First Presbyterian Church
Delhi, New York

November 15, 2026 **10:00 a.m.**

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things." Matthew 25:23





GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude

Welcome and Church Life Notes

Introit *"Step By Step"*

***Call to Worship** *(from Psalm 100)*

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.

Leader: Know that the Lord is God. It is God that made us, and we belong to the Lord;

People: We are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.

Leader: Enter the Lord's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.

People: Give thanks to God, bless God's name.

Leader: For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever,

People: And God's faithfulness to all generations.

***Hymn** *"God of Our Life"* **#686**

Prayer of Confession

O most giving and generous God, you have given us so much, and we have returned so little. As we look at the bounty of the earth that you have showered upon us, we realize that we have not been good stewards of your love. We have kept your gifts selfishly and hidden them from others. O Lord, forgive us we pray, and help us share in your forgiveness so that we may multiply your blessings around us. We ask this in the name of the greatest gift ever given – your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

(A moment for silent personal prayer of confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God did not give us so much that he would walk away from us without listening to our appeals for mercy. When he hears our cries, he will always turn around and grant us forgiveness if we are truly sorry. Let's all get up and sing praises to a bountiful Lord of mercy.

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

Anthem *"Simple Thanks"* by Price/Besig

Prayer for Illumination

O Lord our God, help us listen and learn from the words of your prophets and the wisdom of your Son. Give us the ability to appreciate the gift of the message of your scriptures, brought to us by those who truly use your bounty to inspire others. In Jesus name. Amen.

Non-Canonical Reading – Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. He who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for he will find her sitting at his gates. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and he who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

Epistle Reading – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

***Hymn** *"We Give Thee but Thine Own"* **#708**

Gospel Reading – Matthew 25:14-30

"For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

Sermon *"Have You Used Your Talents?"* CLP Victor Lipko

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** *(from A Brief Statement of Faith, UPUSA)*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba Father. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Presentation of Gifts and Offerings

Call to the Offering

Offertory

***Choral Response** *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"* **#606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Dear Lord, you have given us the talent to earn, the talent to nurture and the talent to share. Please bless these talents that we return to you, help us multiply their use so that they bring glory to your name and comfort to those in need. 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

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**You may stand*

Thought for the Day*: "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." —Mother Teresa*

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Leading us in worship this morning:
CLP Victor Lipko, Worship Leader
Billy Meredith, Music Director
Elder Kevin Lee, Liturgist

Our Church Life & Events

First Presbyterian Church

of Delhi, New York

November 15, 2026

The author of Psalm 42 remembers going with the crowd to the house of God "with the voice of joy and praise." May we share that same spirit of gladness today as we gather to worship our Creator and approach his throne of grace. A warm welcome to all!

(Prayer) Open our spiritual eyes, blessed Lord, that we may catch a glimpse of your holiness.

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 gourmet trip around the world continues with a stop close to home – America! **After worship we will be celebrating Thanksgiving together.** The Fellowship Committee has supplied the turkey! *{If you are seeing this before Sunday morning - Family names A-L, please bring a side dish and M-Z please bring dessert!}* Come celebrate our church family!

The **upright piano** in Fellowship Hall is looking for a new home. It is available for free, but the new owner will be responsible for moving and transporting it.

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 Renee Maxwell.

The **Trustees** responsible for counting today are Tom Leo and Art Maxwell. The Trustees responsible for counting on November 22 are Tom Little and Joe Cantwell.

The **Chancel Guild** volunteer for November is Barb Leo.

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: *"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities." (Matthew 25:21)* God calls us to nurture and develop the gifts he has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts he has given us. He expects us to grow our gifts, to use them wisely, and to be generous with them. Unfortunately, many of us are not generous in proportion to all that God has given us. God asks us to be generous with all our gifts, especially the one that means the most to you.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER: That we answer God's call to nurture and develop our gifts and return them with increase.

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

Virtual and Sanctuary Attendance *Sunday 11-8-2026*	54 - 46 in sanctuary + approx. 8 virtual
General amount needed each week	$1,432.90
General amount given week of 11-8-2026	$1,704.53
General amount needed year-to-date	$64,480.50
General amount given YTD as of 11-8-2026	$63,144.78
Fuel Fund needed each week	$384.62
Fuel Fund given week of 11-8-2026	$134.00
Fuel Fund needed year-to-date	$17,307.90
Fuel Fund given YTD as of 11-8-2026	$3,140.00
Kirk Receipts 11-1-26 to 11-7-26	$2,649.54
Presbyterian Mission Support week of 11-8-2026	$20.00
Presbyterian Mission Support YTD as of 11-8-2026	$475.00
Apportionment Needed 2026	$6,162.22
Apportionment received YTD as of 11-8-2026	$1,615.65

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

SUNDAY **November 15**	**9:00 am Sunday School** **9:15 am Choir Rehearsal** **10:00 am Worship** **11:15 am Thanksgiving Luncheon**
MONDAY **November 16**	**8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations** **9:00 am Kirk Work Day** **3:00 pm Girl Scouts**
TUESDAY **November 17**	**8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations** **6:30 pm Scottish Dance**
WEDNESDAY **November 18**	**8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations** **10:30 am Gentle Yoga** **6:00 pm Trustees Meeting**
THURSDAY **November 19**	**8:00 am – 12:00 pm Little Inspirations** **9:00 am Kirk Work Day**
FRIDAY **November 20**	**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 **November 21**	**9:00 am – 2:00 pm Kirk Thrift Store Open** **10:00 am Yoga**
SUNDAY **November 22**	***Bountiful Giving Sunday*** **9:00 am Sunday School** **9:15 am Bell Choir Rehearsal** **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)