

First Presbyterian Church

September 20, 2015

10:30 a.m.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Be reverent. This is the house of the Lord. Before the service, speak to God. During the service, let God speak to you. After the service, speak to one another.

"I will strive to enter that intimate space of Christ's radical love with you."

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude "Holy Is the Lord" Franz Schubert, arr. Fred Bock

Welcome and Church Life Notes

***Passing of the Peace** – please share the peace & love of Christ with your neighbor

Introit

***Call to Worship** (read responsively)

Leader: Friends! Let us draw close to God and live, laugh and love!

People: Living to the fullest in the life we have been granted. Laughing with joy at the blessings we have been given. Loving this day, this place, these people around us.

Leader: In the name of our living, laughing, loving God;

People: Let us worship this day!

***Hymn** "To Abraham and Sarah" #51

Prayer of Confession (read responsively)

Leader: While we try to live in God's way, we know how often we follow the wrong advice, or walk down sin's shadowed streets. Yet, God watches over us and calls us to confess, so we might be welcomed into the embracing arms of mercy and healing. Let us pray as we confess together;

People: We know how much we are like those first disciples of Jesus, O God on high. Our cravings for more and more toss us about like leaves in the fall winds. We boast of our great wisdom, yet do not understand your ways of peace and gentleness. We do not plant ourselves in your hope and grace, and so reap harvests of disorder and conflict. Draw near to us, Gracious God, and forgive us. Draw us into your tender arms, and teach us peace, gentleness, the

willingness to put the other first, the wisdom to serve instead of seize, so we might bring forth a harvest of righteousness, justice, and peace in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon (read responsively)

Leader: This is the wisdom from above: God plants in us the forgiveness and healing we need, so we might share the good harvest of joy and mercy with everyone we meet.

People: Bathed in the living waters, fed by the bread of life, we are given new life and hope. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

***Choral Response** "The Gloria"

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost!

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be!

World without end! Amen! Amen!

Anthem "Send Forth Thy Light Upon Us" Philip G. Klein
Chancel Choir

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Time with Children Rev. Sarah Hooker

(Children may leave for the Child Care Room following Children's Time.)

Prayer for Illumination (read in unison)

Lord, by the power of your Holy Spirit open our understanding that we may receive the Word of life. Amen.

First Reading (page 46 NT in the pew Bible) Mark 10:27-31

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn** "Help Us Accept Each Other" #754

Second Reading (pages 14, 16-17 OT in the pew Bible) Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Not Afraid to Laugh" Rev. Sarah Hooker

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** – – The Apostles' Creed – (Traditional version) (read in unison)

(Ushers gather in the narthex at this time.)

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; on 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.

Presentation of Gifts, Offerings

Call to the Offering

Offertory

"Sun of My Soul"

arr. Garrett Parker

***Choral Response**

"The Doxology"

606

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

... "forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors"

***Parting Hymn**

"May the God of Hope Go with Us"

#765

(sung twice through)

***Benediction**

Postlude

"Let Your Light So Shine"

Tom Birchwood

** You are invited to stand.*

Thought for today:

"Like a welcome summer rain, humor may suddenly cleanse and cool the earth, the air and you."

—Langston Hughes

The First Presbyterian Church

Delhi, New York



First Presbyterian Church actively exists as the living body of Christ, committed to growing in faithfulness to God, serving the whole human family and welcoming all people into God's love.
(Our Mission Statement)

First Presbyterian Church

Delhi, New York

Church Life: Week of September 20, 2015

SUNDAY September 20	9:30 am Sunday School - Building Faith Brick by Brick (CE Wing) 10:00 am Chapel Choir Gathers (Chapel) 10:30 am Worship (FPC Sanctuary) 11:30 am Coffee Hour (FH) 12:00 pm Chapel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 12:15 pm Meet at the church for War Room Fellowship Event 3:00 pm Community Orchestra Rehearsal (chapel)
MONDAY September 21	9:00 am Senior Fitness (FH) 11:00 am Delaware Opportunities Senior Meals (CR) 6:00 pm Yoga (Chapel)
TUESDAY September 22	11:00 am Delaware Opportunities Senior Meals (CR) 5:00 pm Weight Watchers (FH)
WEDNESDAY September 23	7:30 am SPARKS at Crossroads Café 9:00 am Senior Fitness (FH) 11:00 am Delaware Opportunities Senior Meals (CR) 12:00 pm Delhi Clergy Association (Library) 5:00 pm A Peeling Sound Bell Rehearsal (Chapel & Sanctuary)
THURSDAY September 24	4:30 pm Delaware Opportunities Senior Meals (CR)
FRIDAY September 25	10:00 am "Gentle" Yoga (Chapel) 11:00 am Delaware Opportunities Senior Meals (CR)
SATURDAY September 26	
SUNDAY September 27	9:30 am Sunday School - Building Faith Brick by Brick (CE Wing) 10:00 am Chapel Choir Gathers (Chapel) 10:30 am Worship (FPC Sanctuary) 11:00 am Out of the Darkness Walk (SUNY Delhi) 11:30 am Coffee Hour (FH) 12:00 pm Chapel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 1:00 pm Girl Scout Troop #365 Meeting (CR) 3:00 pm Community Orchestra Rehearsal (chapel) 4:00 pm Boy Scout Meeting (FH)

RR – Red Room; CR – Conference Room; FH – Fellowship Hall; BR – Blue Room

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"I will strive to enter that intimate space of Christ's radical love with you."

