

and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires,
 that with reverent and humble hearts
 we may draw near to you,
 confessing our faults,
 confiding in your grace,
 and finding in you our refuge and strength;
 through Jesus Christ, your Son.

Time for silent confession.

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: **And also with you.**

* PEACE RESPONSE:

Peace, peace, peace, till war and violence cease. For
 God has made us sis-ter, brother, so that we may love each other.
 Peace, peace, peace, till war and violence cease.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME.

*Children who go to Godly Play can follow the teachers
 to their room. When you pick up your children at 11:10 am
 from the second floor Godly Play room, please sign them out*

or provide other pick up instructions.

* HYMN #132: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" *In Dulci Jubilo*

THE PROPHETS: Isaiah 43: 1-3, 18-21 p. 672 OT

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 2: 13-23 p. 2 NT

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE: "Dreaming"

*"...an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said..."
 - Matthew 2:13*

* GLORIA PATRI:

Glo - ri - a
 in ex-cel-sis De - o! Glo - ri - a
 ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o!

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

* RECEIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

One: As wise ones of old gave their gifts,

All: **we present to the Christ child our tithes and offerings.**

OFFERTORY.

* DOXOLOGY:

Praise God, from whom all bles - sings flow; praise Christ, all
 crea - tures here be - low! Praise Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er -
 more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION.

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *from Philippians 2.*

**Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus: who, though he
 was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something
 to be exploited; but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being
 born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled
 himself, and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a
 cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him, and gave him the name
 that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should
 bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue
 should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

* HYMN #507: "Come to the Table of Grace" *Table of Grace*

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 #136: "Go Tell It on the Mountain" *Go Tell It*

* BENEDICTION.

* CHORAL AMEN.

POSTLUDE.

Please join us for fellowship time in the narthex following the service - serving snacks and coffee, but most of all friendship.

IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH:

Join us on Sunday January 15th as we continue our tradition of starting worship here at First Presbyterian and walk to Saint James AME Zion, joining voices at both churches. We do this in commemoration of Martin Luther King, Jr and his message of peace and justice. Stay tuned!

Annual Congregational Meeting: Sunday January 22, 2023 at 7 pm via Zoom. We will celebrate our prior year's ministry, receiving reports from the committees of the church, and honoring our retiring elders and deacons. Please join us as we mark a new year for our church!

Our ushers this morning are:

Jeanette Miller, Sandra Greene, Stella Martz, and Harrison Faulkner

Our communion server this morning is: John Ullberg

Our greeters are: Marilyn Ewing, Beth Patton, and Harrison Faulkner

We hold in our prayers: Ann Cedarholm; Bobbie Collyer;

Tom Hurst; Nancy Jenkins; Nita King; Betsy Mann; Martha Mapes; Gayle Park; Mark Radice; and Connie and Don Scott and family.

CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1: COMMUNION SUNDAY

10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Fellowship Time
5:00 pm Living Hope Fellowship—Dodds Hall

MONDAY, JANUARY 2:

7:00 pm Monday Evening Study Group (Zoom)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3:

7:00 pm AA Meeting
7:00 pm Contra Dance Music—3rd Floor

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4:

2:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Zoom)
6:30 pm Finger Lakes Pipe Band—3rd floor

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5:

6:30 pm Community Game Night—Dodds
7:00 pm Piperventilators (YFN) - 3rd Floor
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7:

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8: ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS DUE

9:00 am Youth Group
9:30am-12:30pm Nursery
10:00 am Worship and Children's Church (Godly Play)
11:00 am Fellowship Time
11:20 am Adult Education—Dodds Hall
5:00 pm Living Hope Fellowship—Dodds Hall

The First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca

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315 N. Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY 14850

Senior Pastor: the Rev. Kirianne E. Weaver (kirianne@firstpresithaca.org)

Pastoral Supply: the Rev. Cynthia A. Weaver, (cynthia@firstpresithaca.org)

Director of Christian Education: Mylika Slaughter

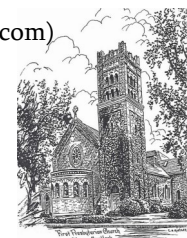
Organist: Dr. Ian Woods;

Chancel Choir Director: Dr. David Neal (david.neal09@gmail.com)

Office Administrator: Linda Sharpe (T-F 8:30 -1:00)

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



315 N Cayuga St.
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firstpresithaca.org

Following Christ's teachings, we are fully inclusive in membership and leadership.

A congregation proud to be PC(USA).



JANUARY 1, 2023: THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

This service is being livestreamed! You can view services on our website. Please write your name in the Friendship Pad, and if you need a nametag, put a star next to your name and one will be waiting for you in the narthex.

PRELUDE.

WELCOME:

Rev. Cindy Weaver

* CALL TO WORSHIP: (*adapted from Isaiah 63:7-9*)

One: We will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD,
the praiseworthy acts of the LORD,
because of all that the LORD has done for us,

All: and the great favor to the house of Israel that the LORD has shown according to God's mercy, according to the abundance of God's steadfast love.

One: For the LORD said, "Surely you are my people, children who will not deal falsely,"

All: and God became our savior in all our distress.

One: It is no messenger or angel but the LORD's presence that saves us;

All: in God's love and pity God redeems us;

The LORD lifts us up and carries us all our days.

* HYMN #143: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" *Regent Square*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**Eternal God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
whose face is hidden from us by our sins,
and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts:
Cleanse us from all our offenses,**

* Sitting or standing is a matter of custom and preference but not a requirement. You are invited to participate in whatever way makes you most comfortable.