing of God Made Manifest" (insert)

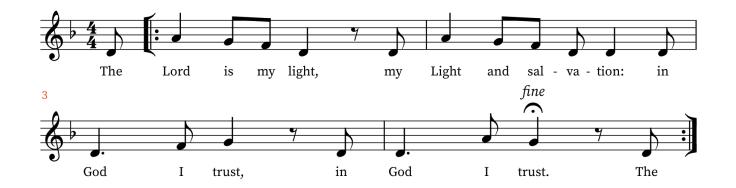
Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Assured that the One who calls us to hear and obey already knows the confessions of our hearts and is ready to forgive, let us confess our sin before God and before one another.

Holy God, you see into each of us and know us fully as creatures in need of your constant care. We confess that we have neither heard your word nor followed your will. We have failed our nation, neighbors, families, friends, and ourselves.

Give us ears to hear your wisdom. Lead us to honesty and faith so that we may begin again with renewed strength; in Jesus' name.

^{*}Prayer of The Day



And together we say: Amen.

God knows the hearts of those who seek forgiveness, and by grace you have been saved.

In Jesus' name you are forgiven.

Your sins are no more.

You have been made clean.

God strengthens you with freedom through the Holy Spirit, in Christ Jesus.

Thanks be to God!

Response Gloria Patri

A Time With Young Disciples

+We Listen for God+

Prayer for Illumination

The First Scripture Lesson 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Anthem When the Song of the Angels is Stilled -

text by Howard Thurman music by Elizabeth Alexander

When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled

When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.

The Second Scripture Lesson John 1:43-51

This is the Word of The Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Sermon When the song of the angels is stilled...

*Hymn #667"Lord, Speak To Me"

*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.

Song of Offering

from "Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated"

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;

Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,

Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my silver and my gold -not a mite would I withhold;

Take my intellect and use

Every pow'r as Thou shalt choose,

Every pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine -it shall be no longer mine;

Take my heart - it is Thine own,

It shall be Thy royal throne,

It shall be Thy royal throne.

Musical Offering I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked

G. O'Hara

Duet: Clancy Cox and David Elmer

I walked today where Jesus walked, In days of long ago; I wandered down each path He knew, With reverence step and slow. Those little lanes they have not changed—A sweet peace fills the air.
I walked today where Jesus walked,
And felt His presence there.

My pathway led through Bethlehem—Ah, mem'ries ever sweet;
The little hills of Galilee
That knew those childish feet;
The Mount of Olives: hallowed scenes
That Jesus knew before;
I saw the mighty Jordan roll
As in the days of yore.

I knelt to day where Jesus knelt, Where all alone He prayed; The Garden of Gethsemane—My heart felt unafraid!
I picked my heavy burden up, And with Him by my side, I climbed the Hill of Calvary, I climbed the Hill of Calvary, I climbed the Hill of Calvary, Where on the cross He died!

I walked today where Jesus walked And felt Him close to me!

The Prayers of The People and The Lord's Prayer

In peace, let us pray for all the earth, the church, and all those in need.

For leaders of nations, that wisdom and integrity will prevail for the good of all people, especially the poor;

for regions torn by conflict, that peace may reign and living become an enterprise of construction rather than destruction; God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

For all people of faith:
for the unity of the body of Christ,
that divisions might not turn people away from the church;
for Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists, and Jews,
that wherever prayers are raised up, the one God of all will hear;
for all people who nurture life in the name of a greater good;
God of grace, hear our prayer.

For our own nation:

for the president and Congress, the Supreme Court and all judges, for state governments, city councils, school boards, and all who have power to make policy, that all consideration be given to what will bring about peace and justice for all people and creatures; God of grace, hear our prayer.

For those in need:

for all who are hungry in our nation and world, for those who have no home and no employment, for those who are either unjustly or justly imprisoned, for parents and children who live in fear for any reason, and for all who are in mourning;

God of grace, hear our prayer.

Hear us now as we pray together the prayer that Jesus 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 #592 "Jesus Calls Us"

*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 How Firm a Foundation

Anna Laura Page

Leading Worship Today:

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Philip Long, preaching Sara Gleason, Director of Music and liturgist Carl Bingle, organist David Elmer and Clancy Cox, soloists The FPC Chancel Choir

We pray for healing for: Deanne, Gerda, Jennifer, Elise, John, Pat, Sue, Sherrie, Carole, Jane, Millie.

We pray for those who are unable to join us in-person:

Linda, Jamie, Dorothy, Shane, Ed, Annie.

We pray for our mission partners:

Tyler, Rochelle, and Mphatso, Grace, Sam, and Ruth, Isaiah, MELT, The Women of Grace, NNY Presbytery, Synod of The Northeast, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Josh Garry and Family (preparing for ministry).

We pray for our local and national leaders:

Watertown's Mayor and City Council (and Mayor-elect and soon-to-be council members), the U.S. President and Congress, the Governor of New York and State Legislature.

We pray for those serving our nation:

The Wright Family, those in conflict in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, and Sudan.

Mark Your Calendar!

Celebration Sunday: A Fresh Take On The Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 4, 2024 following worship Sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall

The 2024 Souper Bowl of Caring

Sunday, February 11, 2024

We'll be joining churches and groups throughout the United States to tackle hunger—we'll be collecting donations of money and/or canned soup for the Watertown Urban Mission Food Pantry!

Volunteer Church Work Days

February 3 & 10, 9:00am-2pm, lunch provided its the time of year when we catch up on the 'little' projects we have been off until after the holy days—all skill levels welcome. Let us know you're coming by signing up in Fellowship Hall or calling the church office (315-783-1750).

Sing of God Made Manifest a child ro - bust and blest, 1 Sing of God made man - i-fest in 2 Sing of God made man - i-fest when at Jor - dan John con-fessed, 3 Sing of God made man - i-fest when Christ came as wed - ding guest 4 Sing of God made man - i-fest on the cloud-capped moun-tain's crest, star had guid-ed them, whose home in Beth - le - hem where a should be bap-tized by you, but your bid-ding I will do." Ca - na gave a sign, turn - ing wa - ter in - to wine; where the law and proph-ets waned so that Christ a - lone re-mained: ma - gi came and gifts un-bound, signs mys - te-rious and pro-found: Then from heaven a dou - ble sign-dove-like Spir - it, voice di - vinefur - ther still was love re-vealed as he taught, for-gave, and healed, glimpse of glo - ry, pledge of grace, given as Je - sus set his face myrrh and frank-in-cense and gold grave and God and king fore - told. hailed the true A-noint-ed One: "This is my be-lov-ed bring - ing light and life to all who would lis-ten to God's call. towards the wait-ing cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

"Epiphany" means "manifestation" or "showing forth," and this text cites key disclosures of Jesus as Messiah: the coming of the Magi, his baptism by John the Baptist, the wedding at Cana. All are summed up in the Transfiguration, recalled on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany.