



First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

March 19, 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)

Sunday School for pre-school through grade 6 meets after "Young Disciples Time." Bunny Gorman is the teacher today.

Gathering Music

“The Wondrous Cross”

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

“Our Great Savior”

“It Is Well with My Soul”

Mason, arr. John Carter

Maker, arr. Mary McDonald

Hyfrydol, arr. Lani Smith

Bliss, arr. Janet Linker



We Approach God in Worship



Pastor’s Greeting and Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Praeludio”

Ninth Violin Sonata, II

Arcangelo Corelli

Agnes McCarthy, violin

*Call to Worship from Psalm 42

As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you,
O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

When shall I come and appear before God?

My tears have been my food day and night,

while they say to me all the day long, “Where is your God?”

By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,

And at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

I say to God, my rock: “Why have you forgotten me?

Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?”

As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries taunt me,

While they say to me all the day long, “Where is your God?”

Why are you cast down, O my soul,

and why are you in turmoil within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,

my salvation and my God.

Let us worship God together!

***Opening Hymn #17**
“Our Great Savior”

***Prayer of the Day**

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

The Samaritan woman met Jesus as he rested beside the well. Jesus knew that this woman had not lived according to God’s commandments, but he graciously invited her to drink of the water of eternal life. We also do not live according to God’s commands as we should, yet he looks on us in grace and love. Let us come before him, confident in his steadfast love, to confess our sins and ask his forgiveness.

Almighty God, daily we sin against your commandments. We turn away from your Word and ways as we thirst after pleasures and temptations to satisfy our own desires. We have sought after the wrong things to satisfy our needs for companionship, wholeness, and health. We have not always done what is pleasing in your sight and we have hurt ourselves and one another. We are sorry for our sins and we thirst for your forgiveness. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Amen.

a time of silence is kept

God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son to be our Savior. Jesus took our sins onto himself, suffering the penalty of death that we deserved. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We are refreshed in the flood of his grace. 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.
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine...
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!
Jesus gave it to me...**



We Listen for God's Word



Scripture Introduction and Prayer for Illumination

The First Lesson

Isaiah 55:1-9

Anthem

“Amazing Grace”

arr. Brian Hanson

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come
This grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home**

**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**

The Second Lesson

John 4:7-26

The Sermon

Grace for the Ashamed

*Hymn #737

“Like A River Glorious”

*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

“Adagio in D” from *The Four Seasons, Winter* Antonio Vivaldi
Agnes McCarthy, violin

***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

Lord Jesus, you graciously invited the Samaritan woman to believe in you as the Messiah and Savior, to drink of living water of the Spirit. We, too, trust in you as our Lord and Savior. You have given to us the gift of the precious, living water that is the Spirit of God welling up to eternal life. Gracious Lord,

Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, we pray that you would continue to sustain us with your Spirit during this earthly life. Fill us with the peace and hope that are found only through repentance and forgiveness in your name. Help us to grow in grace and strength of faith through the study of your holy Word so that we might serve others in your name. Gracious Lord,

Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, we pray for those who thirst for help and hope in their suffering. Comfort those who face illness, grief and loss in their own lives and in the lives of loved ones. Empower us by your Spirit to comfort them with the promises of your Word. Gracious Lord,

Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, we look forward to the day when we will live forever in your presence and drink from the water of the river of life in paradise. Until that great day, lead us to show mercy to others and to share our blessings to satisfy their earthly needs, their hunger and thirst. Gracious Lord,

Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water,

beginning the conversation that led her to trust in you as her Savior. She then told the people of her town about you and they too believed. Help us by your Spirit to begin such conversations with our friends and neighbors so that they will believe and worship you as their King and Savior. Gracious Lord,
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”

**Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found; was blind, but now I see.**

**'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.**

**Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease:
I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace.**

***Blessing**

***Passing The Peace of Christ**

Postlude

“Chaconne en Sol-mineur”

Louis Couperin