



# First Presbyterian Church

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

July 3, 2022 + 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 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](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.

**Sunday School** is available for children through middle school during worship, except on the first Sunday of the month.

**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).

## **A Word About Today's Service**

If you read ahead in the buelltin to today's Scripture lesson you might wonder if these words actually come from the Bible? Advice about sanitary practices and laws about how to use the bathroom? Prohibitions against Israelite men and women becoming temple prostitutes, but no prohibition on other sex workers in the temple? God giving the Israelites permission to eat as many grapes and as many handfuls of grain from their neighbors fields as they can, but prohibiting them from bringing a to-go container when they do? Is this really from the Bible?

The answer is 'yes' as we consider this half-truth: *God said it, I believe it, that settles it.* For too long we've approached interpreting the Bible as a static, non-living text, which takes away all the beauty and mystery that it contains. How did the Israelites understand these laws? Was God really concerned with where they went to the bathroom? What did Jesus have to say about the Law and how we are to interpret God's Word? These questions, and more, shape our worship today.



# Gathering



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

**Singing In**

**Prelude**

*Tarantella*

Isaac Searle, cello; Andrew Long, piano

William Squire

**\*Call to Worship** from Psalm 19

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
reviving the soul;

**the decrees of the Lord are sure,  
making wise the simple;**

the precepts of the Lord are right,  
rejoicing the heart;

**the commandment of the Lord is clear,  
enlightening the eyes;**

the fear of the Lord is pure,  
enduring forever;

**the ordinances of the Lord are true  
and righteous altogether.**

More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;

**sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

**Let us worship God together!**

**\*Opening Hymn #3**

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

**\*Prayer of The Day**

## **Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon**

We come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children. With the confidence of children of God, let us humbly confess our sin.

**Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God.**

**Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Do not cast us away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.**

*a time of silence is kept*

Hear the good news!

Hope does not disappoint us,

for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism.

Believe this good news and give thanks:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*Response** *from "Blessed Assurance"*

**Perfect submission—all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**

**This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long!**

## A Time With Young Disciples

“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.**



**We Listen for God**



## Prayer for Illumination

**The Scripture Lesson** Deuteronomy 23:12-25

## Anthem

“Sicilienne”

von Paradis

Carole Wilay, violin; Jason Comet, organ

**The Sermon** *Half Truths, Part 4*

*God Said It, I Believe It, That Settles It*

**\*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.*

### 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

“As We Mingle Our Voices, We Mingle Our Souls”      H. Purcell

### 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 Sacrament of The Lord’s Supper

**Invitation to The Table**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving *and The Lord’s Prayer***

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

At the beginning of time,  
your Spirit moved upon the waters of chaos  
as you called forth land and sea,  
mountain and valley,  
desert and tundra,  
jungle and grassy plain.

Your Spirit went before Moses and the Hebrew children,  
a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night,  
leading them through the wilderness.  
Your Spirit roused the hearts of the prophets  
who proclaimed your judgment upon the nations  
and called for repentance among your people.  
For these mighty acts of your Holy Spirit,  
we praise your name and join in the eternal hymn  
of all the angels and saints who sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, indeed, and blessed is Jesus Christ your Son.  
By your Spirit you anointed him to bring  
good news to the poor and to proclaim  
release to the captives.  
By your Spirit, Jesus confronted the  
demons of oppression.  
In your Spirit he rejoiced as his  
disciples did great work in his name.  
At his death on the cross Jesus yielded up his spirit to you,  
and by the Holy Spirit you raised him from the dead.  
This same enlightening, empowering, enlivening Spirit



Jesus promised to all who keep his  
commandment to love as he has loved.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread,  
gave thanks to you, broke the bread,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
Take, eat, this is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

When the supper was over, he took the cup  
and gave thanks, saying,  
Drink this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this is remembrance of me.

Therefore, in remembrance of the mighty acts and  
blessed promises of Jesus,  
we offer ourselves to you in union with his offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us,  
gathered here out of love for you,  
and on this bread and wine.  
Let the bread we break  
be true fellowship in the body of Christ.

Let the cup we share  
be a true participation in the  
new covenant in his blood.

By your Spirit manifest in us the  
power of your redeeming love  
that we may be Christ for the world,  
serving in his name.

Through your son Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,  
all glory and honor is yours,  
almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now as Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray...

## **Communion of The People**

### **Prayer After Communion**

#### **\*Blessing and Benediction**

#### **Celebrating God's Freedom Among the Nations**

“A Song of Glory”

arr. Jerry van der Pol

*(piano and organ)*

Hymn #804 “Battle Hymn of The Republic”

“America The Beautiful” arr. Darwin Wolford

Today's Radio Broadcast is a gift from the congregation,  
in honor of the men and women of the 10th Mountain Division  
and their families

## We Pray For...

Amy, Josh L., Janine, Bill, Suzanne, Linya, Kathy, Jamie, William, Fred, Bob, Morse Family, John, Marilyn, Sue, Sister Diane, Shirley, Tyler & Rochelle, Grace, Sam & Ruth, Mary, Tom, Linda & Ken, Shane, Ed, Millie, Gerda, Annie, First Presbyterian, Watertown, NNY Presbytery, Synod of The Northeast, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the People of Ukraine, the sick, all essential workers, students & teachers, medical professionals, all serving in the military, peace & justice, all people in positions of power and leadership.



