

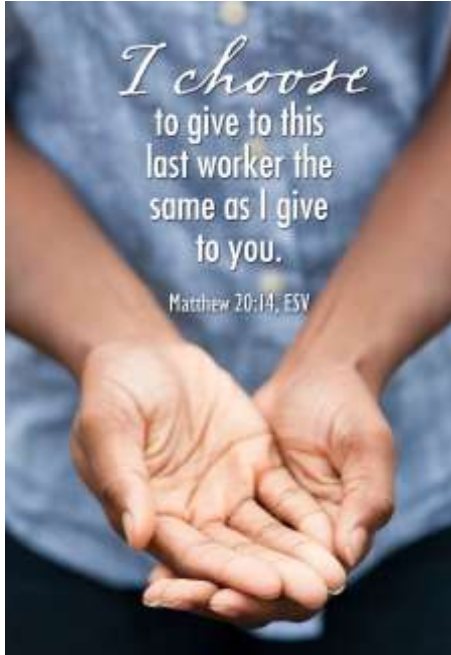
**First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York**

September 20, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

*"So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen."
Matthew 20:16*



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;

People: God's greatness is unsearchable.

Leader: From generation to generation, we sing of your righteousness.

People: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

***Hymn**

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

#65

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, when we follow the path of Jonah and allow our anger and frustration to cut us off from others, you sit next to us and call us back to your way of mercy, love and redemption. It is one thing to accept these gifts for ourselves; it is another to extend them to those who frustrate us. Forgive us for our anger, resentment, and desire to hoard. We lay these impulses at your feet and ask that you create a new heart within us, one modeled after your steadfast love and generosity. Help us to see the world in new ways. Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

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

Prayer for Illumination

Eternal God, you know our hearts and minds. Bless this time together that in reading, hearing and reflecting on your Word together, we may be changed. We surrender this time to you and ask for your blessing upon it. Amen.

Old Testament Reading – Exodus 16:2-15

And the whole congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness: And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger. Then said the Lord unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily. And Moses and Aaron said unto all the children of Israel, At even, then ye shall know that the Lord hath brought you out from the land of Egypt: And in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the Lord; for that he heareth your murmurings against the Lord: and what are we, that ye murmur against us? And Moses said, This shall be, when the Lord shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the Lord heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against him: and what are we? Your murmurings are not against us, but against the Lord. And Moses spake unto Aaron, Say unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, Come near before the Lord: for he hath heard your murmurings. And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the Lord your God. And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host. And when the dew that lay was gone up, behold, upon the face of the wilderness there lay a small round thing, as small as the hoar frost on the ground. And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the Lord hath given you to eat.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn** *“To God be the Glory”* **#634**

Gospel Reading – Matthew 20:1-16

For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire laborers into his vineyard. And when he had agreed with the laborers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, And said unto

them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way. Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle? They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive. So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the laborers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first. And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny. And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house, Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day. But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny? Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee. Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good? So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

Leader: The Gospel of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *“Bread of the Lord”* written by Ron Galley

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***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

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

*Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, we offer you these gifts and our hearts alongside them. May they be blessed to do your bidding. May our expectations of what is right and what is wise always be governed by your unruly love. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

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

*Closing Hymn

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

#435

*Benediction

Postlude

CCLI License # 275648

**You may stand*

Thought for the Day: *"Faith and works are like the light and heat of a candle; they cannot be separated."* —Joseph Beaumont

Leading us in worship this morning:

Trustee Art Maxwell, Worship Leader

Elder Joe Weaver, Reading a Sermon Written by Ron Galley

Billy Meredith, Music Director

Barb Thompson, Liturgist



First Presbyterian Church

of Delhi, New York

September 20, 2026

With warm hearts and hands, we welcome all who have come to worship the Lord. May this be a time of encouragement and inspiration for us all.

(Prayer) Enable us, O Lord, to approach you with pure hearts and proper praise. In Christ's name. 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).

The Kirk will be closed Saturday, October 3 to make room for the Heifer International Project. The Kirk will be open on Friday, October 2 from 9am to 5pm!

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 Alex Cantwell. The Trustees responsible for counting on September 27 are Tom Little and Joe Cantwell.

The **Chancel Guild** volunteer for September is Gia Cantwell.

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: *"Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."* (Matthew 20:16) You've heard the saying "it's not where you start, but how you finish." This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live "God-centered" lives and not "self-centered" lives.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we recognize everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God, including our very own lives.

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

<i>Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 9-13-2026</i>	41 - 35 in sanctuary + approx. 6 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,432.90
General amount given week of 9-13-2026	\$2,575.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$53,017.30
General amount given YTD as of 9-13-2026	\$53,366.90
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$384.62
Fuel Fund given week of 9-13-2026	\$140.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$14,230.94
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 9-13-2026	\$2,612.00
Kirk Receipts 9-6-26 to 9-12-26	\$2,359.72
Presbyterian Mission Support week of 9-13-2026	\$10.00
Presbyterian Mission Support YTD as of 9-13-2026	\$405.00
Apportionment Needed 2026	\$6,162.22
Apportionment received YTD as of 9-13-2026	\$1,274.12

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

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER!



Saturday, October 3rd, 2026
12pm-3pm

First Presbyterian Church
4 Clinton Street Delhi, NY

- Brooks BBQ Chicken lunch
- Children's games and activities
- Blessing of the animals at 2pm

Help the First Presbyterian Church Sunday School students raise money for the Heifer International animal giving program.
On a mission to end hunger and poverty

SUNDAY September 20	9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship
MONDAY September 21	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day 4:00 pm Bible Study
TUESDAY September 22	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations
WEDNESDAY September 23	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Gentle Yoga
THURSDAY September 24	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY September 25	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 September 26	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:00 am Yoga
SUNDAY September 27	<i>Bountiful Giving Sunday</i> 9:00 am Sunday School 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Bell Choir Rehearsal

*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)*