

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Wappingers Falls, New York
June 20, 2021 * Pentecost 4B

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship today.

To minimize any potential risk of infection with COVID-19, particularly for those who are not vaccinated, I remind you to please wear your mask, properly covering your mouth *and* nose, for the entire time you are in the church building. We will not be singing or reciting prayers, as recommended by the CDC, to reduce the risk of droplets being spread.

Expect the quieter, shorter, more reflective service that we used last summer.

Please sanitize your hands frequently and maintain social distance from anyone outside your household.

When it comes time to share a sign of peace, please share a wave, a bow or another gesture *from your seat*.

Please remain in your seat until it is time to exit the building.

Please follow all instructions during and after the worship service to ensure that all of us are safe.

OPENING PRAYER

Surrounded by the steadfast love of God,

we gain courage to examine our lives and our relationships.

Together we confess the sin that cuts us off from our Creator and separates us from one another.

Let us worship God.

HYMN GtG #624 I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

CALL TO CONFESSION *2 Corinthians 5:16*

We come before God “just as we are, though tossed about,” as the hymn writer says. Let us now name our conflicts, our doubts and our sins before one another and before God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy, triune God, we confess that we have not lived for your glory.

We judge by outward appearances, but you see what is in our hearts.

We look down on small things, but you know how they will grow.

Forgive us, God of grace.

Teach us to love by faith, trusting in the vision of your word and the promise of a new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS *2 Corinthians 5:17*

If you are in Christ, you are a new creation. Everything old has passed away; now everything is made new!

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

(Please share with one another a gesture, offering peace from your seat.)

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to God, creator, redeemer and Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Blessed are you, O God, for in your wisdom, you have revealed to your people the mystery of your will.

Now, by the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to hear and believe your word of truth: the good news of our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON 1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 10-16

HYMN Be Not Afraid

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 4:35-41
The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON: "A Journey Worth Taking"

TIME FOR REFLECTION

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING of GIFTS

2 Corinthians 8:9, 12-15

Consider the generosity of our Lord Jesus Christ, who – though he was rich – for our sakes became poor.

Let us give thanks to our generous God, for all of the blessings showered upon us.

Holy God, use the gifts we offer as a sign of your great love for the world,
so that all may know and share the abundance of your grace.

With gratitude for the grace of Jesus Christ, let us offer our lives to God. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

If you would like to share your joys and concerns with the congregation, please call or email the church office.

In the communion of the Holy Spirit, we call on the name of the Lord.
By your Spirit, O God, transform our lives.

We pray for the church.
In the love of Christ, open our hearts
to find joy in sorrow, richness in poverty,
and new life, even in the dust of death.
By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**

We pray for the world.
Give us the courage to confront our enemies
not with mighty weapons of war,
but with confidence in your will.
By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**
We pray for our nation and for our leaders.
God of truth, inspire with your wisdom, your justice and your compassion
all those whose decisions affect the lives of others, that all may act with integrity, honor and with
courage.
By your Spirit, O God, transform our lives.

We pray for our community and for those in need.
Teach us how good and pleasant it is
when we live together in unity;
bless us with abundant life and peace.
By your Spirit, O God, transform our lives.

We pray for those who have died and for those who mourn.
We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in the faith of Christ,
and those whose faith is known to you alone.
Give comfort to those who mourn. Fill the emptiness of loss with your never-ending peace.
By your Spirit, O God, transform our lives.

We pray for ourselves and for our ministries.
Lord, you have called us to serve you.
Grant that we may minister in *your* name, with *your* love in our hearts, *your* truth in our minds,
your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey,
we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace.
By your Spirit, O God, transform our lives.

We pray today for all who are fathers, of body or of spirit. Give them the grace to love their children
abundantly and wisely, giving embrace when that is needed, and space and freedom to find their
own way in life.
By your Spirit, O God, transform our lives.

We pray for those students who will graduate in this season. Fill them with hope and energy as they find their callings in the world, and may they “go to the other side” as they journey with you, and serve you and your people with gladness to transform the world to look more like your kingdom.

By your Spirit, O God, transform our lives.

Gracious God, continue to pour out your power in the church, in the world, and in our daily lives, so all will know that you are at work among us; through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN GtG #463 How Firm a Foundation

CHARGE AND BLESSING *Isaiah 6:3*

May the blessing of the Trinity – our holy, holy, holy Lord – be with you now and always. Alleluia!

