

First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York

October 11, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

*"Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law."
Romans 13:10*



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit

***Call to Worship**

Leader: A new song awaits us;

People: God's Spirit is coming.

Leader: We can hear the music; we're ready to move!

People: God's praise will be on our lips!

Leader: Neighbors from far and wide will pour out from their doorways.

People: God's joy will be alive in the streets;

Leader: friends and strangers will gather.

People: All will rejoice;

Leader: together, we will breathe a deep sigh of peace

People: as we turn our hearts toward the justice of the Lord.

***Hymn**

"Arise, Your Light Is Come!"

#744

Prayer of Confession

Beautiful Savior, you have made your law clear: Love. Love one another. Owe one another nothing but love. Do no wrong to a neighbor. But we have not mastered what it is to love. We have fallen short, causing harm to others through careless action and thoughtless lack of action. Forgive us. Teach us how to love more fully, more perfectly, as generously as you love, following your law and fulfilling your will.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Christ does not judge us harshly, but forgives all our sin and leads us into new life.

People: We will not take this forgiveness for granted, but will let it transform how we live and love. 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

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen.

New Testament Reading – Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

#366

Gospel Reading – Matthew 21:23-32

And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?”

They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.”

Leader: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Who Are You Wearing?”

Cheryl Nages

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** *(Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32–33)*

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God’s judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church’s own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God’s renewal of human life in society and of God’s victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

Presentation of Gifts and Offerings

Call to the Offering

Offertory

***Choral Response**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

#606

***Prayer of Dedication**

Merciful and gracious God, you abound in steadfast love and faithfulness. With gratitude, we bring our gifts to you. Bless these gifts and bless our lives that together we may share your mercy and grace for the world you dearly love. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

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

Prayers of the People *(Responsive)*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: hear our prayer.

*Closing Hymn

"To God Be the Glory"

#634

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

CCLI License # 275648

**You may stand*

Thought for the Day: *"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."* —Anne Frank

Leading us in worship this morning:

Cheryl Nages, Worship Leader

Billy Meredith, Music Director

Elder Renee Maxwell, Liturgist



First Presbyterian Church

of Delhi, New York

October 11, 2026

Welcome to all who have gathered to praise God today. May we worship with grateful hearts and reach out to one another in the love and fellowship of Christ.

(Prayer) Keep our minds and spirits focused on you, O Lord, that we may not miss your message to us. 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 Around the World Luncheons are back! The third Sundays of the month will be your chance to travel without leaving home! Our first stop is next Sunday after worship when we visit Germany for Oktoberfest – with fun games and a little competition! Bring a German inspired dish and wear your lederhosen!

On Sunday, October 25 we will have **Long-Term Member Recognition** during the worship service.

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 fpcdelhi.org/content/offering or give cash or check donations designated for the food bank. Please make checks out to First Presbyterian Church.

The **Elder on Call** for the coming week is Nancy Lee.

The **Trustees** responsible for counting today are Ed Chytalo and Tom Little. The Trustees responsible for counting on October 18 are Art Maxwell and Ed Goff.

The **Chancel Guild** volunteer for October 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: “My God will fully supply whatever you need...” (Philippians 4:19) God really does provide for those who are grateful and generous. This is very difficult for people that don’t live a stewardship lifestyle to believe. People are skeptical and say it’s just coincidence. If you are skeptical, try living a stewardship lifestyle for just one month – be generous with your gifts of time in prayer, talent in charitable works, and treasure, then see how God provides for your needs.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we learn to depend on God to supply for our all needs.

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

Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance Sunday 10-4-2026	54 - 47 in sanctuary + approx. 7 virtual
General amount needed each week	\$1,432.90
General amount given week of 10-4-2026	\$1,100.00
General amount needed year-to-date	\$57,316.00
General amount given YTD as of 10-4-2026	\$56,272.25
Fuel Fund needed each week	\$384.62
Fuel Fund given week of 10-4-2026	\$65.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	\$15,384.80
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 10-4-2026	\$2,724.00
Kirk Receipts 9-27-26 to 10-3-26	\$1,755.02
Presbyterian Mission Support week of 10-4-2026	\$10.00
Presbyterian Mission Support YTD as of 10-4-2026	\$425.00
Apportionment Needed 2026	\$6,162.22
Apportionment received YTD as of 10-4-2026	\$1,274.12

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

SUNDAY October 11	9:15 am Deacons Meeting 10:00 am Worship
MONDAY October 12	<i>Office Closed for Indigenous Peoples’ Day</i> 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day 4:00 pm Bible Study
TUESDAY October 13	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 4:30 pm PNC Meeting
WEDNESDAY October 14	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 10:30 am Gentle Yoga
THURSDAY October 15	8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations 9:00 am Kirk Work Day
FRIDAY October 16	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 October 17	9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open 10:00 am Yoga
SUNDAY October 18	9:00 am Sunday School 9:15 am Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am German Luncheon

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)