

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

First Presbyterian Church, Watertown, NY

November 21, 2023 + 7:00 p.m.



Chiming The Hour of Worship

Welcome

Andrew Long, First Presbyterian

***Gathering Hymn #790**

“We Gather Together”

Carl Bingle, First Presbyterian

***Call to Worship** from *Psalm 106*

Linda Fredenburg, First Methodist

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.

**Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord,
or declare all his praise?**

Happy are those who observe justice,
who do righteousness at all times.

**Save us, O Lord our God,
and gather us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name
and glory in your praise.**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.

**And let all the people say, ‘Amen.’
Praise the Lord!**

***Opening Hymn #56**

“To God Be the Glory sts. 1 & 2

Carl Bingle, First Presbyterian

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

Robert Siver, Stone Presbyterian

The proof of God’s amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you,

**our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us
a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not
cast us from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your
bountiful Spirit...(silent prayer and confession)...Amen.**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, believe the good news of the Gospel: if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed; see, everything has become new! I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we have been forgiven!

Response #56

“To God Be the Glory” st. 3

Carl Bingle, First Presbyterian

Psalm and Prayer from Psalm 66

Joanne Nugent-Ward, Emmanuel Congregational

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise.

Say to God, ‘How awesome are your deeds!

Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.

All the earth worships you;

**they sing praises to you,
sing praises to your name.’**

Come and see what God has done:

he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

He turned the sea into dry land;

they passed through the river on foot.

There we rejoiced in him,

who rules by his might for ever,

whose eyes keep watch on the nations -

let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

Bless our God, O peoples,

let the sound of his praise be heard,

who has kept us among the living,

and has not let our feet slip.

For you, O God, have tested us;

you have tried us as silver is tried.

You brought us into the net;
you laid burdens on our backs;
you let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.
Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what he has done for me.
I cried aloud to him,
and he was extolled with my tongue.
If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.
But truly God has listened;
he has given heed to the words of my prayer.
Blessed be God,
because he has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me.

***Hymn #797**

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” sts. 1 & 2

Psalm and Prayer from Psalm 103

Andrew Long, First Presbyterian

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits -
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.**

He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

**For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.**

As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

**For he knows how we were made;
he remembers that we are dust.**

The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.

**Bless the Lord, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his bidding,
obedient to his spoken word.**

Bless the Lord, all his hosts,
his ministers that do his will.

**Bless the Lord, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

***Hymn #797**

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” sts. 3 & 4

Psalm and Prayer Psalm 150

Nancy Boynton, Trinity Episcopal

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty firmament!

Praise him for his mighty deeds;

praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Praise him with trumpet sound;

praise him with lute and harp!

Praise him with tambourine and dance;

praise him with strings and pipe!

Praise him with clanging cymbals;

praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Offering

Emmanuel Congregational Music Team

Doxology

Carl Bingle, First Presbyterian

The Prayers of The People and The Lord's Prayer

Almighty God,

in Jesus Christ you taught us to pray, and to offer our petitions to you in his name. Guide us by your Holy Spirit, that our prayers for others may serve your will and show your steadfast love; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

We pray for the world.

Silent prayer.

God our creator,

you made all things in your wisdom, and in your love you save us. We pray for the whole creation. Overthrow evil powers, right what is wrong, feed and satisfy those who thirst for justice, so that all your children may freely enjoy the earth you have made, and joyfully sing your praises; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for the church.

Silent prayer.

Gracious God,

you have called us to be the church of Jesus Christ. Keep us one in faith and service, breaking bread together, and proclaiming the good news to the world, that all may believe you are love, turn to your ways, and live in the light of your truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We pray for peace.

Silent prayer.

Eternal God,
you sent us a Savior, Christ Jesus,
to break down the walls of hostility that divide us.
Send peace on earth, and put down greed, pride, and anger,
which turn nation against nation and race against race.
Speed the day when wars will end
and the whole world accepts your rule;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for our enemies, and those who wish us harm.

Silent prayer.

O God, whom we cannot love unless we love our neighbors,
remove hate and prejudice from us and from all people,
so that your children may be reconciled with those we fear,
resent, or threaten; and live together in your peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for those who govern us.

Silent prayer.

Mighty God,
sovereign over the nations,
direct those who make, administer, and judge our laws;
the President of the United States, the governor of New York,
the mayor and city council of Watertown, and others in authority
among us: that, guided by your wisdom, they may lead us in
the way of righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for world leaders.

Silent prayer.

Eternal Ruler, hope of all the earth,
give vision to those who serve the United Nations,
and to those who govern all countries;
that, with goodwill and justice, they may take down barriers,
and draw together one new world in peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for the sick.

Silent prayer.

Merciful God,
you bear the pain of the world.
Look with compassion on those who are sick;
cheer them by your word, and bring healing as a sign of your grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for those who sorrow.

Silent prayer.

God of comfort,
stand with those who sorrow;
that they may be sure that neither death nor life,
nor things present nor things to come,
shall separate them from your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for friends and families, and those who have died.

Silent prayer.

God of compassion,
bless us and those we love, our friends and families.
Keep us also in fellowship with those who have
entered the joy of your eternal kingdom.
Accept our requests and further those which will bring about your
purpose for the earth; we pray all things in the name of Jesus Christ,
who taught us to pray...

**Our father in heaven, hallowed by your name, your kingdom
come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

***Hymn #788**

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Carl Bingle, First Presbyterian

Blessing and Postlude