



First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 27, 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).

Today's Bulletin Cover and A Word About The Service

The Cimabue (chim—ah—boo—ee) Crucifix hangs today in the Cathedral of Santa Croce in Florence in the same place where the artist installed in it 1272. Surviving nearly 700 years of floods and wars, the crucifix suffered seemingly irreparable damage in 1966 when the Arno River swelled and flooded the cathedral with over 20 feet of water and mud. The crucifix was so soaked with water that it grew in length by nearly three inches and doubled in weight. Over 60% of its paint was washed away and peeling, and the wood was riddled with mold.

Many thought the crucifix was lost for good, another timeless and impossible-to-replicate piece of art lost to the ravages of time. That is until the *Angeli die Fango*, The Mud Angels, arrived.

Is anything every really lost? Is anything, or anyone, really beyond repair and restoration? What can the Cimabue Crucifix teach us about the scandal of grace?



Gathering



Gathering Music

Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?	A.L. Page
Hosanna, Loud Hosanna	John Carter
Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended?	Dale Wood
Christ, We Do All Adore Thee	Théodore Dubois

Pastor's Greeting *and* Words of Welcome

Prelude Gothic Fanfare, Part 1 Lester Groom

The large white candle on the communion table was lit on Ash Wednesday to honor the people of Ukraine and Russia during this time of conflict. During the prelude, you are invited to offer personal prayers to God or you may use the prayer printed here.

O gracious and holy God,
give us diligence to seek you,
wisdom to perceive you,
and patience to wait for you. Amen

***Call to Worship** *from Psalm 100*

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness.

Come into God's presence with singing!

For the Lord is a gracious God,

whose mercy is everlasting;

and whose faithfulness endures to all generations!

Let us worship God together!

***Opening Hymn #342** “Rock of Ages”

***Prayer of the Day**

Confession of Sin *from The Uniting Church in Australia*

God is merciful and just, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. With the confidence of the children of God, let us confess our sins together.

Jesus, the one fully engaged in life, forgive us for our ‘whatever’ attitude. Forgive our nonchalance in the face of your call. Forgive the indifference we show in regards to the suffering and life needs of others. Forgive our apathy to join wholeheartedly in your work for justice and the common good. Forgive our hesitancy in giving more of ourselves in loving service to people who need it from us. Forgive our fear of really following you which we mask with false confidence in doctrine and surface spirituality. Forgive our attempts to defer guilt from not truly living out your way through Sunday religion and weekly religiosity.

Awaken real faith in us again. Startle us anew with the power of your love. Engage us once again in your work of love and grace. Call us back to the transformative power of loving service and faithful witness to you, that we might know that you are in our lives, and the lives of all people, working for good no matter whatever we do.

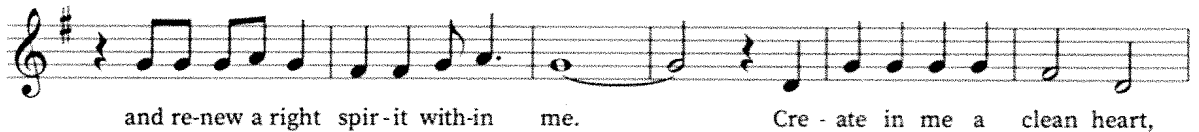
But call us again to do whatever we can to work with you to do whatever is needed for the good of all: whatever the cost, whatever can be. Amen.

Musical Meditation *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Keith & Melody Green



6



11



17



22



27



Assurance of Pardon

God, in Christ Jesus, holds us in love
and will lead us into a new journey together
and a future filled with hope.

We are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

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.**



The Word of God



Prayer For Illumination

The Scripture Lesson Luke 15:11-32, *Modern English*

Then He said, “A man had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.’ So he divided his estate between them.

“Not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together, and journeyed to a distant country, and there squandered his possessions in prodigal living. When he had spent everything, there came a severe famine in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and hired himself to a citizen of that county, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. He would gladly have filled his stomach with the husks that the swine were eating, but no one gave him any.

