

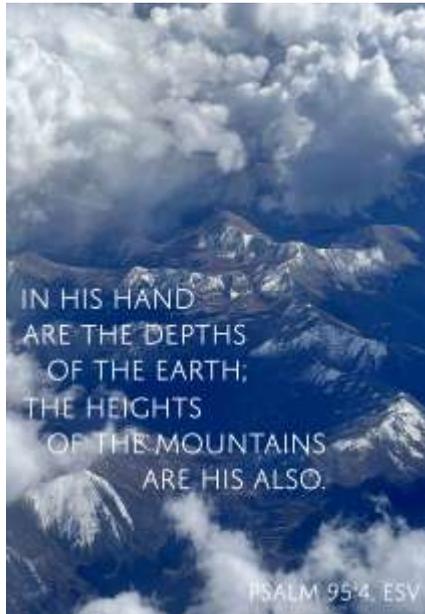
**First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York**

March 8, 2026

10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday in Lent

“Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.” Psalm 95:1-2



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

***Call to Worship** (*from Psalm 95:3-7*)

Leader: For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.

People: In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

People: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

***Hymn**

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

#451

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, Creator of all that is, Donor of Grace and Giver of Life: Hear our prayer. There are gaps in our lives, deep valleys that separate us from one another and from You. We confess that we have allowed those rifts to grow, for fear of admitting our part in the separation, for fear of being rejected when we reach out. You call us to a reconciled life, to healed relationships, to a wholeness with each other and with You. Mend us, we pray, and make us new creations through the power and love of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia!

People: 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

Interlude

Moment for Mission – Crates for Ukraine

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious Lord, send Your Spirit to open our minds and soften our hearts. Let the Scriptures speak with fresh power, that we may be transformed by Your wisdom and strengthened to live out Your love in the world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Old Testament Reading – Exodus 17:1-7

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?" But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?" then Moses cried out to the Lord, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord answered Moses, "Walk on ahead of the people. Take some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the Lord saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn**

"O God, Who Gives Us Life"

#53

Message Reading – John 4:5-42

So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink? (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you...

...greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?" Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." "I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true." "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem. Jesus declared, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth. The woman said, "I know the Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming." When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he." Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" They came out of the town and made their way toward him. Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about." Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?" "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Do you not say, "Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus, the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor." Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; know we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world."

Leader: God's Word for Today.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"More Important Than Lunch"

Elder Tammi Tully

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

Gracious Father, as we give, let it be a prayerful act filled with purpose. May our contributions be intentional and directed towards the fulfillment of Your purposes on earth. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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

*Affirmation of Faith

We believe in one God — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — the Creator of all that is, seen and unseen. We trust in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, who lived among us, died for us and rose again, bringing life and hope to the world. We rely on the Holy Spirit, who renews our hearts, guides our steps, and gathers us into the Church, to love and serve in Christ's name. To God be glory forever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn *"Ho, All Who Thirst"* #479

*Benediction

Postlude

CCLI License # 275648

*You may stand

Thought for the Day: *"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."* —Ralph Waldo Emerson

Leading us in worship this morning:
Elder Tammi Tully, Worship Leader
Billy Meredith, Music Director
George Thompson, Liturgist



First Presbyterian Church
of Delhi, New York
March 8, 2026

As we spring forward into a new season, may we also step into the fresh grace God provides each day. Though we may have lost an hour of sleep, we gain time together in his presence—a reminder that his mercies are new every morning.

(Prayer) Gracious God, as we spring forward into a new season, awaken our hearts to your presence. Even when our bodies feel weary, renew our spirits with your joy. Help us to use every moment you give us for your glory, trusting that your light shines brighter than any lost hour of sleep. Prepare us now to worship you in spirit and in truth. 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" 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 8-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. We will be taking orders for the book and study guide. Please let us know if interested by March 22. 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 **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.

Our **April mission** is Care Kits through Church World Service. If you wish to contribute to this mission, see the March-April Courier for a list of needed items, or check with Betty Bell.

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 Chytalo and Tom Little. The Trustees responsible for counting on March 15 are Kathy Beveridge and Ed Goff.

The **March-April Courier** and our **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: *“Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again.” (John 4:13)* Jesus reminds us that material things, even something as basic as water, can never satisfy us over the long run. When we build our lives around material possessions we will always want more, and no amount will ever satisfy our desire. True joy and peace only come when we follow Jesus - when we become more “God-centered” and less “self-centered.”

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we become more “God-centered” and less “self-centered” in our daily actions and decisions.

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

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 3-1-2026</i>	33 - 23 in sanctuary + approx. 10 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,432.90
General amount given week of 3-1-2026	\$1,858.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$12,896.10
General amount given YTD as of 3-1-2026	\$13,297.53
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$384.62
Fuel Fund given week of 3-1-2026	\$0.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$3,461.58
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 3-1-2026	\$554.00
Kirk Receipts 2-22-26 to 2-28-26	\$1,775.42
Presbyterian Mission Support week of 3-1-2026	\$20.00
Presbyterian Mission Support YTD as of 3-1-2026	\$125.00
Apportionment Needed 2026	\$6,162.22
Apportionment received YTD as of 3-1-2026	\$688.55

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



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 8	<i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i> 9:30 am Sunday School 9:30 am Deacons Meeting 10:30 am Worship 12:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lectio Divina [Virtual]
MONDAY March 9	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day 3:00 pm Girl Scouts
TUESDAY March 10	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 4:00 pm PNC Meeting
WEDNESDAY March 11	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Gentle Yoga
THURSDAY March 12	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY March 13	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 14	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:00 am Yoga
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]

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)