



The First Presbyterian Church Delhi, New York

September 18, 2022

10:30 a.m.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

"But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found." Luke 15:32

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

"We Have Come into His House"

***Call to Worship**

We are ambassadors for Christ.

God has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation.

We gather as God's beloved family to worship God and offer praise.

Let us join our hearts in song and prayer.

***Hymn**

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

#475

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Holy God, we confess that we keep silent when we should speak. We see inequity and the injustices of the world, yet are content not to call them out. We withhold kind words, yet are quick to speak in judgement. Forgive us, O God. Direct the way we should go and help us to use our voices to spread your grace and truth. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Choral Response**

"Gloria Patri"

#581

*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.*

***Sharing the Peace**

One: The peace be of Christ with you.

All: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Anthem

"Amazing Grace (Chains Are Gone)"

Chris Tomlin

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us. Amen.

New Testament Reading – 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he told them this parable:

'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

'Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."

Leader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn**

"Amazing Grace"

#649

***Affirmation of Faith – Apostles Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty. Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he arose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, 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

The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it.

Freely we have received - freely give. Let us return to God the offerings of our lives and the gifts of the earth.

Offerings may be made online at <https://fpcdelhi.org/content/offering> or by USPS mail service.

Offertory

***Choral Response** *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

#606

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

You have given us so much more than we deserve or need. Take the gifts of the earth and our lives to do your will. Amen.

Prayer Hymn

"Sanctuary"

#701

*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.*

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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

***Hymn**

"There is Now a New Creation"

#774

***Benediction**

Postlude

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Thought for the Day: *"God is a busy worker, but he loves help."* — Basque proverb

Leading us in worship this morning:
Elder Joe Weaver, Worship Leader
Billy Meredith, Music Director
Trustee Art Maxwell, Liturgist



First Presbyterian Church

of Delhi, New York

September 18, 2022

The psalmist tells us: "From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised" (Psalm 113:3). So we gather to worship him now. Welcome!

(Prayer) In the northern hemisphere, summer is turning to fall. Creator of all good things, we thank you for your steadfastness when things around us change.

Your **tithes and offerings** may be made online via PayPal, click the donate button at <https://fpcdelhi.org/content/offering>, or by regular USPS mail (4 Clinton Street, Delhi, NY 13753).

For the time that we are without a full-time pastor, members of Session will be taking turns in serving as a go-to person if a pastoral need arises. For the month of September our contact person will be Tammi Tully. She can be reached at (607) 746-2631 or tammitully@fpcdelhi.org.

The first fall **Sunday School** class will take place on September 25th at 9:45 for registration and a meet & greet, with discussion of the 2022/2023 Sunday School schedule as well as music and activities!

Calling all bakers!! The Mission Committee of First Pres will be holding a bake sale at the Delhi Harvest Fest on October 1 on the Courthouse Square. Not only are we looking for bakers but we need your help setting up, selling and cleaning up. If you are available to help out in one of the time slots, please call Susie Little.

Join your neighbors for a **village-wide, dish-to-pass dinner** on Sunday, September 11! As always, the goal is simply to gather as many of us together as possible to share a meal at one table. Period. No program, no agenda, no fundraising. Just a meal. The event will be free and open to anyone who wants to come - everyone is just encouraged to bring food to share. One long table will be set up on Courthouse Square and decorated with tablecloths, flowers, and candles. Attendees bring their own table settings. The Stoddard Hollow String Band has graciously agreed join us again and serenade us from the Bandstand. The dinner will run from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m., but feel free to come a bit early to help set-up. All are welcome, whether you bring a dish or not!

The Sept-Oct Courier and **Devotional booklets** (Upper Room and Daily Bread) are available outside the office and in the new narthex. Please take one for your daily devotions!

The last Sunday of every month is a BOUNTIFUL GIVING SUNDAY. The Delhi Food Pantry is accepting **non-perishable food items**. You can also donate via <https://fpcdelhi.org/content/offering> or give cash or check donations designated for the food bank. Please make checks out to First Presbyterian Church. Checks may also be mailed via regular mail to the church at 4 Clinton Street, Delhi NY 13753.

THOUGHTS ON GIVING: *"No servant can serve two masters. He will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (wealth)." Luke 16:13* Jesus knows that for many of us, God and money run "neck and neck" as top priority. Is money a "god" that you put before God? Giving money to support the Church and other charity is a pillar of our faith, just like attending church every Sunday and participating in ministry. Giving money frees us from becoming a slave to money. It increases our dependence on God and our trust that God will provide all that we need.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we recognize everything we have is a gift from God, including our money, and to generously share our wealth to support the mission of our Church, locally and around the world.

The **Per Capita** amount for 2022 has been set at \$42.00 per member.

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 9-11-2022</i>	40 - 31 in sanctuary + Approx. 9 virtual
The amount needed each week	\$2,147.35*
The amount given week of 9-11-2022	\$3,767.00
The amount needed year-to-date	\$79,451.95
The amount given YTD as of 9-11-2022	\$64,363.23
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 9-11-2022	\$5,313.60
Kirk Receipts 9-4-22 to 9-10-22	\$1,300.48
Mission giving week of 9-11-2022	\$10.00
Mission giving YTD as of 9-11-2022	\$1,663.00
Apportionment Needed 2022	\$7,182.00
Apportionment received YTD as of 9-11-2022	\$2,132.58

*The amount needed each week is total expenses minus budgeted savings transfers.

SUNDAY September 18	<i>Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost</i> 9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship
MONDAY September 19	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day 6:30 pm MWS Meeting
TUESDAY September 20	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations
WEDNESDAY September 21	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Gentle Yoga (Chapel) 5:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Trustees Meeting
THURSDAY September 22	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY September 23	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open
SATURDAY September 24	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open
SUNDAY September 25	<i>Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost</i> 9:45 am Sunday School Meet & Greet 9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship