



**The First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York**

December 1, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion & First Sunday of Advent

"Light shines in the darkness..." John 1:5

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

"Love Has Come"

***Call to Worship – Lighting the Advent Candle**

Leader: In this season of waiting, of longing, of looking for you to come into our world. We are seeking light...In our own lives

People: we are seeking light.

Leader: In our neighborhoods

People: we are seeking light.

Leader: In our families

People: we are seeking light.

Leader: In our work

People: we are seeking light.

Leader: In Grace

People: we are seeking light.

Leader: In our nation

People: we are seeking light.

Leader: In our world

People: we are seeking light.

Leader: Seek and you shall find; knock and the door will be opened. Ask and it will be given to you.

Unison: Jesus Christ you are the light of the world. May we have eyes to see you and ears to hear you. Come into our world today. Amen.

***Hymn**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

#88

Prayer of Confession

Lord of Light, Author of Life, River of Joy – I like all that. I confess that as true as it is that darkness is real, I don't care to learn from it. I would rather avoid the memory. I get busy to avoid the possibility. Yet there is probably no more important thing to know, than to know that the darkness loses. Life persists. You are Emmanuel. So though there is something counter to our sense of how life should be, teach us to accept the truth. You use the darkness to make us strong. We never have to go looking for the darkness. We serve You—and those we live with—best when we learn to find the light. We pray for that grace even though we rebel against it. In Christ's Name, Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. (*Romans 8:35,37*)

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

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"

by Rowan

Prayer for Illumination

We come to You with open hearts and willing hands. We are excited to be Your people. At this Christmas season, we are grateful for the gift of this church in our lives. Be a light to us each week. By Your Spirit, may we find light, abundant light. In Christ's Name, Amen.

Old Testament Reading – Ecclesiastes 11:8

However many years anyone may live, let them enjoy them all. But let them remember the days of darkness, for there will be many.

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 8:21-22

Distressed and hungry, they will roam through the land; when they are famished, they will become enraged and, looking upward, will curse their king and their God. Then they will look toward the earth and see only distress and darkness and fearful gloom, and they will be thrust into utter darkness.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Message Reading – John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Leader: God's Word for Today.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Today's Light, Tomorrow's Hope"

Pastor Jamie Tyrrell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Presentation of Gifts & Offerings

Call to the Offering

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

*Prayer of Dedication

You give us the gift of Hope. We live in a world in which millions of people live with only the light of their own imaginations, and their darkness is great. They walk about hungry for a larger vision and angry at those who have failed them. They don't quite understand that their experts know far less than they pretend. They are close to grasping that You are the truth that sets us free. May these gifts and our lives be light to the world around us. In Christ's Name, Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Installation of Officers for 2025

Holy Communion

*Communion Hymn

"Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet"

#458

*Invitation

*Affirmation of Faith – Apostle's 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 at 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

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

Words of Institution

Breaking of the Bread

Distribution

Those taking communion are asked to hold the bread until all are served, symbolizing our unity in the Spirit of Christ, then to drink individually the cup, symbolizing our personal commitment to Christ.

Prayer After Communion

*Closing Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#133

*Charge to the Congregation

*Benediction

Postlude

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Thought for the Day: *"He became what we are that we might become what he is."*

—Athanasius (4th century)

Leading us in worship this morning:

Pastor Jamie Tyrrell, Interim

Billy Meredith, Music Director

Elder Joe Weaver, Liturgist

Lighting the Advent Wreath – Tammi Tully, Talia & Vincent Specht

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

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First Presbyterian Church

of Delhi, New York

December 1, 2024

Happy New Year! Today the church calendar begins anew with Advent as we celebrate Jesus' coming in the past, present and future. Welcome to worship.

(Prayer) Make us to know your ways, O Lord; teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth and teach us, for you are the God of our salvation.

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).

This morning we will install our Elders for the class of 2026 and Deacons for the class of 2027. We rejoice in the continuing leadership of Nancy Lee and welcome the returning leadership of Renee Maxwell and Nancy Morley as Elders. We gratefully welcome Mary Conklin back into service as a Deacon. We take this time to recognize Joe Cantwell, who is returning to service, Alex Cantwell, who is continuing his service, and Ed Chytalo, who is beginning his service - as Trustees for the Class of 2027. We would also like to recognize those whose terms are ending. Thank you to Barb Leo and Tammi Tully for their leadership on Session, and thank you to Harry Bell and Art Maxwell for their service as Trustees!

Don Hymers turned 90 on Thanksgiving Day! Happy birthday, Don!

The fourth Sunday of every month is a BOUNTIFUL GIVING SUNDAY. The Delhi Food Pantry accepts 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.

The **TRUSTEES** responsible for counting today are Harry Bell and Kathy Beveridge. The Trustees responsible for counting on December 8 are Ed Goff and Kevin Lee.

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 *"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." (Luke 21:28). We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, his first coming, as we await his second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those that are closest to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.*

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we have the courage to share our faith story with others and accompany them on their journey.

The **Per Capita** amount for 2024 has been set at \$45.90 per member.

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 11-24-2024</i>	61 - 56 in sanctuary + approx. 5 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,759.08*
General amount given week of 11-24-2024	\$1,327.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$82,676.76
General amount given YTD as of 11-24-2024	\$84,459.63
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$336.54
Fuel Fund given week of 11-24-2024	\$105.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$15,817.38
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 11-24-2024	\$3,044.00
Kirk Receipts 11-17-24 to 11-23-24	\$1,945.32
Mission giving week of 11-23-2024	\$5.00
Mission giving YTD as of 11-23-2024	\$1,181.00
Apportionment Needed 2024	\$6,930.90
Apportionment received YTD as of 11-23-2024	\$1,969.50

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

SUNDAY December 1	9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship with Communion
MONDAY December 2	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day 3:00 pm Girl Scouts 5:30 pm Session Meeting
TUESDAY December 3	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations
WEDNESDAY December 4	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Gentle Yoga 5:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
THURSDAY December 5	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY December 6	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Shoppe Open 10:30 am Adult Ballet Class
SATURDAY December 7	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Shoppe Open 10:00 am Yoga
SUNDAY December 8	9:30 am Deacons Meeting 9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship