



First Presbyterian Church of
NORTHPORT

13th Sunday after Pentecost
August 27th, 2023



Our Mission Statement

First Presbyterian Church of Northport is a welcoming community that invites all people to learn about and respond to the Word of God as found in the Old and New Testaments. Our mission is to be shaped by, proclaim, and live out the good news of Jesus Christ. We are committed to supporting the spiritual development of our congregation by feeding the spiritually and physically hungry, caring for the sick and lonely, nurturing children, and reaching out to those in need in our local and global communities.

FOUNDED 1785

WELCOME TO THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHPORT

Whether you are visiting for the first time, or are a longtime member, we are blessed to have you with us. We bring different questions, and we carry different burdens. But every Sunday, we worship together as one. In our preaching and our prayers, we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world. We hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant this morning -- a word of comfort, a spur to action, a call to a deeper relationship with God. We hope you will experience some of the love and warmth of this caring community of faith. Welcome! We're glad you're here!

Rachel Vione, Pastor

- Please let us know of your presence by joining our members in signing our Friendship Pad (blue folder in pew).
- If you have any questions about our church, please ask our greeters and ushers (the folks who handed you a bulletin) or visit our website www.fpcnorthport.org.
- Nursery care is provided each Sunday at our 10:00 am worship service, if you need help please ask an usher.
- Parents of young children are invited to pick up a children's worship bag hanging on the wall in the narthex (entryway).
- Everyone is invited to gather immediately after worship for conversation in the Hartt Room.

HOW TO CONNECT

- Come to worship—we're here every week!
- Watch our LiveStream on our YouTube Channel - www.youtube.com/@fpcnorthport
- Follow us on Facebook - www.facebook.com/fpcnorthport
- Join the church!
- Find the most current information on our website (www.fpcnorthport.org).

Today in Worship

In order that we might give our full attention to God during worship, we request that you turn off, or turn to silent mode, all cell phones and pagers and that no flash photography be taken.

Please welcome our guest organist, Carole Huston. Carole Huston retired to Long Island in 2018 after a long career as a Church Musician. She was last on staff at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church in McLean, Virginia, where she was Director of Music. In her retirement life, she is busy with substituting, for other organists, taking classes at OLLI, and volunteering as a Medicare counselor.

Please welcome our guest preacher, Rev. Lawrence Swensen. Rev. Swensen was ordained in 1999. Since that time he has served as the parish administrator for St. Philip & St. James Episcopal Church, and an Associate Minister for the Bayport United Methodist Church. Later he was pastor for the Half Hollow Community Church in Dix Hills, New York, before serving as pastor for The People's Church of Long Beach, New York. For six years he was the Administrative Assistant for Episcopal Health Services Department of Clinical Pastoral Education. After two years of CPE he was certified as a Chaplain & Pastoral Counsellor in March of 2000. In 2004 he became the convener of the Suffolk County Chapter of the College of Pastoral Supervision & Psychotherapy until 2014. In 2007 he became a part time chaplain for the Long Island Council of Churches serving at the Nassau County Correctional Center, located in East Meadow, NY. He continues to minister in the jail. He has three grown children and three grandchildren. He resides in East Meadow, New York.

Cover Art - Tissot, James, 1836-1902. Woman with an Infirmity of Eighteen Years, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57031> [retrieved August 23, 2023]. Original source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:HealWomanSabbath.jpg>.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27TH, 2023

13th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

~We Gather in God's Name~

*The service of worship begins with the music of the prelude.
Through its power and brilliance, may you feel the majesty and glory of God;
in its quietness, God's peace.*

PRELUDE

“Prelude in a Minor: Adagio”
Caesar Franck

Carole Huston

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Joan Armet

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

who made the heavens and the earth.

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side,

then the flood would have swept us away.

The God who saved Israel is still at work in the world,

hearing the cries of the afflicting and setting God's people free.

Thanks be to God!

*HYMN NO. 394

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Gracious God, you are always present and active amid your people. We confess that sometimes we fail to recognize and respond to your saving work in the world. We defer to power and privilege, expect the tried and true, and succumb to doubt and despair when your ways are not clear. Behold, you are doing a new thing; help us to perceive it. Forgive us when we do not respond to your call. Liberate us from our fears and self-imposed limitations. Guide us into the fullness of life and love that you are at work preparing. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Indicates the congregation is invited to stand

Please be aware that the broadcasted service may include images and video of people in the sanctuary who are present for the service.

SILENT PRAYERS

(Moment of silence for personal confession and reflection)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory Be to the Father”

Hymn No. 581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

~We Hear God’s Word~

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 71:1-6, 23, 24

(p. 532, pew Bible)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 13:10-17

(p. 76, pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“I Wonder.....”

