

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

March 23, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday in Lent

"I will be fully satisfied as with the riches of food. With singing lips my mouth will praise you." Psalm 63:5



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Come, let us draw nearer to God, with open hearts, seeking the living water of Christ.

People: As we journey through the Lenten season and find renewal in his presence, let us worship our God together.

All: Amen.

***Hymn**

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

#307

Prayer of Confession

Hear us, Lord, and have mercy, for we have sinned against you. Listen, Lord, to the prayers of those who cry to you. Hear us, God, and have mercy. Glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: On this third Sunday of Lent we are reminded that through the grace of Almighty God we are redeemed. Friends, hear the good news.

People: God is ready to pardon and restore a true and meaningful relationship with him. The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. 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

Interlude

Prayer for Illumination

Help us to truly hear your word, that we may truly understand. Amen.

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Leader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Jesus is Challenging Us, How Will We Respond?"

Pulpit Guest Ron Galley

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"

#450

*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.

Presentation of Gifts & Offerings

Call to the Offering

Leader: As we present our offerings today, let us remember that during this Lenten season, our gifts are not just material, but also expressions of our hearts turned toward God. May our giving reflect our commitment to follow Christ's example of compassion and generosity as we offer these gifts to further his works in the world. Amen.

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

Lord, you are the giver of every good gift. Accept these offerings we pray, that through them we may bring kindness, love, and walk humbly with you, Almighty God, now and always. 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

*Benediction

Postlude

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Thought for the Day: *"Just as Jesus challenged the merchants in the Temple, take time to examine your own motivations and actions, asking if they are driven by actual Faith or self-interest."*

Leading us in worship this morning:
Pulpit Guest Ron Galley, Worship Leader
Pastor Jamie Tyrrell, Interim
Billy Meredith, Music Director
Rusty Maxwell, 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.



First Presbyterian Church of Delhi, New York March 23, 2025

Isaiah announced God's invitation: "Is anyone thirsty? Come and drink ... it's all free!" Are you thirsty for good news, peace, hope, love? Christ is the water of life. Welcome to worship.

(Prayer) O God, you are our God; We seek you. ... Because your steadfast love is better than life, our lips will praise you."

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 **Mission committee emphasis** for the month of March is One Great Hour of Sharing. If you would like to contribute toward this mission, just use the mission envelopes or write "OGHS" on the memo line of your check. Thanks for your continued support.

In April we will be sending out **CWS Health Kits**. Betty Bell is currently assembling the kits. If anyone wants to donate items toward the kits, what she needs specifically are shampoo, deodorant and fragrance-free body lotion (all travel/trial-size).

Today 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 Joe Cantwell and Cullen LaFever. The Trustees responsible for counting on March 30 are Tom Little and Alex Cantwell.

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: *"He said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.'" (Luke 13:7).* We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have, or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts he has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous; we are called to develop and nurture our gifts; and return them with increase. We are called to be generous with all of gifts; especially the one that means the most to you.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we are generous with all of our gifts; nurture and develop them to return with increase.

The **Per Capita** amount for 2025 has been set at \$49.29 per member.

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 3-16-2025</i>	38 - 35 in sanctuary + approx. 3 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,735.62
General amount given week of 3-16-2025	\$3,161.63
General amount needed year-to-date	\$19,091.82
General amount given YTD as of 3-16-2025	\$21,191.65
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$67.31
Fuel Fund given week of 3-16-2025	\$10.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$740.41
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 3-16-2025	\$306.36
Kirk Receipts 3-9-25 to 3-15-25	\$1,850.00
Mission giving week of 3-16-2025	\$0.00
Mission giving YTD as of 3-16-2025	\$222.00
Apportionment Needed 2025	\$6,062.67
Apportionment received YTD as of 3-16-2025	\$767.35

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

SUNDAY March 23	<i>Bountiful Giving Sunday</i> 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship
MONDAY March 24	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
TUESDAY March 25	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations
WEDNESDAY March 26	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Yoga
THURSDAY March 27	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY March 28	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 March 29	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Shoppe Open 11:00 am Yoga
SUNDAY March 30	10:30 am Worship