



First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

June 12, 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

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

Today we begin a 5-week worship series on Half Truths, based on the book by Methodist pastor and theologian, Adam Hamilton. Over the next five weeks we will look at some very common phrases people of faith use to explain suffering, the seeming randomness of life, and what we believe to be words of comfort in times of need. But these phrases, as well intentioned as they may be, only tell half of the truth about God and Jesus Christ, and sometimes not even that much! Through careful study of the Scriptures, we will learn new ways of accessing and sharing the good news of our faith with others!

Everything happens for a reason. We've all heard this before, usually at a time of great pain, loss, or suffering. But is it true? Did the Holocaust happen for a reason? What about the war currently raging in Ukraine? Did God cause or turn a blind eye to the drunk driver who struck and killed a family on their way home from the movies? What about personal choice? These questions, and more, shape our worship today.

 **Gathering** 

Pastor's Greeting *and* Words of Welcome

Singing In

Prelude

Allegro e più lento (Organ Symphony 5, Mvt. 1)

Widor

***Call to Worship** Psalm 15

O Lord, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy hill?

**Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;
who do not slander with their tongue,
and do no evil to their friends,
nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;
in whose eyes the wicked are despised,
but who honour those who fear the Lord;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;
who do not lend money at interest,
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.**

Those who do these things shall never be moved.
Let us worship God together!

***Opening Hymn #403** “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

***Prayer of The Day**

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our redeemer.

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 30:11-20

Anthem

“Come, Holy Spirit, Come”

David Lantz

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your glory,
Your people are here in this place.
Come Holy Spirit, move now among us,
And touch us with mercy and grace.

Spirit eternal, come in your fullness,
And breathe on your people we pray.
Come Holy Spirit, fresh wind of heaven,
And come in our presence today.

Spirit of Heaven, fill us with light anew
You are the breath of God, Promise of Heaven.
Spirit of Heaven, fill us with light anew
You are the gift of light, show us your glory.

The Sermon *Half Truths, Part I*
 Everything Happens For a Reason

***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

“10,000 Reasons”

Lloyd Larson

Chorus

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
O my soul, worship His holy Name.
Sing like never before, O my soul.
I'll worship Your holy Name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your Name is great and Your heart is kind;
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Chorus

And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come;
Still my soul sings Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Chorus

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 #568 "May the Mind of Christ, My Savior"

***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.

Postlude

Trumpeting (Psalm 150:3)

Dale Wood

Today's **Radio Broadcast** is a gift from
the congregation of First Presbyterian Church.

Today's Flowers are given in loving memory of
Dr. Douglas M. Sanford by his loving wife, Mary, and Family

We Pray For...

For friends and family on the passing of Mike Gillette, For friends and family on the passing of Sandy Conde, Fred, Bob, Morse Family, John, Marilyn, Rick, Clem, Joe, Connor & Kennedy, 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.