



First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

May 21, 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." **Brie Thomas is the teacher today.**

Gathering

Gathering Music

“Easter Joy”

Eugene Butler

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

David Lasky

Pastor’s Greeting *and* Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

John Goss, arr. L. Smith

*Call to Worship (from *Psalms* 47)

Clap your hands, all you peoples!

God has gone up with a shout of joy.

The Lord Jesus Christ has risen to reign;

He is the name above all names.

We are witnesses; the Lord is risen!

Christ has ascended to reign on high.

Let us worship God together!

*Opening Hymn (see insert)

“Christ is Alive!”

*Prayer of the Day

Confession of Sin

Forgiving and gracious God, you have called us to be the church, to live out our Resurrection faith. You have asked us to place our trust in you and to bring to all the good news of your saving love. But we have failed to do this. We have given our faith a back seat to the troubles of the world and to the stresses in our own life. We look for the quick and easy answers. Forgive us for the smallness of our faith. You, who raised Christ from the dead, have promised to raise our spirits and bring us to new life. You have done this and yet, we remain static in our response to you. Clear our spirits of the clutter of everyday living. Help us to be open always to your word and your love. Challenge us to move in directions of peace and hope for all people. These things we pray in the name of our risen Lord. AMEN.

Sung Meditation

Confitemini Domino / Come and Fill

Ostinato Refrain

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no, Al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu-ia!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady, rhythmic pattern of chords in the left hand.

Text: Psalm 137, *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good*; Taizé Community, 1982
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
© 1982, 1991, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Assurance of Pardon

*Response

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

A Time With Young Disciples



We Listen For God



Scripture Introduction *and* Prayer for Illumination

The First Scripture Lesson

I Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Anthem

“Fly Away Medley”

Lloyd Larson

Some glad morning when this life is over
I'll fly away
To a home on God's celestial shore
I'll fly away
I'll fly away, oh, Glory I'll fly away
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by
I'll fly away
When the shadows of this life have gone
I'll fly away
Like a bird from these prison walls I've flown
I'll fly away
I'll fly away, oh glory I'll fly away in the morning
When I die hallelujah by and by
I'll fly away
Trials dark on ev'ry hand, and we cannot understand
All the ways that God would lead us
to that blessed Promised Land;
But He'll guide us with His eye, and we'll follow till we die;
We will understand it better by and by.

Chorus:

By and by, when the morning comes,
When the saints of God are gathered home,
We will tell the story how we've overcome;
We will understand it better by and by.
When the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there
On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye
To Canaan's fair and happy land, Where my possessions lie.
I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land,
Oh who will come and go with me?
I am bound for the promised land.
O when the saints go marching in, O when the saints go marching in,
O Lord, I want to be in that number when the saints go marching in.
I'll fly away, oh, Glory I'll fly away
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by
I'll fly away

The Second Scripture Lesson

Acts 1:6-14

The Sermon

Going Up to Come Down

*Hymn #804

“Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory”

*Affirmation of Faith from *The Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”



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

“My Jesus, I Love Thee” Medley
Michele Bariteau, flute

arr. Wayne Fritchie

***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

When we say “Our Father in heaven.”

We remember that we’re not alone on this spiritual journey,
That we pray together, and trust in God together.

When we say, “hallowed be your name.”

We remember that God can be beautiful to us,
Can cause us to wonder and sing with joy,
If only we open our eyes to who God is and what God has done.

When we say, “your kingdom come,”

We remember that the chaos of our lives,
Our uncertainty about the future, is not the final word.
Though it doesn’t always seem like it, God is in control
And will make things right.

When we say, “your will be done, on earth as in heaven,”
we remember that our response to what God has done
and is doing should flow through our whole lives,
wherever we are, whatever we are doing -
And wherever we might be.

When we say, “Give us today our daily bread,”
we remember that we depend on God for everything,
that God cares about our day to day living, about our health,
about our bodies. God loves us.

When we say, “Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us,”

we remember that Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection
aren’t just events that happened long ago.
They are God’s message of forgiveness for us here and now.

**Whatever mistakes we've made,
however many times we've turned our backs on God,
whomever we've hurt through our actions or our words,
God forgives us.**

And God desires for us to mend our relationships with others.

When we say, "Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil,"

**we remember that sin and evil do exist,
that we mess up our relationships with God and others,
that we participate in systems that leave people out
and knock people down, that we all too often ignore the people
who are left out and knocked down, that we, too, face abuse
and neglect and suffering, and that God desires to rescue us
and free us from all of this.**

When we say, "For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever,"

**we remember that God is more powerful than anything we face,
that God showed this power in the weakness of the cross
and an empty tomb,
and that we look forward to the love of God bringing
everything to completion and making all things new.**

***Closing Hymn #16**

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

***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 neighbors.

Postlude

"Easter Celebration Medley"

Michele Bariteau, flute

arr. Gary Lanier