

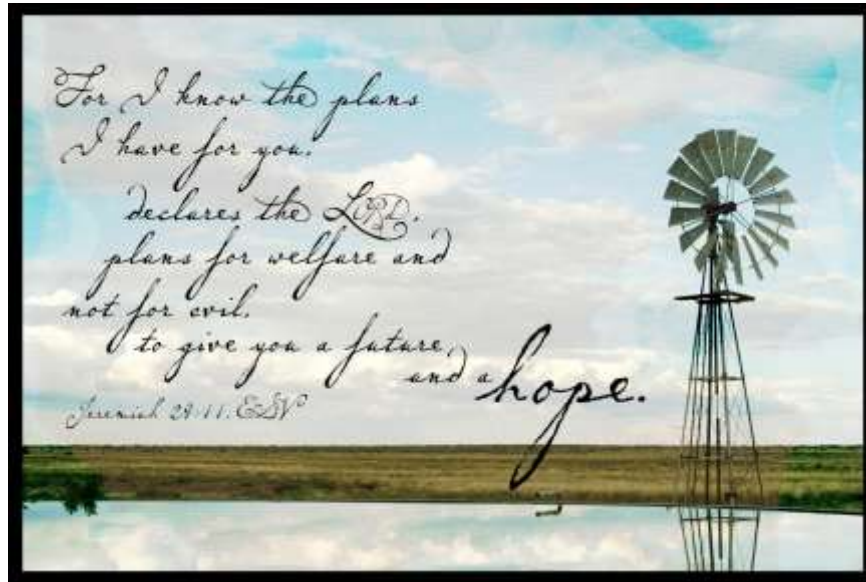
**First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York**

August 16, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

"And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:13



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Sometimes life takes us where we don't expect.

People: Sometimes, God takes us where we don't expect.

Leader: In worship, we gather to get in touch with God's bigger narrative.

People: In worship, we gather to expand our hearts.

Leader: So let us worship the God of unending surprises.

People: Let us worship the God of love.

***Hymn**

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

#39

Prayer of Confession

Creator God, being faithful has never been easy. You asked Noah to build a ship. You asked the Israelites to plant gardens and build homes while in exile. You asked the prophets to speak challenging truths. You asked the disciples to drop their nets and follow you. And you ask us to love bigger than society wants to. Being faithful has never been easy, and as a result, we often miss the mark. Forgive us for holding tightly to human-made plans. Forgive us for the times we say no to you so that we can say yes to ourselves. Unravel the grip we have on our agenda so that we can make room for you. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: While it is true that we have all sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God, I say, be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another. Friends, believe in the good news of the gospel, In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

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

Interlude

Billy Meredith

Prayer for Illumination

God of grace, as we gather to hear your Word, silence any thoughts that distract us. Open our hearts to receive the challenge and the comfort you offer in the name of Jesus Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

New Testament Reading – Romans 12:9-18

Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another; not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality. Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits. Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

***Hymn**

“When Peace Like a River”

#840

Old Testament Reading – Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

Now these are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem unto the residue of the elders which were carried away captives, and to the priests, and to the prophets, and to all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon;

Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, unto all that are carried away captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem unto Babylon, “Build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them; take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished. And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the Lord for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace. For thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed. For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the Lord. For thus saith the Lord, that after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. And I will be found of you, saith the Lord: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the Lord; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“A Future with Hope”

Rev. Dr. Greg Garis

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith**

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus God kept his promises. All that we can ever hope for was present in Christ. But the work of God in Christ is not over. God calls us to hope for more than we have yet seen. The hope God gives us is ultimate confidence that supports us when lesser hopes fail us. In Christ, God gives hope for a new heaven and earth, certainty of victory over death, assurance of mercy and judgment beyond death. This hope gives us courage for the present struggle.

