

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

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

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

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

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

All: **And also with you.**

* PEACE RESPONSE: Sara Schaffzin



Peace is our hope, peace is our joy. Peace is what we strive to share. Lead us on the path of peace, so that your light is seen by all.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN’S TIME

Children who want to go to Sunday School can follow the teachers to their room. Younger children may be dropped off at the nursery (ages 0-4), and all children should be picked up at their rooms following the service.

* HYMN #350: **“Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”** *Spiritual*

THE TORAH: Exodus 32: 7-14 p. 78 OT

THE EPISTLE: Romans 12: 14-21; 13: 8-10 p. 162 NT

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM: “Down in the River to Pray” *arr.* Eric Nelson

As I went down in the River to pray, studying about that good old way, and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.
O sisters let’s go down, Let’s go down, come on down.
O sisters let’s go down, down in the river to pray.

As I went down... O brothers let’s go down, down in the river to pray.
Deep river, my home is over Jordan,
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.
O don’t you want to go to that gospel feast,
That promise land, where all is peace.

As I went down in the river to pray, studying about that good old way, and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.

O brothers, let’s go down, O sisters, let’s go down,
Down in the river to pray.

THE MESSAGE: “Having Gained Their Freedom...”

*The Lord said to Moses: “Go down at once!
Your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt,
have acted perversely.” - Exodus 32: 7*

* 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: *Hebrews 13:16*

One: “Do not neglect to do good and share what you have;

All: **for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”**

OFFERTORY: “Adoration” F. Price

* DOXOLOGY: *to the tune of “All Creatures”*

**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 The Confession of 1967 (9.44, 9.55)
**God has created the peoples of the earth to be one universal family.
In God’s reconciling love, God overcomes the barriers between peoples and breaks down every form of discrimination based on racial or ethnic difference, real or imaginary. The church is called to bring all people to receive and uphold one another as persons in all relationships of life: in employment, housing, education, leisure,**

marriage, family, church, and the exercise of political rights.

Therefore, the church labors for the abolition of all racial discrimination and ministers to those injured by it. Congregations, individuals, or groups of Christians who exclude, dominate, or patronize others, however subtly, resist the Spirit of God and bring contempt on the faith which they profess.

With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

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 #359: **“Freedom Is Coming”** *South Africa*

* BENEDICTION.

* CHORAL AMEN.

POSTLUDE: Toccata in E Minor J. Pachelbel

*Join us after the service for some snacks,
and for our MLK Jr. weekend tradition:
a walk (or drive) to the MLK statue on the Commons
and to St. James AME Zion Church for more worship!*

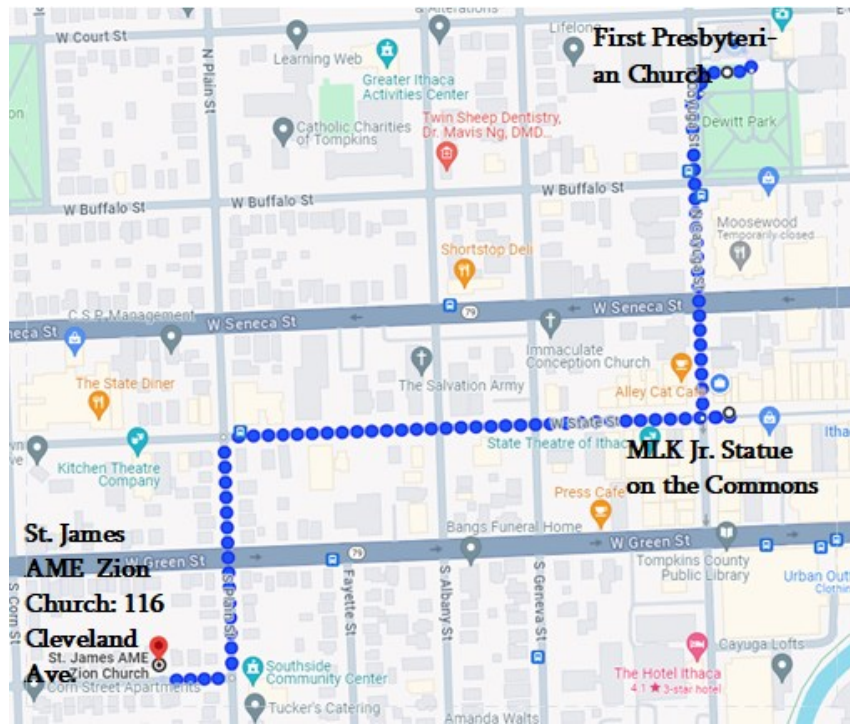
TODAY AFTER CHURCH:

- This weekend includes the national holiday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Our church has historically celebrated this Sunday with St. James AME Zion, and this is your official invitation to join us! After church, we invite you to walk (stopping at the MLK statue on the Commons) or to drive and meet us at St. James to join them in their worship service.

