

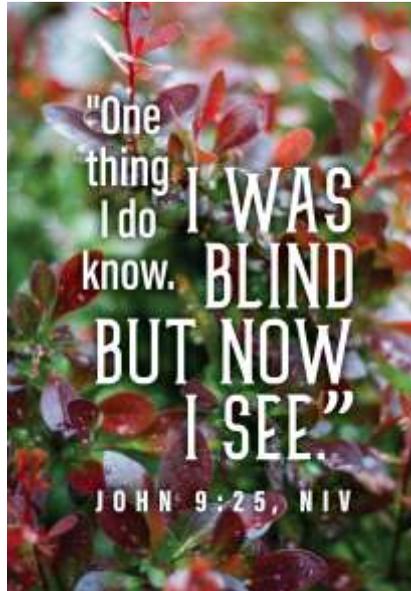
**First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York**

March 15, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

“And Jesus said, ‘For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.’” John 9:39



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

***Call to Worship** (*Psalm 138*)

Leader: I will praise you Lord, with all my heart, before God. I will sing your praise.

People: I will bow down to your Holy Temple, and will praise your name, for your unfailing love and your faithfulness.

Leader: When I called, you answered me.

People: May the kings of the earth praise you, Lord.

Unison: The Lord will vindicate me; your love, Lord, endures forever. Amen.

***Hymn**

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

#377

Prayer of Confession

God of universe, and creator of all that is, we admit that we fail to be honest about our lives in the way we go about each day. Some days we at less than honest and judge ourselves harshly and feel unworthy. We pray today that we serve you in all ways. Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. May the God of mercy, who forgives us of our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the Power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Choral Response**

“Gloria Patri”

#581

***Sharing the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Anthem – Bell Choir

“Joy and Delight”

by Austin

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, by the presence of your Holy Spirit, bless this our proclamation of your word that we may receive the gift of your grace and share it with those we will meet on this journey to which we are called. Speak to us this day for we, your servants, are listening. Amen.

Old Testament Reading – 1 Samuel 16:1-13

And the Lord said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons. And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me. And the Lord said, Take an heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the Lord. And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will shew thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto me him whom I name unto thee. And Samuel did that which the Lord spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably? And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the Lord: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice. And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the Lord's anointed is before him. But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the Lord chosen this. Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the Lord chosen this. Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The Lord hath not chosen these. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither. And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the Lord said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he. Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Hymn

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

#215

Gospel Reading – John 9:1-24, 35-41

And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the

blind man with the clay, and said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged? Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he. Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened? He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight. Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not. They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind. And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes. Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see. Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them. They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet. But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see? His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself. These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. Therefore said his parents, He is of age; ask him. Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee. And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him. And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also? Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.

Leader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"The Light of the World"

Pulpit Guest Ron Galley

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Presentation of Gifts and Offerings

Call to the Offering

Leader: Therefore, God has highly exalted himself and bestowed on him the name above all, so that through Jesus Christ, every knee should bow in Heaven and Earth, and every heart confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of the Father. We present our gifts this morning, generously in his blessed name. Amen.

Offertory

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

*Prayer of Dedication

Father, we give our Tithes and Offerings in your name. Bless and use them to accomplish your will through the Church. Help our Ministry continue to spread the Gospel as we continue to grow spiritually. In the name of Christ Jesus, 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**

*Benediction

Postlude

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**You may stand*

Thought for the Day: *"Life isn't a matter of milestones, but of memories."*
—Rose Kennedy

Leading us in worship this morning:
Pulpit Guest Ron Galley, Worship Leader
Billy Meredith, Music Director
Barb Thompson, Liturgist



First Presbyterian Church of Delhi, New York **March 15, 2026**

"Come and see the works of the Lord... the Lord Almighty is with us!" We rejoice that you are here today! Let us join together in praising God and witnessing his goodness through Word and Sacrament. To our visitors, your presence brings us special joy—please come again soon!

(Prayer) If there is any hardness in our hearts today, Lord, please remove it from us. We desire to have hearts ready to fully receive your grace and mercy. Amen.