“When he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have an abundance of bread, and here I am perishing with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.”’ So he arose and came to his father.

“But while he was yet far away, his father saw him and was moved with compassion, and ran and embraced his neck and kissed him.

“The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

“But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him. And put a ring on his hand and shoes on his feet. Bring here the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and be merry. For this son of mine was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ So they began to be merry.

“Now his older son was in the field. As he came and drew near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. He said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him safe and sound.’

“He was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and entreated him. But he answered his father, ‘Look! These many years have I served you. Nor have I ever transgressed your commands, yet never have you given me a goat, so that I might be merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed the fattened calf for him.’

“He said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. But it was fitting to be merry and be glad, for this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ ”

Anthem “You Will Be Found”

Pasek and Paul

from the Broadway musical “Dear, Evan Hansen”

*Have you ever felt like nobody was there?
Have you ever felt forgotten in the middle of nowhere?
Have you ever felt like you could disappear?
Like you could fall, and no one would hear?*

*Well, let that lonely feeling wash away
Maybe there's a reason to believe you'll be okay
'Cause when you don't feel strong enough to stand
You can reach, reach out your hand*

*And oh, someone will coming running
And I know, they'll take you home
Even when the dark comes crashing through
When you need a friend to carry you
And when you're broken on the ground
You will be found*

*So let the sun come streaming in
'Cause you'll reach up and you'll rise again
Lift your head and look around
You will be found*

*There's a place where we don't have to feel unknown
And every time that you call out
You're a little less alone
If you only say the word
From across the silence your voice is heard
And oh, someone will coming running to take you home.*

Out of the shadows
The morning is breaking
And all is new, all is new
It's filling up the empty
And suddenly I see that
All is new, all is new
You are not alone
You are not alone
You are not alone
You are not alone
You are not alone (You are not alone)

The Sermon *Welcome Home, Part 4: The Scandal of Grace*



We Respond To God



Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons
and election of Congregational Nominating Committee

Elders: Doug Danforth, Melissa Elmer, Jeremy Gerot, Sara Gleason,
Jonathan White, Robert J. Brown, and Phil Sprague

Deacons: Cherie Danforth, Michele Elmer, Janneane Gerot,
Katrina Cox, Wink Beadel

Special Music *Homeward Bound* *Arr. Marta Keen*

*In the quiet misty morning, When the moon has gone to bed;
When the sparrows stop their singing, And the sky is clear and red.*

*When the summer's ceased its gleaming, When the corn is past its
prime;*

When adventure's lost its meaning, I'll be homeward bound in time.

*Bind me not to the pasture, Chain me not to the plow;
Set me free to find my calling, And I'll return to you somehow.*

*If you find it's me you're missing, If you're hoping I'll return;
To your thoughts I'll soon be list'ning, And in the road I'll stop and
turn.*

*Then the wind will set me racing, As my journey nears its end;
And the path I'll be retracing, When I'm homeward bound again.*

*Bind me not to the pasture, Chain me not to the plow.
Set me free to find my calling, And I'll return to you somehow.*

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

*Financial gifts may be placed in the plates at the Offertory, or by
The Venmo app or by searching for @First_Pres_of_Watertown*

The Offertory *Heavenly Home* arr. Mary McDonald

*No more hunger, no more thirsting, no more weeping, no more tears;
no more sin, no more temptation, no more doubting, no more fears.
In that home, the Lamb shall find them; He shall lead them on their
way, where the living fount is flowing, and shall wipe all tears away.*

Heavenly home, happy home; never sigh or sorrow come.

“Alleluia” songs we raise, joys eternal, endless praise.

No more longing for the morning, no more watching for the day;

no more groping in the darkness, no more mists to clear away.

Morning splendors are eternal, for in heav’n there is no night.

All unknown are mists and shadows, for the Lamb, he is the Light!

Heavenly home, happy home; never sigh or sorrow come.

“Alleluia” songs we raise, joys eternal, endless praise.

No more weariness for pilgrims, no more restless tossings there;

no more sorrow, no more sighing, no more watching, no more prayer.

