



First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

November 6, 2022 + 10:00 a.m.



Abram's counsel to Sarai, James Tissot, 1896

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.

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)

NO Sunday School this week. Sunday school will meet next week for pre-school thru Grade 6 with Bunny Gorman teaching.

A Word About Today's Service

Today we begin a three-week series called “Blessed To Be A Blessing” based on the harrowing story of Abram and Sarai in the book of Genesis. Like many characters in the Bible, Abram and Sarai were simple folks from an unknown area of the world minding their business until God came into their picture. God calls Abram and Sarai to leave the familiar behind and journey with God into an unknown future. In faith, Abram and Sarai answer God’s call and their world completely changes. How is their story similar to our own? What can their faith teach us about our faith?

“Blessed To Be A Blessing” is also the theme of our 2023 Stewardship Campaign. As we learn more about Abram and Sarai, we are also asked to consider how we will support First Presbyterian Church in the year of ministry and mission ahead. Like Abram and Sarai, we are called to step out in the faith with our gifts of time, talent, and treasure – in what ways has God blessed each of us that we might be a blessing to others?

 Gathering 

Pastor's Greeting and Words of Welcome

Singing In

Prelude

“Adagio and Trio”

J. Perks

Agnes McCarthy, violin

*Call to Worship *from Psalm 36*

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

**Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgements are like the great deep;
you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.**

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

**For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.**

Let us worship God together!

*Opening Hymn #139

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Prayer of the Day

Confession of Sin *and Assurance of Pardon*

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weakness, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide,
and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name,**

what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

a time of silence is kept

The saying is sure
and worthy of full acceptance, that Jesus Christ
came into the world to save sinners.
He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross.
that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God

***Response**

Amen, We Praise Your Name 598

Amen siakudumisa

Leader All

Sing prais - est! A - men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - est!
Ma - si - thi! A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi!

A - men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - est! A - men, a - men.
A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi! A - men, ba - wo.

A - men, a - men. A - men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - est!
A - men, ba - wo. A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi!

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 Scripture Lesson Genesis 12:1-9

Anthem

“Give Me a Song”

Pepper Choplin

Give me a song and let me sing, and I'll not ask for anything:
No wealth or fame, no worldly praise, but let me raise my voice to You.

And if the world should stop to hear, Lord, let your melody, Come
sound strong and clear, That through my song, that through my voice,
they will rejoice in the music of You.

Hymns to sing of your mighty power, psalms to sing of your grace.
Come and give us the songs to sing of Your Spirit as You feel the weary
soul

So if I have one life to live, how shall I choose my life to give?

I'll lift my voice to fill my days with grateful praise.

Oh give me a song to praise, Oh my Lord, my God.

Testimony

The Sermon

“Blessed To Be a Blessing: The Promise”

Affirmation of Faith from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign
love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in
God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live
as one community.**

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

† **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.

The 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

“Träumerei”

R. Schumann

***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 Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Invitation To The Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving *and The Lord's Prayer*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Praise to you, O God, for all your works.

You created the world and called it good

and made us in your image to live together in love.

You made a covenant with us, and even when

we turned from you, you remained ever faithful.

Therefore with all creation we sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son.

He lived among us and told your story.

He healed the sick and welcomed sinners.

He shared our pain and died our death,

then rose to new life that we might live,

and all creation be restored.

Remembering your boundless love revealed

to us in Jesus Christ,

we break bread and share the cup,

giving ourselves to you to live for him in joy and praise.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ and that we may be his body for the world.

By your Spirit unite us with Christ and one another until we feast with him and with all your saints in your eternal realm of justice and peace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us to pray...

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.

**Words of Institution
Communion of The People
Prayer After Communion**

***Closing Hymn #788**

“Now Thank We All Our God”

***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.

Postlude

“Trumpet Tune”

Michael Helman

This morning's **Radio Broadcast** is in honor and remembrance of the members of our Armed Forces.

We Pray For...

John D., Jonathan, Alice, Dorothy, Pat, Bob, Sue, Barbara, Sherrie, Amy Jamie, William, Fred M., Josh L., Sister Diane, Shirley, Tyler, Rochelle & Mphatso, Grace, Sam & Ruth, Mary, Tom, Suzanne, Linda & Ken, Shane, Ed, Millie, Gerda, Annie, FPC, Watertown, NNY Presbytery, Synod of The Northeast, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the people of Ukraine, the sick, all essential workers, students & teachers, medical professionals, all serving in the military, for peace & justice, all people in positions of leadership & power.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

November 6 Chad Green
November 8 Ken Reed
November 12 Bob Pyke

Leading in Worship Today:

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Philip Long, preaching
Bill Barden, Liturgist
Carl Bingle, Organist
Sara Gleason, Director of Music
Chancel Choir

PLEDGE
Sunday

**2023 Pledge cards will be collected and dedicated
on November 23 during worship.**

Please bring your pledge card to worship that day, or you may indicate on another piece of paper or envelope that you have already submitted your pledge.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRES.

TODAY - Puppet Ministry, Rehearsal, After Worship

TODAY - Outreach Committee Meeting, 11:30 a.m., Room 6

TODAY - "Going Deeper" Study, Session 2, Large Group, 12 noon

TODAY - Northern Choral Society Rehearsals, 1:00-4:30 p.m.,
Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Room 6

Monday, November 7 - Covered Dish Supper, 5:00 p.m., FH
MELT travel team 2022 will share pictures and stories from their trip

Tuesday, Nov. 8 - ELECTION DAY

- Church Offices open at 12 noon
- Staff Meeting, 12 noon, Room 6
- Healing Service, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Wednesday, Nov. 9 - MELT Take out Dinner, 4:00-6:00 p.m., FH
Complete Scalloped Chicken Dinner for \$12

Thursday, Nov. 10 - Worship & Music Committee Meeting, 5:00, FH
- Handbell Rehearsals, 6:30 p.m.
- Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 13

- Puppet Ministry Rehearsal, after worship
- "Going Deeper Study, Session 2 Large Group, 12 noon

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Northern Choral Society Concerts:

*Saturday, Dec. 3rd, 3:00 p.m. and
Sunday, Dec. 4th, 3:00 p.m. at
Asbury UMC, 200 Parker St.*

YOU *will be*
enriched in every
way *TO be*

GENEROUS
in every way,

which ... will produce

»»» **Thanksgiving** «««

TO **God.**

2 Corinthians 9:11, ESV
