

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**403 WASHINGTON STREET
WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601
315-782-1750**

**January 16, 2022
10:00 a.m.**



Reformed theology, the very foundation of our Presbyterian heritage, is built on the Biblical truth that God is immovable, unchanging, eternal, forever. This was at the heart of the Reformation of 1517, that nothing we can do, or fail to do, has any effect on how God acts in love toward us and all of creation.

So what do we do with a story like the one we hear today from John's gospel, where it appears that Mary leads Jesus to change his mind about the wine situation at a wedding? If Jesus is God—and that's a big part of Reformed theology, too—can Jesus change his mind? Can God's mind be changed? If so, in what ways does this change or influence what we believe about God? We'll explore these big questions today in worship!

GATHERING

Gathering Music

Three Hymn Preludes

Carl Bingle, FPC Organist

G. Macchia

To God Be the Glory, Shall We Gather at the River?, My Faith Looks Up to Thee
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

G. Martin

Pastor's Greeting and Words of Welcome

Prelude

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Joel Raney

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 36)

Leader: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

People: **Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgments are like the great deep;
you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.**
How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
**They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**
For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.
**O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

*Opening Hymn #3

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

*Prayer of the Day

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

In the light of Christ, we see the ways in which our lives and the world around us are out of alignment with the ways and will of God. Confession brings all of it to The Light, where truth triumphs over lies and healing brings hope.

Confident in God's grace, let us confess our sins together.

Almighty God, we confess that we have been led astray by the idols of our world. We have depended on our possessions and have not placed our trust in your grace. We have carelessly consumed the gifts you offer and have failed to be faithful stewards of the earth's resources. We have sought security in the might of the sword rather than the strength of your Holy Spirit.

Forgive us. Lead us to true repentance that we may serve you faithfully, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

a time of silence is kept

Hear the good news for all times and in all places:
Christ has set us free!

In him we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Response - Hymn #813 – *Glory Be to the Father

A Time With Young Disciples

Hymn: *Bless These Children, Lord, We Pray*

(to the tune of "Seek Ye First", words by Andrew Long)

Bless these children, Lord, we pray; and walk with them every day.

Teach us to hear them and cherish what they say:

Children will show us the way.

THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer For Illumination

First Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 62:1-5 (Old Testament, page 692 in pew Bibles)

Anthem

Lord, Work a Miracle

Pepper Choplin

FPC Chancel Choir; Sara Gleason, director; Carl Bingle, organ

You turned the water into wine.

You opened the eyes of the blind.

You stilled the mighty winds and you calmed the angry sea.

Now Lord, work a miracle in me.

By your hands the crowd was fed.

You spoke a word and raised the dead.

You saw a man in torment and set his spirit free.

Lord, work a miracle in me.

Change me, claim me as your own.

Make my heart Your spirit's home.

I claim your promise to all who believe -

So come and work a miracle in me.

O Lord, please come Lord, come, Lord, O come.

Come, O Lord, swiftly come.

In my life let Your will be done.

Make my life a blessing so others can see Your love,

Your miracle in me.

Second Scripture Lesson

John 2:1-11 (New Testament, page 93 in pew Bibles)

Sermon

"God's Concern"

Rev. Dr. Andrew Philip Long

***HYMN #682**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

***Affirmation of Faith - Apostles' Creed**

Let us affirm what we believe:

**We 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.

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

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Tom Trenney

Clancy Cox, soloist; Carl Bingle, organ

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word:
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my soul's shelter, and Thou my high tower;
Raise Thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

***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

***Closing Hymn #293**

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

***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 neighbor.

During this time of public concern over health and wellness, please be respectful of those who may want to avoid physical contact while share The Peace; flashing the 'peace sign' is a perfectly appropriate way to share Christ's peace. 'Fist bumps,' 'elbow bumps,' or slick dance moves can also extend Christ's peace to your neighbors.

Postlude

Come Thou, Almighty King

Albert Travis

Today's **Radio Broadcast** is a "thank you" to radio station WATN 1240AM from the congregation of First Presbyterian Church, for many years of broadcasting our Sunday worship service.



ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING:
Sunday, February 13th, after worship,
In Fellowship Hall.

Happy Birthday to:
January 21 Mike Gillette
January 22 Aimee Whelpley

We Pray for...

Linda and Ken, Shane, Gerda, Ed, Robert, Jamie, Barbara, Gini, Mary, Josh, Waring, Brasie Corners UPC of Macomb, Northern New York Presbytery, Synod of the Northeast, the sick, all essential workers, students and teachers, medical professionals, all serving in the military, peace and justice, people in all positions of power

THIS WEEK

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED, Tomorrow, Monday, January 17th

Staff Meeting - Tuesday, January 18th, 12 noon

Adult Handbell Rehearsals - Thursday, January 13th, 6:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal - Thursday, January 13th, 7:30 p.m.

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE: Friday, January 20th. Please email them to Sue (wfpsec@gmail.com) and Pastor Andrew (Andrew.long1085@gmail.com)

This service is being broadcast over radio station **WATN 1240**,
Facebook: **www.facebook.com/watertownfpc**, and
Livestreamed from our website: **www.watertownfirstpres.org**



Community Meal

You are invited to an **INFORMATION SESSION** following worship TODAY in Fellowship Hall for the purpose of discussing FPC offering a meal to the church and wider community. This was a well-loved program in the past, and there has been significant renewed interest in bringing this important ministry back.

What should it look like in a COVID world?

Do we have enough volunteers?

Should it be once a month? Twice a month?

Do we have partners that might want to serve with us?

These questions and more will be explored in this casual session!

Staff emails: Church Office (Sue): wfpsec@gmail.com

Business Manager (Dave Kandler): wfpctreas@gmail.com

Pastor Andrew's cell phone: (410) 916-1673

Pastor Andrew and his family will be away from Watertown January 18-28, 2022 for the funeral services of Vivian Burgoon in Sherman, TX; they will also be working to settle Vivian's affairs at the time. This leave was approved by Session on December 16 and is a combination of bereavement time and vacation allowed in Pastor Andrew's call.

During this time, Pastor Libby Moses of Stone Presbyterian Church will be on-call for pastoral emergencies. Please call FPC's church office (315-782-1750) if you have a need and you will be connected with Pastor Moses.

The Rev. David Bennett, Resource Presbyter for the Presbytery of Northern New York, will preach and lead worship on January 23.