Ended ev’ry pilgrim’s journey, they have entered into rest.

Joys eternal, endless praises! In that homeland of the blest.

Heavenly home, happy home; never sigh or sorrow come.

“Alleluia” songs we raise, joys eternal, endless praise.

The Prayers of The People and The Lord’s Prayer

***Closing Hymn #562** “Be Thou My Vision”

***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 sharing 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.

During the postlude, you are invited to offer personal prayers to God or you may use the prayer printed here:

Grant us, O God,
a mind to meditate on you;
eyes to behold you;
ears to listen for your word;
a heart to love you;
and a life to proclaim you;
through the power of the Holy Spirit
of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leading in Worship Today:

Pastor Andrew, preaching
Beth Linderman, liturgist
Carl Bingle, organist
Sara Gleason, choir director
Dave Elmer, soloist
FPC Quartet
The Choir of First Presbyterian Church

Good morning from the First Presbyterian Church to those who join our worship by way of our **Radio Broadcast**, our church website, or our Facebook page.

Today's Flowers are given in memory of **Patricia McWayne**, from Shane Marie, Frederick, Shawn & Kathy McWayne.

Community and Congregational Care

We Pray For...

Nelson, William, Steven, Nora, Tyler, Grace, Sam, and Ruth, Mary, Lynn, Midwest Tornado Victims, Josh L., Mary, Gini, Tom, Linda and Ken, Shane, Ed, Millie, Gerda, Jamie, Annie, Plattsburgh First Presbyterian, 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, All people in positions of power and leadership.

Happy Birthday to...

3/29 Matthew Willaman

3/29 Henry Kandler

3/31 Michele Bariteau

3/31 Gail Fluno

4/1 John Stirling

First Presbyterian is blessed to provide space for several community-based ministries and programs. All are open to members of the church and community and meet on the following days:

Al-Anon, 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Fellowship Hall

Special Religious Education, 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Chapel

Alcoholics Anonymous - First Watertown Group, 8:00 p.m.,
Fellowship Hall

Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 27

- 10 a.m. - Morning Worship, sanctuary
- 10-11 a.m. - Charismatic Church, chapel
- 11:45 a.m. - “The Chosen” Episode 6, Fellowship Hall
- 12:15 p.m. - Watertown Multi-Ethnic Community, chapel

Monday, March 28

- 9 a.m.-4:00 p.m. - Office Open
- 12:15-4:00 p.m. - MELT volunteers, Rooms 22 & 24

Tuesday, March 29

- 9 a.m.-4:00 p.m. - Office Open
- 6:30 p.m. - Al-Anon, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. - Special Religious Education, Chapel

Wednesday, March 30

- 8 a.m.-7 p.m. - MELT Dinner prep, serving & clean-up
(Dinner pick up: 4-6 p.m.)
- 9 a.m.-4:00 p.m. - Office Open
- 6 p.m. - “The Chosen” Bible Study Session 6, Room 6

Thursday, March 31

- 9 a.m.-4 p.m. - Office Open
- 6:30 p.m. - Handbell Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 1

- 9 a.m.-2 p.m. - Office Open

Saturday, April 2

- 8 p.m. - A.A. - First Watertown Group, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday

MARCH
30

TAKE OUT PULLED PORK DINNER



TO BENEFIT:
Malawi Early Literacy Team



[HTTP://MALAWIEARLYLITERACY.ORG](http://MALAWIEARLYLITERACY.ORG)

Malawi Early Literacy Team
(M.E.L.T.)

Proceeds will provide books,
teacher training, and the MELT1
Mobile Library to remote villages in
the Northern region of Malawi.



First Presbyterian Church of Watertown

403 Washington Street Watertown, NY 13601

March 30th ~ 4pm - 6pm ~ \$10

Take out pulled pork dinner includes pulled pork, roll, parsley new potatoes,
coleslaw, corn, and a brownie for dessert!

ANY QUESTIONS CALL HEATHER WHITE

315-778-9867