Rev. Lawrence Swensen

~We Respond As God’s People~

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (responsive)

from Deut. 6:4-5

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your might.**

*SUNG RESPONSE

Hymn No. 1, v. 1

NICEA

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity**

OFFERING

Please scan the QR Code on the back page

OFFERTORY

“Trio in Eb Major”

Joseph Rheinberger

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**Generous God, you are the source of all good gifts, and you are the one who taught us how to give.
Receive our offering — an act of faith that even our small gifts have power and purpose in your
world. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 debts, as we
forgive our debtors; 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 NO. 39

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

*BENEDICTION

“Grace Be with You All”
by Michael Card ©

**Remember to love one another
And do what is pleasing to Him
Be strengthened by grace
And worship in reverence and awe
The God of peace.**

chorus (sung twice)

**And grace be with you all
And may the Great Shepherd of the sheep
Equip you with all things
For doing His will
And grace be with you all.**

**Forget not the sufferings of Jesus
And bear the disgrace that He bore
Confessing His name, for Christ is the same
Yesterday, today and forever.**

*POSTLUDE

“Toccata in C Major”

Johann Pachelbel

Following the benediction, the congregation is invited to depart the sanctuary for coffee hour.

Announcements

Sunday School Classes – Classes are on hiatus through the summer and will resume on September 10. Nursery care is provided in the nursery on the lower level.

Weekday Nursery School Update – There are a few spots available in our four-year old class for the fall. If you are interested in enrolling your child/grandchild, please email info@weekdaynorthport.com or call 631-757-1342.

Save the date! Our fall kick-off BBQ will be held on **Sunday, September 10th** following the worship service. All are invited to enjoy hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers and iced tea & lemonade on the patio and in the Hartt Room. All are welcome to attend as we come together again after the summer months. Long Island Softee will provide the ice cream.

Invite a Friend to Church Day! September 10th! – In her sermon on July 16th, Pastor Rachel challenged the congregation to invite a friend to church on Sunday, September 10th as we kick off a new program year. Invite your friends and family members to church for the worship service where we will celebrate the Lord's Supper and welcome back our Chancel Choir, (and new choir director). After worship everyone is invited to the BBQ featuring hamburgers, hot dogs, black bean burgers (vegetarian option), sides, and ice cream! Invite your friends to experience the warmth, love and to experience the holy Spirit working in our midst!

School Supplies Collection – As children are preparing to return to school in September, Youth Directions & Alternatives (YDA) will be collecting school supplies to distribute to needy families in our community. During the month of August, boxes will be provided at the rear entrance to the church to receive your donations. Backpacks, pencils (12 ct.), 3-ring binders, loose leaf paper, dividers, highlighters (yellow, orange, pink), pencil sharpeners (with cover), two-pocket plastic folders (red, blue, green, yellow & orange), post its (3x3), glue sticks, Elmer's glue bottle, child scissors (blunt or point tip), color pencils & crayons (24 ct.), jumbo markers (8 ct.), black sharpies, index cards, and black & white marble composition notebooks are requested. Your donations will help the kids start out equipped with "all things new". Backpacks are especially needed again this year.

Adult Education is back! – Starting September 17th, Adult Christian Education will meet in the Library at 9 am before church each Sunday. We are beginning with a series called "Half Truths" by Adam Hamilton which is 5 short video sessions that explore common sayings attributed to the bible and whether they capture the truth intended in the bible text. We will discuss the impact that they have on our interactions with each other and with God. Please join us for coffee, conversation and to endeavor to find a better understanding of our relationship to the bible, each other and God. Any questions, contact Cathy Coleman at 631 266 3020.

Presbyterian Women's (PW) Book Discussion Tuesday, September 19th – Please put the next PW book discussion on your calendar to talk about "The Pull of the Stars" by Emma Donoghue. The books are now available to be picked up at Northport Library. The discussion will be held at the home of Christine Spiller on Tuesday, September 19 at 10 am. Please call Christine at 631-757-8167 to let her know if you are joining in. The book talks are great!

The Northport Arts Coalition is excited to announce the installation of a Poetry Path in Village Park later this year. The idea comes from our own Linda Dickman. The coalition is looking for individuals or groups to sponsor the remaining four pedestals and 12 poems. Contact Linda (libearyn@gmail.com) to participate.

Church Summer Office Hours – The church office will be open Tuesday - Friday from 9:00 - 1:00 from June 12- September 11.