Those who walk: Get your coats on and DO NOT LEAVE THINGS AT CHURCH and meet in the back of the church by the Tower Door. We will walk south on Cayuga Street until we get to the Commons, where

we will stop by the Martin Luther King, Jr. statue and honor it with a round-circle reading and prayer—briefly, only because of the cold! Then we will walk west on State Street and then south on Plain Street to get to Cleveland Avenue and St. James AME Zion.

Those who drive: Streetside parking is free on Cleveland Avenue and in the area of St. James generally. DO NOT LEAVE THINGS AT CHURCH — our church building will be closed when their service is done! If you take someone else who could use a ride, thank you in advance!



- **Join our Church Directory!** To join, fill out the enclosed insert and we will share it with the congregation. Our directory is available in print and on phone—see the back of the insert for more information.
- **Congregational Meeting:** There will be a brief Congregational Meeting at the end of the church service in two weeks on January 26, 2025, for the purpose of electing officers for upcoming terms. We will still have after-church activities as usual. Please join us then!

Our greeters today are:

Marilyn Ewing, Beth Patton, and Linda McLean.

Our ushers today are:

Dorian Carpenter, Mischa Dixon, Sebastian Fallon, and Saw Htoo.

We hold in our prayers:

David Brown; Jennifer Carlson; Mischa Dixon;
Harris Faulkner; Vivian and Jim Russell;
and Marj Smart.

CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19:

- 9:00-10:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 9:30-12:30 pm Nursery Available (Second Floor)
- 10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 am Fellowship (Narthex)

MONDAY, JANUARY 20: MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY (OFFICE CLOSED)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21:

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22:

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23:

- 9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours
- 9:00-11:30 am Family Playgroup (Heritage Room)
- 6:30-9:00 pm Community Game Night (Dodds Hall)
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24:

- 9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25:

- 9:00-12:00 pm Ithaca Suzuki Music Education (Sanctuary / Dodds Hall)

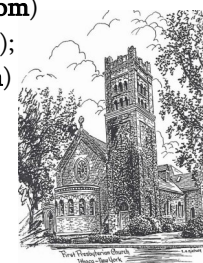
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26:

- 9:00-10:00 am 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 Adult Education (Dodds Hall)
- 11:30 am Youth Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
- 11:30 am Youth Group
- 12:30-2:00 pm Joint Meeting Deacons & Session (Dodds / Fireside Room)

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Building Superintendent: Joe Bocchiaro

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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ITHACA



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firstpresithaca.org

Following Christ's teachings,
we are fully inclusive in mem-
bership and leadership.

A congregation proud
to be PC(USA).

JAN. 19, '25: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WEEKEND

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.*

PRELUDE: Air from Suite #1 for Organ Florence Price

WELCOME. Rev. Kirianne E. Weaver

* CALL TO WORSHIP: Elder Christine Bataille

- One: Sisters and brothers, rejoice!
- All: We live sustained by God's presence and love.**
- One: As we mourn the wounds of God's children,
- All: God weeps with us.**
- One: As we give thanks for siblings who have lived in faith,
- All: God gives thanks with us.**
- One: As we struggle for justice,
- All: God struggles with us.**
- One: As we strive for peace,
- All: God strives with us.**
- One: As we work to build the beloved community,
- All: God works with us.**
- One: As we offer our gifts to all,
- All: God blesses us.**
- One: Sisters and brothers, rejoice!
- All: Sustained by God's presence and love, we worship God.**

* HYMN #456: "Listen, God Is Calling" Neno Lake Mungu

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess
our failure to be what you created us to be.
You alone know how often we have sinned:
in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts,
in forgetting your love.
By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light,
and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior...
... Time for silent confession.**