

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

March 30, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

"Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, 'I will confess my transgression to the Lord' - and you forgave the guilt of my sin."

Psalm 32:5



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

***Call to Worship**

Leader: A new day has dawned, God's gift to us; the fruits of the land are ours to enjoy.

People: We are a new creation in Jesus Christ; the old has passed away, the new has come.

Leader: This is a day for forgiveness and reconciliation; celebrate God's love for the lost who are found.

People: The glad cries of deliverance surround us; shouts of joy arise from our hearts.

Leader: Let all who are faithful offer up prayers; may all who are in Christ give thanks.

People: We will be glad and join the dance of life; with the upright of heart, we rejoice and sing.

***Hymn**

"There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

#408

Prayer of Confession

O God, we will not try to hide from you the wrong we have done or the good we have neglected. You know our transgression. You have observed our pretensions. We have claimed too lightly the label "Christian," for often we cut ourselves off from you and from people we disdain. At times our rebellion leaves us hungry, alone, and friendless. O God, we are not worthy to be called your children. Grant us, we pray, your forgiveness and pardon and a renewed sense of who you intend us to be and to become. Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: We are assured that God forgives the guilt of our sin. Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom God imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit. Rejoice, for God has brought us back to life!

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

Interlude

Prayer for Illumination

God, whose love for us never fails—even when we wander far from home—teach us compassion for all who are lost and confused. Keep us from living as competitors for your favors, that we might participate joyfully in our forgiving, reconciling work. Make us ambassadors for Christ, that all your children may come home to your welcoming arms. Amen.

New Testament Reading – 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, 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, 11-32

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' 'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

Leader: This is the Gospel of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD***Hymn***“What is the World Like?”*

#771

***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: We have been granted more than our share of the world’s resources to indulge our desires. This is the time to reexamine our management of what is really God’s property, entrusted to us for a little while.

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**

Thank you, God, for proclaiming our worth when we do not value ourselves. Thank you for welcoming us to a celebration of life with so many precious gifts. Thank you now for the privilege of sharing, so others may be led to your joyous embrace. Help us to be generous in gratitude for your lavish provision for all our needs. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

... “forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors”

Closing Hymn“God Be With You Till We Meet Again”*

#542

***Charge to the Congregation**

Leader: Stay near to God during the week that lies ahead; be faithful in your times of prayer.

All: God is our hiding place and present help; we will speak to God and for God this week.

Leader: Live as ambassadors of Jesus Christ every day; rejoice when a sister or brother returns home to God.

All: We will seek to love as we have been loved; we will welcome—not judge—our brothers and sisters.

Leader: We have been reconciled to God through Jesus Christ; God’s love and compassion will be with us always.

All: We will be glad and rejoice in God’s goodness; we will share the joy of God’s love. Amen.

***Benediction**

Postlude

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Thought for the Day: *“If you are patient in one moment of anger, you will escape a hundred days of sorrow.” —Chinese proverb*

Leading us in worship this morning:
Elder Tammi Tully, Worship Leader
Pastor Jamie Tyrrell, Interim
Billy Meredith, Music Director
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.



First Presbyterian Church

of Delhi, New York
March 30, 2025

Like a loving father welcoming a prodigal child home and inviting the other to join the feast, God welcomes us all. Let us celebrate such amazing grace.

(Prayer) As we continue through Lent —which means “spring”— prepare our heart-soil, dear Jesus, to sprout with new life and blossom in faith. 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).

There will be **no Kirk work day** tomorrow (Monday, March 31). There will still be a work day on Thursday.

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 deodorant and fragrance-free body lotion (travel/trial-size for both).

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 Tom Little and Alex Cantwell. The Trustees responsible for counting on April 6 are Kevin Lee and Ed Chytalo.

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: *“No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan.” (Joshua 5:12)* Over the forty years that the Israelites journeyed through the desert, God provided them with manna to eat. As soon as they were able to enjoy the fruits of the Promised Land the manna ceased. Likewise, God’s blessings to us may change over the years but it is important to trust that God will always provide us with all that we need.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we trust that God will provide all that we need.

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

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 3-23-2025</i>	30 - 22 in sanctuary + approx. 8 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,735.62
General amount given week of 3-23-2025	\$462.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$20,827.44
General amount given YTD as of 3-23-2025	\$21,653.65
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$67.31
Fuel Fund given week of 3-23-2025	\$84.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$807.72
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 3-23-2025	\$390.36
Kirk Receipts 3-16-25 to 3-22-25	\$1,889.59
Mission giving week of 3-23-2025	\$0.00
Mission giving YTD as of 3-23-2025	\$222.00
Apportionment Needed 2025	\$6,062.67
Apportionment received YTD as of 3-23-2025	\$767.35

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

SUNDAY March 30	10:30 am Worship
MONDAY April 31	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 3:00 pm Girl Scouts
TUESDAY April 1	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 4:45 pm PNC Meeting
WEDNESDAY April 2	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Yoga 5:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
THURSDAY April 3	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY April 4	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 April 5	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Shoppe Open 11:00 am Yoga
SUNDAY April 6	9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship with Communion