



First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 29, 2022 + 10:00 a.m.



Ascension, Ed De Guzman, Quezon City, Philippines

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

After celebrating the Resurrection of the Lord, near the conclusion of the season of Easter, we commemorate the ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ into heaven. On this day in particular, we give thanks for Christ's sovereign rule over all creation, as well as his priestly intercession for us at the throne of God's mercy. We proclaim with joy that Jesus is already Lord of heaven and earth and head of the Church, and watch with longing for the day when he will come again in the glory of God's new creation.

The theological affirmation of Christ's ascension to reign and promised return is more important than the date on which the festival is observed. Prior to the end of the fourth century, when it was fixed on the fortieth day of Easter to follow the chronology of Acts, Jesus' ascension may have been celebrated earlier in the Easter season or in connection with Pentecost. Today, we celebrate it on the Sunday before Pentecost.

 **Gathering** 

Gathering Music

Fantasia on Materna
Come Holy Spirit, Come
Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

Robert Hughes
John Carter
Jason Payne

Pastor's Greeting *and* Words of Welcome

***Litany for Ascension**

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with songs of joy.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

God is ruler over all the earth; the Lord reigns on a holy throne.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

God put this power to work in Christ, raising him from the dead.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

God has highly exalted him, giving him the name above all names.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Jesus Christ is Lord! Glory to God in the highest.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

a time of silence is kept

Most High God, we are witnesses: to the life of Jesus Christ our Lord: written in the Law, promised by the prophets, sung by the psalmists; given in love for the world, risen from the dust of death,

lifted up in heavenly glory. Let our lives proclaim Christ's life. Draw us into your presence that we may worship you always, continually blessing your name; through Jesus Christ our Savior who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Songs of Praise ~ #43, 44 (sung by choir), 45 in the hymnal

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

Let us humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, casting all our anxiety on the Lord, who cares for us. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Almighty God, you have raised Jesus from death to life, and crowned him Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him, or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world, and failed to give him glory. Forgive us, and raise us from sin, that we may be your faithful people, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church, his body. Amen.

a time of silence is kept

The God of all grace,
who calls us to eternal glory in Jesus Christ,
will restore, support, and strengthen us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.
Thanks be to God.

Response from *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

**Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all;
Hail Him who saves you by his grace, and crown Him Lord of all.**

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 First Scripture Lesson Ephesians 1:15-23

Anthem

Pi  Jesu

Webber

Angela Elmer, David Elmer

Blessed Jesus, who takes away the sins of the world,
give them eternal rest.

The Second Scripture Lesson Luke 24:44-53

The Sermon *The Missing Ingredient*

***Affirmation of Faith** *from Colossians I*

Let us affirm what we believe:

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers - all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.



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

God Bless America

Irving Berlin

While the storm clouds gather far across the sea,
Let us swear allegiance to a land that's free,
Let us all be grateful for a land so fair,
As we raise our voices in a solemn prayer.

God bless America,
Land that I love,
Stand beside her, and guide her
Through the night with a light from above.

From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam
God bless America, My home sweet home
God bless America, My home sweet home.

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 #377** *“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”*

Memorial Day Remembrance by Susan Helene Kramer

Let us meditate and remember
Many gave their lives for our freedom...

Each year we give this tribute
Out of thankfulness and love
For your loyalty and courage
Virtues that set you above.

We'll never forget you gave your all
That others can be free
You paid the ultimate earthly price
Immortal you will be.

We walk the byways, streets of towns,
Country lanes, through parks
At ease, at peace, possible because
Of missions upon which you embarked.

When there is no setting sun
And tides stretch out o'er all the land
No birds to fly, no songs to sing
Then we'll come and take your hand.

For now we won't forget
An emptiness your parting left
You gave your life in freedom's call
In God's eyes you're ever blessed.

Postlude

The Promise of Resurrection

arr. Powell

This postlude includes tunes to well-known hymns such as "The Day of Resurrection," "Jesus Shall Reign," "The Strife Is O'er," and concludes quietly with Taps.

***Blessing and Benediction**

Today's **Radio Broadcast** is given in honor of those who gave their lives
in service to our country.

Today's **Flowers** are given in loving memory of **John W. Bell** by Linya.