"We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord!" That old camp song reminds us we're all one family in Christ. May God bless us as we gather for worship.

Brothers and sisters in Jesus, welcome to this time set aside to focus on the Holy Spirit working among us. May our hearts be open and eager to receive God's Word!

We invite everyone to take a moment during the offertory to sign the **Church Attendance Register** found in each pew. A special welcome is extended to all who are visiting with us this morning. We hope that your worship experience will be meaningful and enjoyable. If you are interested in learning more about First Presbyterian Church or becoming a member of this congregation, please speak with Pastor Sarah, the Church Office or any Elder.

The **FLOWERS** this morning are given in memory Tom Gilsinan, our friend and neighbor from Gene, Tom and Susie.

Please join us TODAY - Sunday, September 20 after church for a movie and frozen yogurt! The movie War Room: The Power of Prayer, is showing in Oneonta with a 1:10 show time. We will meet here at the church at 12:15 and carpool over and then go to Sweet Frog for some frozen yogurt and to discuss the movie. It is a matinee and costs \$6.50 plus however much you want to spend on yogurt! Hope to see you there!

The **CHILD CARE ROOM** will be available to parents today during the worship service. Volunteers are needed. There is a list of who will be providing care each week posted on the Nursery door. Child care is usually provided from after the children's sermon until the end of worship most Sundays.

Children's worship bags now available. Puzzles, small toys, coloring and drawing materials are located in the hospitality room on the shelves. Children are welcome to select a bag with items of their choosing to use during worship. Children's Bulletins are also available. You may return the materials to the shelves at the conclusion of the service or simply leave the bag in the pew.

The **TRUSTEES** responsible for counting today are Vicki Noble and Ed Goff. The Trustees responsible for counting on September 27 are Art Maxwell and Jackie Clark.

Welcome back, Chancel Choir! Regular rehearsals will begin TODAY next Sunday, September 20th at 12:00 pm. The Chancel Choir is always happy to welcome new members. If you would like to join the choir, please feel free to come to choir practice each Sunday at 12:00 pm. following coffee hour fellowship.

The **Per Capita amount for 2015** has been set at **\$31.81 per member.**

Attendance week of 9-13-15	58
The amount needed each week	\$2,983.00
The amount given week of 9-13-15	\$1,753.55
The amount needed year-to-date	\$110,371.00
The amount given YTD as of 9-13-15	\$71,413.42
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 9-13-15	\$1,091.05
Mission giving week of 9-13-15	\$50.00
Mission giving YTD as of 9-13-15	\$4,365.40
Apportionment Needed 2015	\$6,775.53
Apportionment received YTD as of 9-13-15	\$2,113.62

Thoughts on Giving: *“If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” (Mark 9:35)*

Jesus teaches us that we are called to serve one another. Sacrifice is not a word that many people like to hear. We think it means that we must give up something that we want. However, the literal meaning of sacrifice is “to make holy,” from the words “sacer” = sacred and “facere” = to make. In other words, we make our lives holy by sharing our gifts in the service of God.

Stewardship Prayer: That through our service and our sacrifice we may grow closer to Jesus and help others to know the love and care of Our Lord.

The children's **Sunday School at First Presbyterian** is now an all ages class where students will use their imagination through LEGO© creations to experience their faith and the biblical story. Join us next week and see God at work, brick by brick. Sunday School starts at 9:30 am each Sunday during the school year.

Want to change the world? Be a part of helping our children to learn about God and helping them to develop a relationship with Jesus that will help them throughout their lives. For a small commitment of time (2 weeks) you can be a part of changing their lives forever. Contact: the Christian Ed Committee for more information.

Mission Emphasis for September & October – Peace & Global Witness Offering

Public Wi-Fi is now available throughout the church. The password is **firstpres**. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

The **Upper Room Devotionals** for September and October are now available on the information racks in the Memorial Hospitality Room, on the table in the narthex and outside the church office. If you wish to contribute to defray the cost, there is a wooden box in the narthex.

Join us in the Red Room **Thursday evenings, October 1st and October 15th for SEWING FELLOWSHIP.** All are welcome. Please call the church office with any questions.

Please join us this year for the local "Out of the Darkness Walk" on September 27. As a church team we will be going up to the walk immediately following worship as a community witness to the struggle of mental illness and suicide among our friends, family and ourselves. **If you are not able to join our team in walking, please consider a generous donation to this worthy organization.**

To join as a walker and donor go to <http://afsp.donordrive.com/team/FirstPres!> Also, look for more information in our upcoming church newsletter.

The Trustees are sponsoring an Otis Spunkmeyer® cookie dough (frozen) sale as a fundraiser designated for the Fuel Fund.

ORDER NOW - SALE ENDS OCTOBER 21st

Orders are being taken now so see a Trustee or Session member today or stop by the office to place your order. Help heat our Sanctuary this winter and enjoy some cookies at the same time!



Selling period ending on October 21, 2015

Cost is \$16 per box (3 dozen+/-) of mouth-watering cookies. Choose from many cookie flavors in addition to brownies, Apple Coffee Cake and Auntie Anne’s heat-and-serve Pretzels. The Trustees & other FPC Church Helpers will be taking orders, or you can place your order with the Church Office at 607-746-2155. Orders will be delivered in November before Thanksgiving.

For more information, contact:

Jackie Clark, any FPC Board Member or the Church Office



Delhi Area CROP WALK – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18th

Registration – 1:30 pm with Walk at 2:00 pm.

We need both walkers and supporters.

Contact the church office or sign up at coffee hour.