



First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

November 12, 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." Lucy Hiotis is the teacher today.

Gathering Music

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”
“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”
“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

Carl Bingle, FPC Organist

Paul Manz

James Stevens

Mary McDonald

Van Denman Thompson



Gathering



Pastor's Greeting and Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

Malan, arr. Lanier

*Call to Worship from *Psalms 104*

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, you are very great.

You are clothed with honour and majesty,

wrapped in light as with a garment.

You stretch out the heavens like a tent,

you set the beams of your chambers on the waters,

you make the clouds your chariot,

you ride on the wings of the wind,

you make the winds your messengers,

fire and flame your ministers.

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;

may the Lord rejoice in his works -

who looks on the earth and it trembles,

who touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

May my meditation be pleasing to him,

for I rejoice in the Lord.

Let sinners be consumed from the earth,

and let the wicked be no more.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Praise the Lord!

***Opening Hymn #2**

“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”

***Prayer of the Day**

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. Yet our hearts wander and our faithfulness wanes. In Christ, God has turned toward us in our times of need, so let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people. You have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to our lonely and confused world. Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving. Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins. Remove the obstacles preventing us from being your representatives to a broken world. Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit. This we pray in Jesus' powerful name.

a time of silence is kept

Amen.

While it is true that we have sinned,
it is a greater truth that we are forgiven
through God's love in Jesus Christ.
To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say,
in Jesus Christ your sin is forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

***Response Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

A Time With Young Disciples



We Listen For God



Prayer for Illumination

Anthem

The First Scripture Lesson

Leviticus 19:1-2, 33-37

The Second Scripture Lesson

Matthew 25:31-46

Clothing The Naked: The Spare Closet

*Hymn #664

“Take My Life, Lead Me, Lord”

*Affirmation of Faith *from The Westminster Confession of Faith*

Now that we have heard the good news of the gospel, what are we called to be and do?

Since there is no other way of salvation than that revealed in the gospel, and since in the divinely established and ordinary method of grace faith cometh by hearing the Word of God, Christ hath commissioned his Church to go into all the world and to make disciples of all nations. All believers are, therefore, under obligation to sustain the ordinance of the Christian religion where they are already established, and to contribute by their prayers, gifts, and personal efforts to the extension of the Kingdom of Christ throughout the whole earth.



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.

Song of Offering #186

“Lord, Be Glorified”

The Song of Offering recognizes God as the creator and giver of all that we have and all that we are. This song is a prayer for God to use us and our gifts for God’s glory.



Donations can be made by either scanning the QR code from the Venmo app or by searching for `_of_Watertown`.

Musical Offering

“A Prayer for Peace”

Jon Raybould

This piece was written in March of 2022 following the start of the War in Ukraine. As a subtext to the piece’s title, the composer quotes Leonare Bernstein who said, “This will be our reply to violence to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before.”

The Prayers of The People and The Lord’s Prayer

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

God of life, you created the world and called it good.

In Jesus Christ you came to redeem us;
his resurrection is our promise of eternal life.

By the power of your Spirit you claim us, strengthen us,
and prepare us to live with you in glory. In sure and certain hope,
we pray for your world, that we may live into your coming reign
of justice and peace.

For the church, wherever it thrives and wherever it struggles -
keep us faithful to your gospel. . . .

Eternal God, **hear our prayer.**

For those who govern - grant them wisdom and a commitment
to justice. . . .

Eternal God, **hear our prayer.**

For planet Earth - heal its wounds and make us better stewards of its
wonders and gifts. . . .

Eternal God, **hear our prayer.**

For those who are dying - calm all fears and welcome them into your peace. . . .

Eternal God, **hear our prayer.**

For those who suffer from anxieties and ills - give them relief. . . .

Eternal God, **hear our prayer.**

For those who endure the days and nights without food or shelter - feed and protect them. . . .

Eternal God, **hear our prayer.**

For those who suffer in silence - comfort those who carry secret sorrows, and continually seek your face...

Eternal God, **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 #112**

“Give to our God Immortal Praise”

***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

“Grande Sortie”

John Dixon

