

for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life, to the glory of your holy name...

*Time for silent confession.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

One: ...Friends, believe the good news of the gospel

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

One: Thanks be to God.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

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

All: **And also with you.**

One: Let us greet one another with signs of Christ's peace.

\* PEACE RESPONSE:

Peace be with you, and peace be with you, my neighbor, and peace be with all of God's creation, as peace has been the gift of God to me.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME. D.C.E. Mylika Selah

*Children who want to go to Sunday School(K-7) can follow the teachers to their room. Sunday School Children will be brought back to the worship service for communion, and then will join their families.*

*Younger children may be dropped off at nursery (ages 0-4), and be signed out following the service*

\* HYMN #442: "Just As I Am" Woodworth

THE EPISTLES: James 1: 17-27 p.229 NT

THE GOSPEL: Mark 7, selected verses. p.42 NT

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

THE MESSAGE: "Defiled Hearts."

*"There is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile them; but it is what comes out that defiles" - Mark 7: 15*

\* GLORIA PATRI:

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spi-rit: as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ever. Amen, A-men, A-men!

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

\* RECEIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

One: "Bring the full tithe into my storehouse" says the Lord of hosts;  
All: "And thereby put me to the test, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you." Malachi 3:20

OFFERTORY: "Andante Con Moto" F. Peeters

\* DOXOLOGY: (to the tune of "All Creatures of our God and King")

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Alleluia!  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore.  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Alleluia!**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION.

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: from our Earth Care Preamble, PC(USA)

**Peace and justice is God's plan for all creation. The earth and all creation are God's. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of human family. As God offers all people the special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles all to God, we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth. Amen.**

\* HYMN #312: "Take Us As We Are, O God" Endless Feast

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION.

*We invite you to come forward down the center aisle to receive communion, holding out an open palm to receive bread and leaving your cup in the cup racks at the back of each pew. If you wish to have communion brought to you, please indicate this by raising a hand to the servers walking in the aisles. All are welcome to receive communion at Christ's table.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FOLLOWED BY THE LORD'S PRAYER.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us, this day, our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\* HYMN #340: "This Is My Song" Finlandia

\* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING:

God be with you till we meet a-gain;  
lov-ing coun-sels guide, up-hold you,  
with a shep-herd's care en-fold you:  
God be with you till we meet a-gain.

POSTLUDE: Prelude in E Minor J.S. Bach

*Join us in the narthex for fellowship!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Bidding Susana Ofori a Safe Journey back to Ghana:** It is with mixed emotions that we announce Susana's departure as she heads back to Ghana. Susana has been an integral part of our community here at First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, New York, and her presence will be greatly missed. We wish her a safe and smooth trip, filled with God's grace and protection. Join us for cake in the Narthex as we celebrate her time with us.
- **Adult Education in September:** Join us to read and discuss 1 & 2 Samuel, exploring biblical figures like King David with Rev. Cindy Weaver at 11:30 AM. Check the bulletin for details. All are welcome.
- **Bible Study:** Join us for a bible study on 1 Samuel! Last Sunday was so engaging that we stayed 15 minutes past our scheduled end time. Today's stories include how music soothed a troubled mind and the surprising outcome of a battle. Meet Rev. Cindy Weaver in the Heritage Room at 11:30 AM.
- **Join our Choir:** Anyone interested in joining our choir is welcome. Come share your voice and be part of our music community. Reach our Chancel Choir Director, David Neal at [david.neal09@gmail.com](mailto:david.neal09@gmail.com).
- **Rev. Kathleen Rusnak is back!** The Rev. Kathleen J. Rusnak, Ph.D. will return to our sanctuary on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> to speak on "The Thriving Spirit of Alzheimer's". The program runs from 9 AM to 12 PM and will be followed by a reception in the Narthex. As those who heard her speak last year know, Rev. Rusnak is an engaging speaker with much helpful information to offer. This is not to be missed!



### Our greeters today are:

Marilyn Ewing, Beth Patton, and Linda McLean

### Our ushers today are:

Bob Kohut, Brad McFall, Kathy Lipinski, and John Ulberg

**We hold in our prayers:** David Brown; Harris Faulkner; Carolyn Grulich, Bobbie Kohut's sister; Patricia Lopez' mother, Nohemy Hernández; Tom Hurst; Betsy Mann; Stella Martz's nephew, Charles; Gaw Phaw; and Vivian and Jim Russell.

## CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1:

9:30-11:30 am Nursery Available (Second Floor)  
10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:00 am Fellowship (Narthex)  
11:30 am Bible Study (Heritage Room)  
12:30-2:00 pm Deacons (Dodds Hall)

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3:

9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours  
10:00-11 am Staff Meeting  
7:00-8:00 pm AA Meeting (Dodds Hall)  
7:00-9:00 pm Irish Music (Second Floor)

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4:

9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours  
9:30-10:30 am Al Anon (Fireside Room)  
9:30-10:30 am Wednesday Worship Meeting  
7:00-9:30 pm Finger Lakes Pipe Band

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5:

8:00 am-6:00 pm Presbytery of Geneva and friends (Fireside Room)  
9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours  
2:00-7:00 pm Flight Performing Arts Voice Lessons (Choir Room)  
6:00-7:00 pm JPIC Meeting (Zoom)  
6:30-9:00 pm Community Game Night (Dodds Hall)  
7:00-9:00 pm YFN Music (Second Floor)

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6:

9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8:

9:00-10:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
9:30-11:30 am Nursery Available (Second Floor)  
10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:00 am Fellowship (Narthex)  
11:30 am Bible Study (Heritage Room)  
12:30-2:00 pm Deacons (Dodds Hall)

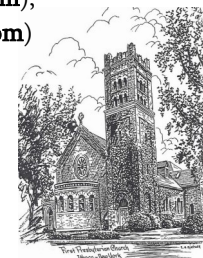
### The First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca

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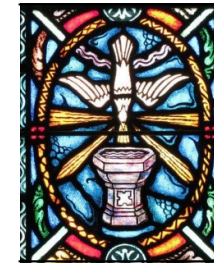
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Office Administrator: Samuel Ofori ([church.fpci@gmail.com](mailto:church.fpci@gmail.com))  
Building Superintendent: Joe Bocchiaro

For more info, please visit our website at [www.firstpresithaca.org](http://www.firstpresithaca.org) and find us on Facebook: First Presbyterian Church, Ithaca, NY.



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ITHACA



315 N Cayuga St. Ithaca, NY 14850  
607.272.2800  
Following Christ's teachings, we are fully inclusive in membership and leadership.

[firstpresithaca.org](http://firstpresithaca.org)

A congregation proud to be PC(USA).



SEPTEMBER 1, 2024: SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

## PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

*This service is being livestreamed! You can view services on our website.  
Please share your name in the Friendship Pads at the end of each pew.  
Numbered hymns are found in the purple hymnals in the pew racks.*

PRELUDE: "Pavana Hispanica" J.P. Sweelinck

WELCOME: Rev. Kirianne Weaver

\* CALL TO WORSHIP: Liturgist: Hector Aguilar-Carreño

One: God's work of parenting is never done.

**All: God is the father of all compassion,**

One: the mother of all creation;

**All: but we are constantly forgetting our home,**

One: straying from the values we were taught.

**All: God does not force us home;**

One: God does not ever force!

**All: But God calls to us,**

One: pleads with us,

**All: longs for us.**

One: In this season, we gather in God's presence:

**All: children again, ready to learn and remember --**

One: God's love is for us all.

**All: Let us worship God!**

\* HYMN #32: "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" *Ellacombe*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Rev. Cindy Weaver

**Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God,**