



First Presbyterian Church of  
**NORTHPORT**

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
September 24<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://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](http://www.youtube.com/@fpcnorthport)
- Follow us on Facebook - [www.facebook.com/fpcnorthport](http://www.facebook.com/fpcnorthport)
- Join the church!
- Find the most current information on our website ([www.fpcnorthport.org](http://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 preacher today Elder Amy Means.** Born and raised in Metro Detroit, Michigan, where she first served as an Elder and Evangelism Team leader for three years. She and her husband reside in Huntington where they stay busy cheering their three children on in dance, lacrosse, and cross-country. Amy has spent twenty years as an educator and currently teaches in South Huntington schools. She is an actively serving Elder, member of the Education and Worship teams, and helps run the Youth Group at Old First Church in Huntington.

**About Today's Music:** On this Sunday, "in ordinary time" (meaning that there is not a specific liturgical season), we have the opportunity to present various forms of sung and instrumental music. Today's anthem is by a composer of Indian descent who utilized the motif of chant to convey these words of praise - "Gloria, in Excelsis Deo". Mendelssohn is known for his "Songs without Words", however, Joseph Bonnet, born in France (as was Charles-Alexis Chauvet) founded the organ department at the Eastman School of Music where FPC's own James Graziano is a student. Please feel free to think of your own words of prayer and praise during this prelude.

**Cover Art:**

# SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

17<sup>th</sup> 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	“Romance Sans Paroles ( <i>Song without Words</i> )” Op. 7, No. 8	Joseph Bonnet
WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH		Deacon Pegge Strella
MINUTE FOR MISSION	“ <i>Peace &amp; Global Witness Offering</i> ”	Elder Cathy Coleman
CHORAL INTROIT	“O Thou Who Hearest Every Heartfelt Prayer”	F. Atkinson
*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)		<i>Psalm 105</i>

O give thanks to the Lord; call upon God's name; make God's deeds known among all people.

**Sing to the Lord, sing praises to God; let us tell of all God's wonderful works!**

Glory in God's holy and precious name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

**Let us seek the Lord and his strength; let us seek the presence of our God continually.**

Remember the wonderful works that God has done, God's miracles and the judgments God has uttered.

**For God is mindful of God's covenant forever, of the word God commanded for a thousand generations.**

Praising the Lord, our God, and rejoicing for God's never-failing promises, let us lift our hearts in joy as we worship God together in Spirit and Truth!

*HYMN NO. 263	“All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!”	CORONATION
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## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Creating God, beauty and harmony mark your creation. As the seasons change, we see that you are still at work in the world, transforming hearts and situations. We praise you for all you do to repair injustice, bring peace to places of war, and work for goodness to prevail in all nations. You offer us new possibilities day by day, so we place our trust in your redeeming power. Renew our energy for worship, fellowship, and mission, and open our eyes to new opportunities to reach out and share our blessings with others in the name of Jesus, our Savior.

\*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.**

**Compassionate God, through the power of the Holy Spirit in our hearts and lives, make us participants in your work, bringing justice and joy into the world you love. You open your heart to those in need and to your aching creation. We confess that we often turn away, so that we do not have to see the pain, suffering, or loss right before our eyes. We do not like to feel uncomfortable or pressed into service. Forgive us. Inspire us to offer ourselves for one another. Give us the courage we desire to look ahead, guided by your love and strengthened to reach out with the care and compassion we have witnessed in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYERS

*(Moment of silence for personal confession and reflection)*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The prophet Micah declared that God requires three things of us:  
to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

**To all who repent, act for justice, and seek to serve God and neighbor in loving kindness, God offers the gifts of forgiveness, love, and peace. May we rejoice in these perfect gifts and freely share them with others.**

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory Be to the Father”

Hymn No. 581

**~We Hear God’s Word~**

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 3:12-21

(p.198, pew Bible)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND PRAYER

5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger gather on the chancel steps

*After the message, children are invited to attend Sunday school classes on the lower level of the church.*

HYMN NO. 65

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”  
*(Please remain seated)*

CWM RHONDDA

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 16:2-15

(p. 62, pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Don’t Look Back!”