Men's Wednesday Morning Breakfast – Each week the Men's Wednesday Morning Breakfast Group meets at 8:15 AM in Greenlawn Family Restaurant or in the Hartt Room. All men of the church are invited to join in! For more information, please email Deacon Tim Gladding at emgeetd@aol.com.

Prayers

Scott J. Andersen (friend of the Mercer family), The Nathan Family (friend of Tom Sundquist), Greg Farrell (Kathy Landi's friend), Sharon Anderson (friend of the Dickmans), Karen Butler (friend of Marilyn Barker), Linda Siegmann, Sean Tinker (Pegge Strella's nephew), Joe Winkler, Liz Crescenzo (friend of Kathy Landi), Mike Rowley (friend of the Newmans), Justin Yoskowitz, Aaron Thomas, Brian Brewer (Faustine White's son), **the family of:** Aileen Horton (Diane Lobaugh's friend from England), Grandma Rose (Kristine Blane's grandmother), Brian Murphy (Kristine Blane's stepfather), **those in Healthcare facilities** – St. Catherine of Siena Nursing & Rehabilitation Center: Ann Deery, **our partner congregations:** Nueva Paz, Cuba and Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida, Malverne; the Presbytery of Long Island and its staff; the Synod of the Northeast, the Presbyterian Church (USA), its Louisville staff, its missionaries worldwide

Pastoral Care Concerns - If you or someone you know is in the hospital or needs a pastoral care visit, please contact the church office to let us know. This will help us to be sure that we are aware of the pastoral care needs of our church members.

If you have a pastoral concern/request, please email Karen at ktwitchell@fpcnorthport.org. Relaying this type of information in this way will assist us greatly in our efforts to be attentive to the pastoral needs of members of our congregation.

The names of those on our prayer list will remain in the bulletin for six weeks. If, after the six-week period, you would like the name you submitted to remain on the list, please contact the church office with your request. Thank you! (To add or remove your name from this list, please call the church office, 261-6434.)

Anyone who is not able to attend church in person who desires a visit with communion, please contact Pastor Rachel at rvione@fpcnorthport.org.

Food Pantry News

The Pantry is open Monday-Thursday from 10:00-12:00. If you would like to make food donations to the Pantry, please place your donations in the donation box marked "Food Pantry" in the parking lot entrance of the church Monday-Thursday from 10:00-12:00. If you would like to make a financial donation to the Pantry, please make your check out to "ELC Food Pantry."!

Specific Pantry Needs

The food pantry is in need of the following items:

Diapers size 5	Peanut butter & jelly	Rice (1 or 2-pound bags)
Oatmeal, corn flakes, rice krispies	Mustard, ketchup, mayonnaise	Flour, sugar, brown sugar,
Canola & olive oils (small cont.)	Cookies, snack foods, chips	Hot chocolate
Razors, female products, toothbrushes, deodorant	Laundry soaps, dish soaps (small containers)	Pancake mix

Contact Information

Church Office

330 Main St., Northport, NY 11768

Phone: (631) 261-6434

Email: office@fpcnorthport.org

Website: www.fpcnorthport.org

 www.facebook.com/fpcnorthport

Ecumenical Lay Council Food Pantry

Phone: (631) 261-4357

Weekday Nursery School

Phone: (631) 757-1342

Email: info@weekdaynorthport.com

Website: www.weekdaynorthport.com

 www.facebook.com/weekdaynorthport

To sign up for the church email list send
your email address to:
office@fpcnorthport.org

The Staff of The First Presbyterian Church of Northport

Rachel Vione

Pastor

Colleen Agovino

Chancel Choir Director

Brenda Clark

Director of Music & Organist

John Kennedy

Facilities Manager

Kevin McKerr

Finance and IT Manager

Michelle Micucci

Director of Weekday Nursery School

Karen Twitchell

Office Administrator



Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the church.
The network name is FPCN_Guest
The password for the guest network is Hartt330

Session

Marcia Mercer (Clerk of Session), Melissa Barasch, Pat Bell, Melissa Beyer, Cathy Coleman, Dennis Crowley, Frank Dentrone, Vicki Field, Marilyn Fox, Kim Gilbert, Susanne Haffner, William Heuer, Cindy Mies, Diana Montusi, David Ofsharick, Anita D'Amico Stambouly

Deacons

Jim Beyer, Janeen Crowley, Helene Dunat, Sue Ebert, Jack Fink, Tim Gladding, Carolyn Louis (co-moderator), Krista Mellinger-DeRoma, Jeannie O'Brien (co-moderator), Robin O'Neil Gonzalez, Jeannie Reed, Robert Spiller, Pegge Stella, Marjorie Sundquist, Tiffany Thomas

Give Online



Pay Your 2023 Per-Capita
\$38.95 per member

