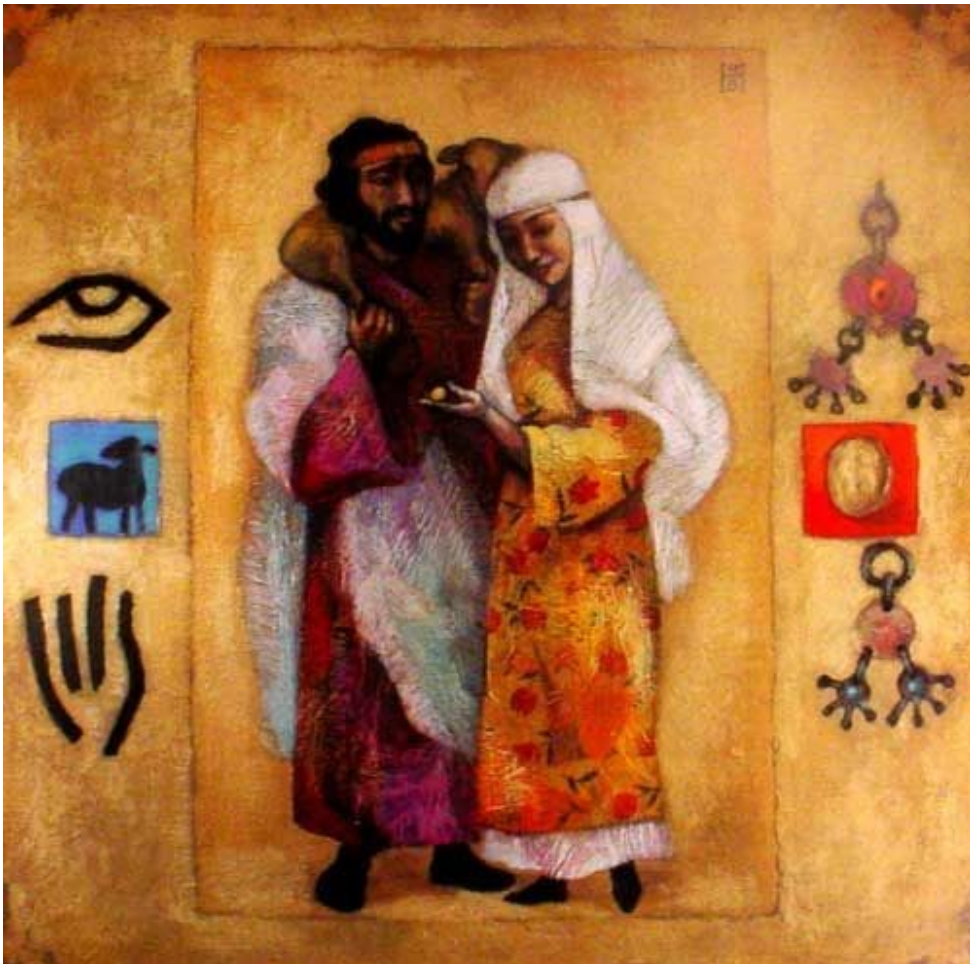




First Presbyterian Church

Watertown, NY + www.watertownfirstpres.org

September 11, 2022 + 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 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 will resume today. Teaching will be Lucy Hiotis.

A Word About Today's Service

Nelly Bube's depiction of today's gospel lesson exudes the serene joy of finding those things which have been lost. Together with traditional Kazah imagery, we see two people who had lost so much share in the joy of having their hopes and dreams restored. So it is with the grace and mercy of God – there is great joy in heaven among the angels when the lost are restored to life.

But is anything ever truly lost? Or are things misplaced for a short time before they are found? Do we really know the joy that God feels when we turn to God and choose to follow God's will? How do we embody the joy of lost things being found in our everyday lives as Jesus' disciples? These questions and more shape our worship today.

Gathering

Pastor's Greeting *and* Words of Welcome

Singing In

Prelude

Fanfare and Pastorale on "Ye Servants of God" Michael Burkhardt

*Call to Worship *(adapted from Psalm 15)*

O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

Who may dwell on your holy hill?

**Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;**

who do not slander with their tongue,
and do no evil to their friends,

**nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;
in whose eyes the wicked are despised,**

but who honor those who fear the Lord;

who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

who do not lend money at interest,

and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Let us worship God together!

*Opening Hymn #38

"Ye Servants of God"

*Prayer of The Day

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

The grace of our Lord overflows for us through the faith and love that have been given to us in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin, saying,

Create in us a clean heart, O God;
put a new and right spirit within us.

O Lord, forgive your foolish people.
We are skilled in doing evil,
but we do not know how to do good.
Create in us a clean heart, O God;
put a new and right spirit within us.

In the folly of our hearts
we live as though there is no God.
Create in us a clean heart, O God;
put a new and right spirit within us.