Elder Amy Means

**~We Respond As God’s People~**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison)

*The Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*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

“Medieval Gloria”  
Chancel Choir

V. Singh

\*DOXOLOGY NO. 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**God of loving-kindness, we offer our gifts of mind, body, and spirit; time, talent, and treasure, in gratitude for what you have given us in Jesus, the Christ, and throughout creation. Bless these gifts, given in faithful expectation, and multiply them through what others share, so that your goodness, mercy, love, and grace may impact all who are in need. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray...

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. 722

“Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak”

CANONBURY

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

“Peace I Leave You”

R. Repp

\*POSTLUDE

“Grand Choir in C”

Charles-Alexis Chauvet

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

## Announcements

**Sunday School Classes Meet Today!** Following the Children's Message, all children are invited to attend Sunday School on the lower level. Nursery care is provided in the nursery on the lower level.

**Today is the Cow Harbor Parade!** The parade kicks off at noon and goes right by the church on Main St. Stay after worship and watch the parade with your church friends.

**Chancel Choir will be rehearsing on Thursdays at 7:30 pm.** We are looking for new members to join in singing with our FPC Chancel Choir this year. Maybe you haven't sung since high school, maybe you listen and enjoy singing from the seats in the congregation, maybe you are looking for a way to deepen your connection with God. Singing with the FPC Chancel Choir could be just what you need to fill your spiritual cup! We would love for you to join us at our rehearsals, along with our returning members, on Thursdays at 7:30 pm in the choir room (lower level) with Colleen Agovino and Brenda Clark!

**Adult Education is back!** –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.

**Next Sunday, October 1st is World Communion Sunday** – Christians around the world will celebrate the Lord's Supper. We will also collect our Peace & Global Witness Offering that day.

**Special speaker on October 1<sup>st</sup>** – Following worship, we will have a speaker from the Northport Native Garden Initiative. We will learn how to use native plants in our gardens and how doing so helps our environment. This event will take place in the Chapel and is sponsored by our Peacemaking Ministry.

**Sign Up to be a Liturgist** – The Sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Hartt Room.

**Help is needed with our livestream!** We need volunteers to run our livestream equipment on Sunday mornings. Our livestream services have become an important ministry here at FPC and we would like to continue to offer this option to those who cannot worship with us in person. Training will be provided. Please contact Kevin McKerr if you can help.

**Please continue to support the church by fulfilling your 2023 pledge.** As we approach the fourth quarter of 2023, please be sure to fulfill (or begin), your 2023 pledge to the church. Thank you!

**Deacon Blood Drive – Thursday, September 28** from 1-7 pm at St. Philip Neri, 15 Prospect Ave., Northport

**Pioneers will meet on Wednesday, September 27** – Senior adults are invited to join our Pioneers for fellowship, fun, chapel, and lunch at 10:00 in the Hartt Room.

**Presbyterian Women's (PW) Book Discussion Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>** – The next PW book discussion will be about *The Paper Daughters of Chinatown* by Heather B. Moore. The talk will take place on Tuesday, November 7th at 10 am at the home of Peggy Denniston. Please call Peggy at 631-261-2426 to let her know if you plan to attend. Please join in; the talks are so enjoyable!

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

## Prayers

Jeanne Connelly (friend of the Dickmans), Danny Digennaro (friend of the Mercer family), 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), Joe Winkler, Mike Rowley (friend of the Newmans), Justin Yoskowitz, Brian Brewer (Faustine White's son), **the family of:** June VonVange (family member of The Michels), Aaron Thomas (Tiffany's husband), Edward Pedersen (Jeanne Meyer's brother), 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](mailto: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](mailto: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:

Pasta sauces	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
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](mailto:office@fpcnorthport.org)

Website: [www.fpcnorthport.org](http://www.fpcnorthport.org)

 [www.facebook.com/fpcnorthport](https://www.facebook.com/fpcnorthport)

### Ecumenical Lay Council Food Pantry

Phone: (631) 261-4357

### Weekday Nursery School

Phone: (631) 757-1342

Email: [info@weekdaynorthport.com](mailto:info@weekdaynorthport.com)

Website: [www.weekdaynorthport.com](http://www.weekdaynorthport.com)

 [www.facebook.com/weekdaynorthport](https://www.facebook.com/weekdaynorthport)

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

