



First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

October 23, 2022 + 10:00 a.m.



Parchat Vayishlach (Jacob returns home), Darius Gilmont, c. 2000

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)

Sunday School for pre-school through grade 6, meets after “A Time With Young Disciples,” teaching today will be Lucy Hiotis.

A Word About Today’s Service

Darius Gilmont’s depiction of the meeting between Jacob and Esau is rich in imagery as we consider more of their story in worship today.

Jacob and Esau were twins, but they could not have been any more different. From the moment of birth, their destinies were set. Esau’s wild hair reminds us that his name in Hebrew means ‘hairy’ and, though much smaller, Jacob does go on to fulfill the meaning of his Hebrew name: ‘supplanter.’ In the picture we can see the warriors of Esau’s camp looking down on the families of Jacob’s clan, ready at any moment to go to war. But as the two brothers embrace in mercy, a rainbow appears in the sky as a reminder of God’s everlasting covenant of love and peace.

 **Gathering** 

Pastor's Greeting *and* Words of Welcome

Singing In

Prelude

“Count Your Blessings”
Michele Bariteau, flute

arr. Wayne Fritchie

***Call to Worship** *Psalm 84*

How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts!
My soul longs, indeed it faints
for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy
to the living God.

**Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.
Happy are those who live in your house,
ever singing your praise.**

For a day in your courts is better
than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than live in the tents of wickedness.

**For the Lord God is a sun and shield;
he bestows favour and honour.**

**No good thing does the Lord withhold
from those who walk uprightly.**

**O Lord of hosts,
happy is everyone who trusts in you.**

Let us worship God together!

*Opening Hymn #1

“Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven”

*Prayer of The Day

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

We have all fallen short of the glory of God, and it hurts. We do the things we don't want to do and don't do the things we want to do. Longing for rescue from the weight of our failures, let us confess our sin to God who hears our pleas and waits in mercy to forgive.

Merciful God, hope of your people in every age, we confess that we have sinned against you. We have wandered from your pathways, turned toward idols, lived without compassion, and disregarded the well-being of your creation.

Do not turn away from us, O Lord, but renew your covenant, for only in you will our lives be healed. Guide us and lead us in your ways, for happy are those who live in your house. Amen.

a time of silence is kept

In the name of the One who yearns
to crown all people with righteousness
and whose mercy exalts the humble,
your sins are forgiven.
May you be strengthened to live
in the freedom of God's holy and eternal generosity.
Amen. Thanks be to God!

Anthem

“Lord, Make Me an Instrument”
Handbells and Organ

arr. Kevin McChesney

*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

“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



Scripture Introduction and Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lesson, Part 1 - Genesis 33:1-11

The Scripture Lesson, Part 2 - Genesis 33:12-17

The Sermon

“Expect the Unexpected”

Affirmation of Faith - *Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

Offertory

“For One More Day of Living”

arr. John Purifoy

With Your safekeeping through the night, we create another day,
our hands committed to Your work, our voices to Your praise.
Grant us resolve to live this day by faith and not by sight,
That we may be without regrets when we shall greet the night.

We thank You for another day, Your blessings ever new.
For one more day of living, Lord, we sing our praise to you!

And when this day has reached its end, may we lie down in peace
In Your safekeeping through the night and sheltered by your wings.
Our bodies and our minds restore that we may rise anew
To live and love with gratitude and service unto You.

*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
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 #355**

“There's a Wideness in God's Mercy”

***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

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

arr. Albert Travis

Good morning from the **Radio Ministry** of First Presbyterian
Church.