Presentation of Gifts and Offerings

Call to the Offering

Offertory

***Choral Response**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

#606

***Prayer of Dedication**

Holy God, you tell us that “offerings will be accepted on your altar, for your house shall be called a house of prayer.” Thank you for all that you have given us. Continue to guide us as we dedicate these offerings and our lives to you. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

Let us pray. You created the world and all that is in it, O Lord, and declared “it is good.” Let the peoples praise you, O God; **let all the peoples praise you.**

You gather your people together, you equip us to join your work in making all things new, you lead your church with visions of your kingdom, and you lift up prophets who speak the truth. Let the peoples praise you, O God; **let all the peoples praise you.**

Sometimes your prophets are church leaders who wrote letters, sometimes your prophets speak from captivity, and sometimes your prophets are mothers seeking safety for your children. Let the peoples praise you, O God; **let all the peoples praise you.**

Alongside the pleading mother of Matthew's Gospel, we pray that all of your children who are in pain will know the comfort of your presence, that all of your children who are in harm's way will know safety, that all of your children who are tired will find rest, and that all of your children who are anxious or afraid or uncertain will know your peace. Let the peoples praise you, O God; **let all the peoples praise you.**

There are people in this world who wield great influence and power, O Lord. Guide them in your way of peace, help them bring people together, help them make sure that our needs are met, that all who hunger are fed, that those without a place to live are sheltered, and that wars and fighting will cease. Let the peoples praise you, O God; **let all the peoples praise you.**

We ask all of this in faith, and in hope, and in love, and in the name of your son, the Prince of Peace who hears us and calls us, leads us and cares for us, and who teaches us to pray, saying, **"Our Father..."**

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

***Closing Hymn** *"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"* **#546**

***Benediction**

Postlude

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**You may stand*

Thought for the Day: *If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded. —Maya Angelou*

Leading us in worship this morning:
Rev. Dr. Greg Garis, Worship Leader
Billy Meredith, Music Director
Trustee Art Maxwell, Liturgist



First Presbyterian Church

of Delhi, New York

August 16, 2026

We come together to "call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised" (Psalm 18:3). All are sincerely welcomed to this service of worship and praise.

(Prayer) Lord, make us mindful of the joy your grace can be to us. Grant us the gift of your presence, we pray.

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 August mission focus is the School Supply Drive. We are working to get information from the PTA about what items are needed, but we have not received anything from them yet.

Worship on August 30 will be a joint service at Bovina United Presbyterian Church. The service will begin at 10am. A dish-to-pass luncheon will follow!

Bell choir is looking for 2-4 more ringers. First-time ringers welcome! We practice after church on Sundays starting September 13. **Choir starts again on September 13** with rehearsal at 9:15am. New singers welcome! Let Billy know if you're interested.

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 Art Maxwell and Ed Goff. The Trustees responsible for counting on August 23 are Tom Leo and Alex Cantwell.

The **Chancel Guild** volunteer for August is Renee Maxwell.

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: *“For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable.” (Romans 11:29)* God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that he has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of his work will be left undone. Each of us has a part in God’s salvation plan.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we respond obediently to God’s call and have the confidence to walk on water.

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

Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 8-9-2026	73 - 65 in sanctuary + approx. 8 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,432.90
General amount given week of 8-9-2026	\$1,134.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$45,852.80
General amount given YTD as of 8-9-2026	\$48,457.90
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$384.62
Fuel Fund given week of 8-9-2026	\$170.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$12,307.84
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 8-9-2026	\$2,267.00
Kirk Receipts 8-2-26 to 8-8-26	\$2,231.95
Presbyterian Mission Support week of 8-9-2026	\$10.00
Presbyterian Mission Support YTD as of 8-9-2026	\$390.00
Apportionment Needed 2026	\$6,162.22
Apportionment received YTD as of 8-9-2026	\$1,274.12

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

SUNDAY August 16	10:00 am Worship
MONDAY August 17	9:00 am Kirk Work Day
TUESDAY August 18	4:30 pm PNC Meeting
WEDNESDAY August 19	10:30 am Gentle Yoga 6:00 pm Trustees Meeting
THURSDAY August 20	9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY August 21	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:30 am Adult Ballet Class
SATURDAY August 22	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:00 am Yoga
SUNDAY August 23	<i>Bountiful Giving Sunday</i> 10:00 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)