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen!

POSTLUDE

Please exit one pew at a time, keeping six feet of distance between family groups, following all instructions.

*Andrzej and Pastor Laurie will be the last two out of the sanctuary.
Please walk directly to your car. There will be no fellowship time today.
Please call the church office with your prayer or pastoral care requests.*

Please call or email the church office with your prayer or pastoral care requests.

Please hold in your prayers:

~ For healing:

Rich, who has dementia which is progressing quickly and for his wife, Maria, his caregiver. With special Care for all the changes in their lives.

Carol, who is in the hospital in Florida with pneumonia.

Meg

Mary

Pastor Laurie's Mom, Barbara Argyle, who is in the hospital

~ For all who are infected with and impacted by Covid-19 and their caregivers.

~ For the deceased; for a peaceful rest and comfort for those whose lives they touched:

Harley Berger

Mary Johnson

Dorothy Bailey

~ For those in their final days; and their caregivers:

Connie's father

~ For all suffering after the violence in Israel and Palestine.

~ For safe travels and vacations for those celebrating graduates.

- ~For clarity, patience and discernment as we navigate this time in the pandemic, caring for the needs of the vaccinated and unvaccinated.
- ~ For joy for Stephanie and Brad Veeder who welcomed their son Carson Kenneth on June 11, 2021.
- ~ For discernment for Luke, Juan, and Jeff for their next steps.
- ~ For all of the prayers we have in our minds and in our hearts.

Announcements

Sunday Worship in-Person: For the time being, worship will be offered in-person at 10 AM only.

Communion schedule for the next few months: due to vacation schedules and holidays, the following changes have been made to communion dates:

July – Nick Johnson will officiate on July 4th while Pastor Margery is away

August – communion will be rescheduled to August 11th

September – as is our custom, we will celebrate communion on September 12th to avoid the Labor Day weekend

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

We would love to reopen our Twice Blessed Thrift Shop. We need some volunteers who are able to commit to weekly shifts. Interested? Contact Kathy Sorce at kathryn.sorce@gmail.com.

We are seeking volunteers to assist with our finance processes;

Financial Secretary: handles the “accounts receivables” – counting and depositing pledges & other sources of income. Make deposits.

Treasurer: generate monthly reports; liaison between bill payer and financial secretary.

See Nick Johnson if interested.

The Free Community Dinner provides take-out meals on the 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month. Our next Free Community Dinner To-Go is on Saturday, July 17th. **Pick up meals between 4-5:30 PM.**

Please note that we will NOT be providing a meal on July 3rd.

Pastoral Care: Pastor Margery will be away July 1-8. Pastor Laurie will provide coverage for pastoral care during that time.

If you would like to receive pastoral care, please call us: church office (845)297-2800; Pastor Margery (914)539-5323 or Pastor Laurie (845)632-1124. Pastoral care will be offered by appointment only.

Please let us know how else we can support your spiritual needs.

Stop & Shop Community Bag Program: *As a reminder, for the month of July 2021, First Presbyterian Church of Wappingers Falls - Food Pantry will receive a \$1 donation from each*

purchase of the \$2.50 reusable Community Bag at the Stop & Shop store located at 2540 South Road, Poughkeepsie NY.

ERAP NYS Funding • Emergency Rental Assistance Program is offering applications for funding. Households approved for ERAP may receive:

- Up to 12 months of rental arrears payments for rents accrued on or after March 13, 2020.
 - Up to 3 months of additional rental assistance if the household is expected to spend 30 percent or more of their gross monthly income to pay for rent.
 - Up to 12 months of electric or gas utility arrears payments for arrears that have accrued on or after March 13, 2020.

Contact 844-NY1RENT (844-691-7368) for applications and detailed information.

Rebuilding Together no-cost home repairs: Rebuilding Together, Dutchess County 2022 Rebuilding Day home repair applications are available for those homeowners that qualify for cost-free home repair and safety modifications. Contact (845)-454-7310 for questions and application information.

Communion: Should you or a loved one wish to receive home communion, please contact the office to schedule an appointment.

Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves:

Thank you for continuing to honor your pledges during this time. Whether you bring it to worship, send a check to the church office by mail or make your contribution using online banking, it is important that we maintain our ability to pay our bills as we continue to navigate this disruptive time as a church community. Thank you for your generosity!