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

Our **Bible study book series** will continue this year starting April 6th, from 4-5:30pm in the hospitality room. If you would like to join us, we have already read the first book, "Sensible Shoes" by Sharon Garlough Brown, and have copies for you to borrow. April's bible study will be the second book in the series, Two Steps Forward, "A Story of Persevering in Hope." In this eight-week study guide you'll find daily Scripture readings, reflection questions, and spiritual practices designed to help you be attentive to the invitations of the Holy Spirit. I will be taking orders for this book and the accompanying study guide. Please let me know if interested by March 22, 2026. Hope you'll join us! Kathy Beveridge 607-422-1474 or Bessie Tyrrell 585-733-2323.

The Mission Committee has set a Lenten goal of taking up the cause of sending a **"wound care" crate to Ukraine**. This is a program that collects supplies, packs the crates and ships them to the Ukrainian Presbyterian Church. Our goal is to raise \$2,500 through designated Mission giving. Your contribution will be matched by The Kirk for a total of \$5,000, the cost of one wound care crate.

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 Kathy Beveridge. The Trustees responsible for counting on March 22 are Joe Cantwell 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: *“Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart.” (1 Samuel 16:7)* How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, he will look into our hearts to see how much we loved him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talent and treasure here on earth.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we are less concerned about our outward appearance and more concerned with our interior conversion of heart.

The **Per Capita** amount for 2026 has been set at \$50.51 per member.

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 3-8-2026</i>	36 - 26 in sanctuary + approx. 10 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,432.90
General amount given week of 3-8-2026	\$1,553.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$14,329.00
General amount given YTD as of 3-8-2026	\$14,850.53
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$384.62
Fuel Fund given week of 3-8-2026	\$0.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$3,846.20
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 3-8-2026	\$554.00
Kirk Receipts 3-1-26 to 3-7-26	\$1,915.92
Presbyterian Mission Support week of 3-8-2026	\$0.00
Presbyterian Mission Support YTD as of 3-8-2026	\$125.00
Apportionment Needed 2026	\$6,162.22
Apportionment received YTD as of 3-8-2026	\$703.55

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



Traditional Irish Dinner
Corned Beef and Cabbage
with potatoes and carrots
March 15 after church in the chapel
Bring a dessert to share and if you have
ever visited Ireland, bring a picture and
a story from your trip to share with
your fellow leprechauns.

The Delhi Clergy Association has decided to offer 10 **grants to community members** that have a need for **assistance with a medical or energy bill**. These grants will be up to \$500, and proof of the bill will be required for the money to be granted and will be paid to the company or organization the bill is from. Funds will be reviewed and granted on a first-come-first-served basis until the 10 grants have been given out. The applicant does not need to be a member of one of our churches but must live in Delhi or the surrounding area. For information or an application, see Pastor Jamie or Darcy.

Let's go to Christian Camp! Christian summer camps are a place for children and the adults who love them, for faith-building, character-forming, life-changing adventures that we all need to equip us for a lifetime and the years ahead. There are countless activities at camp to choose from: swimming, sailing, canoeing, hiking, and crafts, as well as specialized camps for fishing, horseback riding, STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), high-peaks backpacking and ballet camp, among others. Our Church will cover most of the expenses. There are brochures in the office and education committee members to talk to: Tammy Tully, Kathy Beveridge, Nancy Lee, Linda Malcolm, Anna Newbold, Kathy Sullivan and Bessie Tyrrell.

SUNDAY March 15	9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Irish Luncheon 7:00 pm Lectio Divina [Virtual]
MONDAY March 16	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
TUESDAY March 17	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 4:45 pm PNC Meeting
WEDNESDAY March 18	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Gentle Yoga 6:00 pm Trustees Meeting
THURSDAY March 19	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY March 20	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:30 am Adult Ballet Class
SATURDAY March 21	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:00 am Yoga
SUNDAY March 22	<i>Bountiful Giving Sunday</i> 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)*