

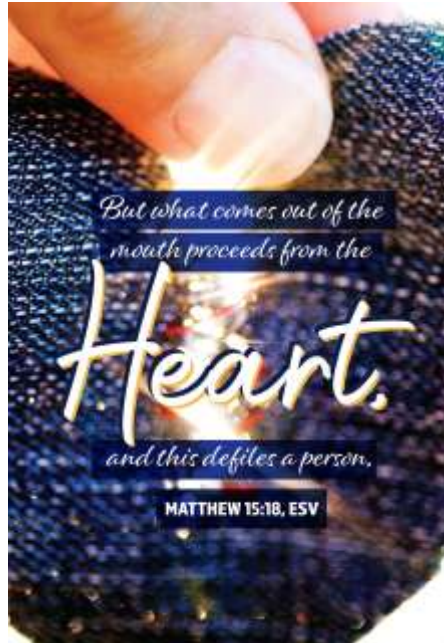
**First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York**

August 23, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

“Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.” Matthew 15:11



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

***Call to Worship**

Leader: In a world where power is often used to lift up a few and push others aside, how does God teach us to lead?

People: God teaches us to protect the vulnerable, resist oppression and persist in doing good.

Leader: In a world where might is viewed as strength, how does God reveal the meaning of power?

People: God shows us through truth-telling, daring Faith and the humility of Christ.

Leader: How does God exercise power?

People: God exercise power with us- standing alongside the poor, and the downtrodden.

Unison: Beloved, let us gather to worship the God who empowers us to love and serve our neighbors.

***Hymn**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

#366

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, who does freely pardon all who repent and turn to him, now fulfill in every contrite heart the promise of redeeming grace, forgiving all our sins, and cleansing us of an evil conscience through the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Even in our moments of doubt, our lack of faith and the blindness which means we fail to see God amongst us, God is still at work. God is still healing. God is still forgiving. Even when you fail to see God, God still sees you, and still loves you. Sisters and Brothers, your sins are forgiven.

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

Guide us, O God, by your word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find wisdom, and in your will discover your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Thus saith the Lord, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed. Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the Lord, to serve him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant; even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people. The Lord God, which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, “Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 15:10-20

And he called the multitude, and said unto them, “Hear, and understand: Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.” Then came his disciples, and said unto him, “Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?” But he answered and said, “Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.” Then answered Peter and said unto him, “Declare unto us this parable.” And Jesus said, “Are ye also yet without understanding? Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught? But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: these are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.”

Leader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Life and the Promise”

written by Ron Galley

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

#39

*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 and Offerings

Call to the Offering

Leader: In the midst of famine, Joseph shared generously with his brothers, giving not just food but an amazing forgiveness. You and I have received so much from God, food for our bodies and forgiveness to heal our spirits and our lives. We come to this moment in our Worship when we give back to God a portion of what we received, to express our own amazement at everything God is doing in our lives. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise. Amen.

Offertory

*Choral Response

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

#606

*Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, accept these gifts, and with them our lives, to be used in your service. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our world, and may these offerings help build your Kingdom on Earth. In his name we pray. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

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

*Closing Hymn

“Now Thank We All Our God”

#643

***Benediction**

Postlude

CCLI License # 275648

**You may stand*

Thought for the Day: *"It is the pleasing of God that is at the heart of worship."*
—R.C. Sproul

Leading us in worship this morning:
Elder Renee Maxwell, Worship Leader
Ron Galley, Sermon and Order of Worship
Billy Meredith, Music Director
Trustee Kevin Lee, Liturgist



First Presbyterian Church
of Delhi, New York
August 23, 2026

With gratitude we come to give thanks to the Lord for God's boundless grace. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we extend the hand of friendship and love to all who have come.

(Prayer) If we are not in line with your will, graceful God, may this be the day we make our lives fully dedicated to you.

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 will be collecting items until Sept 4. Needed items are: Fine point Expo black dry erase markers, Fiskars kids scissors, Elmer's glue sticks, pink Pearl erasers, #2 pencils, 24-count Crayola crayons, 12-count Crayola colored pencils, 10-count Crayola markers and plastic 2-pocket folders.

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!

The Newsletter Deadline is Monday, Aug 31. If you have anything for the Sept-Oct Courier, please get it to Darcy by next Monday!

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.

Today 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 Leo and Alex Cantwell. The Trustees responsible for counting on August 30 are Tom Little and Joe 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: *“Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?” (Romans 11:35)* Paul reminds us of a central fact of stewardship. We cannot give God anything - he already owns it all. God made everything, including us. Since we are made in his image, we too, are called to be generous. How we use our God-given gifts becomes our gift back to him. Gratitude for all we have been given opens our hearts to joyful generosity! And, through our generosity, we just may be the answer to someone else’s prayer.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we may show our gratitude for God’s great gifts through our active participation in the ministry of God’s Church.

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

Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 8-16-2026	32 - 24 in sanctuary + approx. 8 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,432.90
General amount given week of 8-16-2026	\$675.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$47,285.70
General amount given YTD as of 8-16-2026	\$49,132.90
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$384.62
Fuel Fund given week of 8-16-2026	\$0.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$12,692.46
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 8-16-2026	\$2,267.00
Kirk Receipts 8-9-26 to 8-15-26	\$1,611.62
Presbyterian Mission Support week of 8-16-2026	\$5.00
Presbyterian Mission Support YTD as of 8-16-2026	\$395.00
Apportionment Needed 2026	\$6,162.22
Apportionment received YTD as of 8-16-2026	\$1,274.12

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

SUNDAY August 23	<i>Bountiful Giving Sunday</i> 10:00 am Worship
MONDAY August 24	<i>Darcy on Vacation</i> 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
TUESDAY August 25	<i>Darcy on Vacation</i>
WEDNESDAY August 26	<i>Darcy on Vacation</i> 10:30 am Gentle Yoga
THURSDAY August 27	<i>Darcy on Vacation</i> 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY August 28	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:30 am Adult Ballet Class
SATURDAY August 29	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:00 am Yoga
SUNDAY August 30	10:00 am Combined Worship in Bovina

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)