



The First Presbyterian Church Delhi, New York

September 24, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

"The Lord will keep you from all harm, he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forever." Psalm 121:8-9

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

"God is So Good"

*Call to Worship

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

People: Give thanks to the God of Gods; his love endures forever.

Unison: Give thanks to the Lord of Lords; his love endures forever.

Leader: The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*Hymn

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"

#263

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in word and in deed; we have not loved you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The good news in Christ is when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow and courage to continue the journey. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

*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 of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Anthem

"Great is the Lord"

by Smith and Smith

Prayer for Illumination

Eternal God, your Spirit inspired those who wrote those powerful words in the Bible and enlightens us to hear your word fresh each day. Help us to rely on your word each and every day. Help us to rely on your promises always through scripture. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Epistle Reading – Ephesians 5:8-14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, ‘Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.’

Gospel Reading – John 9:31-41

We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.’ They answered him, ‘You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?’ And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, ‘Do you believe in the Son of Man?’ He answered, ‘And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.’ Jesus said to him, ‘You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.’ He said, ‘Lord, I believe.’ And he worshipped him. Jesus said, ‘I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.’ Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, ‘Surely we are not blind, are we?’ Jesus said to them, ‘If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, “We see”, your sin remains.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message Reading – John 9:27

He answered them, ‘I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?’

Leader: God’s Word for Today.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“The Journey of Faith, If We Only Believe”

Pulpit Guest Ron Galley

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn

“Be Now My Vision”

#450

*Affirmation of Faith – The First Catechism

Leader: What is the source of our belief in God?

All: Hearing, through the word of Christ.

Leader: How does God reveal himself?

All: Through divine revelation.

Presentation of Gifts & Offerings

Call to the Offering

Leader: Therefore God has highly exalted himself and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

There is no treasure on Earth like the treasure that awaits us in heaven. Isn’t that ultimately the most important treasure? Shouldn’t that be where our heart lies?

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

Thank you, Lord, that you have always heard the thousands and thousands of prayers for our salvation, for healing, guidance, wisdom, courage and faith. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

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

*Closing Hymn

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

#366

*Charge to the Congregation

I invite you to now go out into the world in the name of Christ seeking to engage in ministry, to live Jesus' call to be disciples and to be in service to the world, bearing witness to God's love.

*Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you, the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Postlude

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Thought for the Day: *"Nothing teaches us about the preciousness of the Creator as much as when we learn the emptiness of everything else"* —Charles Spurgeon

Leading us in worship this morning:
Pulpit Guest Ron Galley, Worship Leader
Pastor Jamie Tyrrell, Interim
Billy Meredith, Music Director
Resting Elder Linda Malcolm, Liturgist

When the office is closed and your need is urgent, I can be contacted at 585-705-0026.

My email is: jtyrrell43@gmail.com

My Facebook page address is James.Tyrrell.12

My YouTube channel is Jamie Tyrrell @jtyrrell43. Go to the search bar and enter that in.



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of Delhi, New York
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Family of Christ, grace and peace be with you as we gather to worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Prayer) Jesus, like a mother hen you gather us — your squawking, demanding, frenetic brood — in safety beneath your wings (Luke 13:34). Quiet us, warm us, feed us, O Lord. Amen.

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

The **rosebud** on the Communion Table this morning is given by the Deacons in honor of the birth of **William Thomas-Mills** - born on September 6, 2023 to Jamie Mills & Whitney Thomas and welcomed by proud grandparents Barb & Tom Leo and great grandparents Don & Jane Hymers.

This weekend the Kirk raised **funds for relief in Maui** through the Presbyterian Disaster Relief Fund. If you would like to give toward this mission today, please use the Mission envelopes found in the pews.

Pastor Jamie will be teaching **Toolbox for Living** again by Zoom. Sessions will be recorded at noon on Tuesdays. Anyone wanting a link to the sessions just needs to contact Pastor Jamie or the church office. We will send links to the recordings once they are processed by Zoom.

Today we will have a **Sunday School Kick-off community picnic event** on the front lawn from noon until 2pm. Please join us!

The fourth annual **Delhi Dish-to-Pass community dinner** will be held on Sunday, September 24th at 4pm on the Courthouse Square, rain or shine. Everyone is invited to bring a dish to share along with their own plates, cups, and utensils. Music will be provided by the Stoddard Hollow String Band. This is a great time of fellowship. We look forward to seeing you there!

There will be a webinar called **“How Facebook Can Help Your Church Grow”** on Sat, September 30, hosted by Ruling Elder John Fong – a Hybrid Church Growth Communications Consultant. There will be a Zoom watch party at United Ministry from 10:00am to 11:30am, or you can ask Darcy or Pastor Jamie for the Zoom link.

The **TRUSTEES** responsible for counting today are Cullen LaFever and Harry Bell. The Trustees responsible for counting on October 1 are Ed Goff and Joe Cantwell.

Today 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.

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

THOUGHTS ON GIVING “Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.” - Matthew 20:16. You’ve heard the saying “it’s not where you start, but how you finish.” This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live “God-centered” lives and not “self-centered” lives.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we realize we are not only responsible for our lives, but for the lives of others.

The **Per Capita** amount for 2023 has been set at \$43.95 per member.

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 9-17-2023</i>	38 - 34 in sanctuary + approx. 4 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,653.00*
General amount given week of 9-17-2023	\$1,257.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$62,814.00
General amount given YTD as of 9-17-2023	\$62,854.50
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$423.62
Fuel Fund given week of 9-17-2023	\$60.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$16,097.56
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 9-17-2023	\$2,005.00
Kirk Receipts 9-10-23 to 9-16-23	\$1,985.58
Mission giving week of 9-17-2023	\$10.00
Mission giving YTD as of 9-17-2023	\$1,785.50
Apportionment Needed 2023	\$7,163.85
Apportionment received YTD as of 9-17-2023	\$1,696.40

*General amount needed each week is total expenses minus budgeted savings transfers and fuel expenses.

SUNDAY September 24	<i>Bountiful Giving Sunday</i> 9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Sunday School Kick-Off Picnic (Front Lawn) 4:00 pm Delhi Dish-to-Pass Community Dinner
MONDAY September 25	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
TUESDAY September 26	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 3:00 pm Girl Scouts
WEDNESDAY September 27	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Gentle Yoga (Chapel) 4:00 pm Kirk Meeting 5:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
THURSDAY September 28	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY September 29	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:30 am Adult Ballet Class (Chapel)
SATURDAY September 30	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:15 am – 1:00 pm Yoga (Chapel)
SUNDAY October 1	9:30 am Deacons Meeting 9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship with Communion