We forget all you have done for us,
and make false idols to be our gods.
Create in us a clean heart, O God;
put a new and right spirit within us.

We act faithlessly, violently,
and scorn your name.
Create in us a clean heart, O God;
put a new and right spirit within us.

a time of silence is kept

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,
That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
Hear the good news!
In Jesus Christ we are 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

“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 First Scripture Lesson - Exodus 32:7-14

The Second Scripture Lesson - Luke 15:1-10

Anthem

“Pié Jesu”

Gabriel Fauré

Blessed Jesus, give them rest, eternal rest.

The Sermon

“Is Anything Ever Truly Lost?”

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 Hymn #710

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

*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.

Commemorating the Events of September 11, 2001

Words of Comfort from Holy Scripture

Communal Prayers

Leader: God of the years, we call to you this day when the memories of 9/11 weigh so heavily upon our hearts. We recall with horror and renewed shock that day when airplanes flew into buildings and people perished. We remember our fear and anger, our confusion, and sense of threat.

All: **We remember all that was lost to us that day: our sense of security, our peace, our innocence, our belief that we were safely beyond such random violence and death. Most of all we remember those who died in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania, their lives of promise extinguished in hatred.**

Leader: God of mercy, even in our worst moments your loving kindness surrounds us. In those tragic days over two decades ago, our confident faith that you were with us enabled us to go on. We give you thanks for the ways in which you comforted us in those grim days through a deepened sense of community. We trace the movement of your grace through those among us who risked their lives to save others. We are comforted by those who offered kindness and succor and shelter to persons in distress, and by those who would not let hatred overcome love. For those whose witness to a deeper wisdom and faith comforted us, we give you thanks.

All: For public officials, neighbors, friends and strangers who brought to our troubled lives solace and clarity of purpose, we give thanks. For the calm and reassuring voices of the wise who gave us comfort and strength, we give thanks.

Leader: O God, you have taught us that faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. We live by hope in the future you hold for us and the whole world. Grant us, we pray, hope for our children and our children's children that they may not know or inflict the horror and terror we recall this day. Bolster our hope when it falters and teach us to strive in all that we do to realize the hope that is in your Word and witness.

All: Eternal God, in you our hope is boundless. You renew hope in us through the promise of a future in which none shall be afraid or lift up sword against a neighbor. We pray in hope for the peace of the world among peoples and nations, religions and cultures, until we become a beloved community reconciled to one another under your sovereignty. Amen.

Special Music

“Kyrie Eleison”

Audrey Snyder

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

A Time of Silent Reflection

The Lord's Prayer

And now as Christ has taught us, we are bold 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.**

***Closing Hymn #361**

“Worship Christ, the Risen King”

***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

Toccata on “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”

Michael Burkhardt

Leading in Worship Today:

The Rev. Dr. Andrew Philip Long, preaching

Marcia Kettrick, Liturgist

Carl Bingle, Organist

Sara Gleason, Director of Music

Chancel Choir

We Pray For...

Sue, Julie & Mike, 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, First Presbyterian, 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, peace & justice, all people in positions of power & leadership.

This morning's **Radio Broadcast** is a gift to the glory of God from the congregation of First Presbyterian Church.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

September 11	Caleb Way
September 13	Cynthia Ahlheim
September 13	Elizabeth Rudd
September 16	Sean Gorman

Family Fun Outing: TODAY after church, gather with the Gleasons in the FPC parking lot. We will be taking a trip to Burrville Cider Mill for some fun with our kids.

Home Communion Training

Being able to share the sacrament of Holy Communion in the homes of those who are unable to attend worship is an important way we live out our calling as Jesus' disciples. Join Pastor Andrew and the Deacons on September 24 from 11am-1pm for home communion training! We'll talk about the theological and biblical foundations of home communion, we'll practice serving communion to one another, and we'll enjoy a light meal together. All are welcome--you do not have to be ordained or a member of the church to attend!

September 24
11am-1pm
Fellowship Hall

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRES.

Sunday, Sept. 11 - “Going Deeper” Study - Session 1, large-group discussion, 12 noon, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, Sept. 13 - Staff Meeting, 12 noon, Room 6

Wednesday, Sept. 14 - Facilities Committee Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Room 1

Thursday, Sept. 15 - Session Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 15 - Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.

Next Sunday, Sept. 18 - “Going Deeper” Study - Session 1, large-group discussion, 12 noon, FH

The *SPARE CLOSET* is in need of:

Men’s Shoes

Hygiene Products

Small and Medium Men’s Clothing, including jeans

Blankets

NEW underwear (all sizes)

Diapers (all sizes)

Children’s Clothing - 3T and up (girls and boys)

AND

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

They are open and giving away & accepting donations:

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

AND

The 1st Saturday of every month, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
in the basement of First Presbyterian Church



I TELL YOU,

there is rejoicing
in the presence
of the angels
of God over one
sinner who repents.

Luke 15:10