

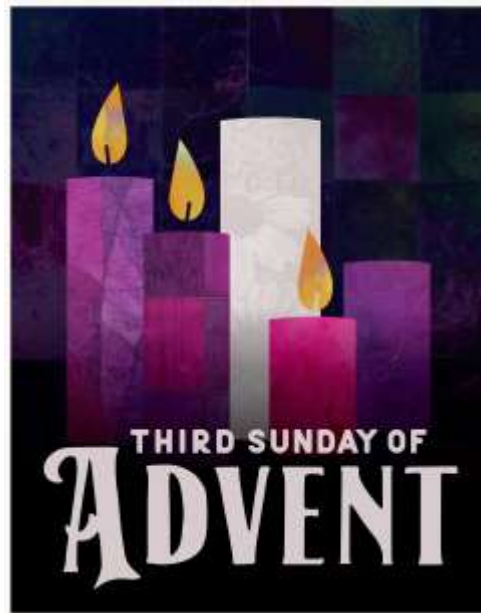
**First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York**

December 14, 2025

10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday in Advent: Joy

*"Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"
Matthew 11:3b*



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

***Lighting of the Advent Candles (*Isaiah 35:1-3*)**

Kevin & Matt Linehan

Kevin: Watch and wait for Christ's coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

Matt: We light this candle in hope. We light this candle for peace. We light this candle in joy!

Kevin: Rejoice! For our Lord is coming lead us home, as the prophet Isaiah said.

Unison: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

***Hymn**

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

#119

Prayer of Confession

We come before you, Mighty God, asking forgiveness and cleansing for our lives that are rough and unfinished. Cleanse us through the freedom of Your hope, purify us in peace and give us Your joy. Let the offering of our lives be unhindered. Let our hearts be steadfast and sure as we face the future, knowing that the future is Yours and held in your kind hands. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." (*Luke 7:48-50*)

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Sharing the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Anthem – Bell Choir *“Reflection on Stuttgart”* (with Lois Haight on flute)
arr. by Buckwalter

Prayer for Illumination

Lord of Hope, Prince of Peace, Presence that Brings Joy, we have confessed our sin. Now we pray that Your Spirit remove from us any reluctance to hear Your Truth. As Your Word enters our heart, so our heart rejoices. In Christ’s Name, Amen.

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 35:5-8

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow. And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn** *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* verses 1,2,6 & 7 **#88**

Message Reading – Matthew 11:2-11

When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?” Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.” As John’s disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings’ palaces. Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: “‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Leader: God’s Word for Today.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *“How Do I Know?”* Pastor Jamie Tyrrell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Presentation of Gifts and Offerings

Call to the Offering

Offertory

***Choral Response** *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”* **#606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

In joy we say “Thank You.” We rejoice in song, with deeds and with gifts of money. Bless the world through us. In Christ’s Name, Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

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

***Closing Hymn** *“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”* **#123**

***Benediction**

Postlude

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**You may stand*

Thought for the Day: *“I cannot even imagine where I would be today, were it not for that handful of friends who have given me a heart full of joy. Let’s face it, friends make life a lot more fun.” —Chuck Swindoll*

Leading us in worship this morning:

Pastor Jamie Tyrrell, Interim
Billy Meredith, Music Director
Trustee Kevin Lee, Liturgist

Advent Candle Readers/Lighters

Kevin Linehan
Matt Linehan



First Presbyterian Church of Delhi, New York December 14, 2025

The time draws near to celebrate our Savior's birth! Welcome to worship, which is part of our preparation. It's good to be here together.

(Prayer) "The LORD has done great things for us, and we [rejoice]" (Psalm 126:3). Tune our hearts, God, to sing your praises now and always.

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).



A CALL has been issued by the Session for a Special Meeting of the Congregation, according to the terms of the church bylaws, to be held immediately following worship **today (December 14, 2025)**. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect officers for 2026. No other business may come before the congregation at this time.

Wreath Orders are due tomorrow (Monday, December 15). Please get your orders in!

Our **December mission** includes the Angel Tree Envelopes, located in the New Narthex, and Christmas Stockings which are located at various points in the church. Angel Tree donations go to fund the Delhi Children's Christmas Fund. The Christmas Stocking donations will go to Helios Care and Habitat for Humanity.

St. John's and the First Baptist church in Delhi are joining together to offer a **Blue Christmas Service**. This will take place at St. John's Church on December 20th at 4pm.

Our annual **Living Nativity** will be presented on **Tuesday, Dec 23** from 5:30 to 7:00pm in two 45-minute shifts. We very much need your help to fill all the roles! There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the office, or you can speak with Joe & Gia or Darcy in the office if you are willing to help out.

We will be having our **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** on Wednesday, Dec 24 at 7:00pm. Special Music begins at 6:45. Please join us in worship!

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 Ed Goff and Kevin Lee. The Trustees responsible for counting on December 21 are Alex Cantwell and Tom Leo.

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: *"You too must be patient. Make you hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."* (James 5:8) Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule; we like things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer God reveals to us what he wants us to do with the gifts he has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and his plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That through daily prayer we gain patience and align ourselves with God and his plan for us.

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

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 12-7-2025</i>	48 - 43 in sanctuary + approx. 5 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,735.62
General amount given week of 12-7-2025	\$1,239.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$85,045.38
General amount given YTD as of 12-7-2025	\$80,768.67
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$67.31
Fuel Fund given week of 12-7-2025	\$15.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$3,298.19
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 12-7-2025	\$2,618.36
Kirk Receipts 11-30-25 to 12-6-25	\$2,227.92
Mission giving week of 12-7-2025	\$0.00
Mission giving YTD as of 12-7-2025	\$984.00
Apportionment Needed 2025	\$6,062.67
Apportionment received YTD as of 12-7-2025	\$1,748.51

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

Slate of Nominees for 2026

Session:

Susie Little (re-upping)
Joe Weaver (re-upping)
Kevin Lee

Deacons:

Betty Bell (re-upping)
Linda Dewitt (re-upping)
Toni Weaver (re-upping)

Trustees:

Tom Leo (re-upping)
Art Maxwell (replacing Kevin Lee)

Leslie Doig will be leaving the Deacons for the coming year
Cullen LaFever & Kevin Lee will be leaving the Trustees for the
coming year. Thank you all for your service on our boards!

SUNDAY December 14	9:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Deacons Meeting 9:30 am Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Special Congregational Meeting
MONDAY December 15	<i>Wreath Orders Due</i> 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day 3:00 pm Girl Scouts 4:00 pm Bible Study
TUESDAY December 16	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 4:45 pm PNC Meeting
WEDNESDAY December 17	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Gentle Yoga 6:00 pm Trustees Meeting
THURSDAY December 18	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY December 19	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 20	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Shoppe Open 10:00 am Yoga
SUNDAY December 21	9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship

*First Presbyterian Church actively exists as the living body of Christ, committed to growing in faithfulness to God, serving the whole human family and welcoming all people into God's love.
(Our Mission Statement)*