



First Presbyterian Church of
NORTHPORT

14th Sunday after Pentecost
September 3rd, 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 preacher today Rev. Ralph B. Wright, Jr. - The Rev. Ralph B. Wright, Jr. is a retired Presbyterian Pastor having served churches in California and New York. His most recent parishes have included Yaphank, Remsenburg, East Moriches and Merrick. He also served churches in transition as pulpit supply for Massapequa, Levittown, Old South Haven. and Mattituck. As a Tentmaker minister, his non-church employment has included service with the Los Angeles United Way and the American Red Cross, as well as serving the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Africa and Europe, and his family's accounting firm in Patchogue. With his accounting and financial background, he has served the Presbytery of Long Island as a member of the Board of Trustees, the Budgeting Committee, The Shepherding Council and the Presbytery's Disaster Assistance Committee.

About Today's Cover Art: "Lunchtime Rest" – William H. Johnson - the brilliant colors and bold stripes recall the multi-stripe designs of West African textiles and the African American tradition of freehand quilting. Johnson based Lunchtime Rest on memories of the South, even though by 1940 he had not visited for many years. Johnson captured the quiet dignity of rural workers' rest from mundane activities without romanticizing their labor.

About Today's Music: In a sense all of today's service music are linked to hymn tunes. The title of of the prelude is from the hymn, "Christ is Coming" with a tune written by William Macomber. Our offertory is a favorite at FPC from an Irish ballad tune provided with a searching, prayerful text. The postlude is Walker Baylor's composition of a psalm of David, the shepherd turned king (O Lord, my God, how excellent are thy works). A special thank you goes to Elizabeth and Jack Coleman for ending our summer season of special music with today's duet.

Cover Art Johnson, William H., 1901-1970. Lunchtime Rest, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56253> [retrieved August 30, 2023]. Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/americanartmuseum/3662422645/>.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2023

14th 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

“In the Glow of the Early Morning” (*Tune Macomber*)
J. Prentiss

Dr. Brenda Clark

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Joan Armet

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Come let us give thanks to God, for God is good.

God's love endures forever.

God gives each of us grace according to the measure of Christ's gift so that his church may be built up in love.

God's love endures forever.

It is God's will that we all come to the unity of the faith and acquire the knowledge of the teaching of the Christ.

God's love endures forever. Together we worship God. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 719

“Come, Labor On”

ORA LABORA

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us come together in prayer as individuals to acknowledge our weaknesses and shortcomings and to pray for strength and guidance.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Loving and caring God, in you we find all that we need. In you we are fed, in you we are heard. In you we are truly alive. We recognize that we are unworthy of your love and that we sin and fall short of your goals for us. We fail to meet the standards our Lord has put before us. Forgive us and refresh our souls with your Spirit and strengthen us. Draw us closer to you. We ask it through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 (responsive)

Hear the good news. Christ is our peace and salvation. And so I declare to you, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

We thank You, O Lord, that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven! We pray for strength to forgive one another. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

*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~

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 12:9-13

(p. 162, pew Bible)

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

SERMON

“Come Labor On”

Rev. Ralph Wright

~We Respond As God’s People~

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison)

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

*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

“Be Thou My Vision” (*Tune Slane*)
Duet: Elizabeth Coleman & Jack Coleman

Traditional

*DOXOLOGY NO. 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

**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)

Gracious God, the gifts we offer reflect only a portion of all that you have given us. Take these offerings, we pray, and multiply them for your use. May our offerings be a blessing to those most in need, to those most vulnerable. May our offerings, given in a spirit of generosity, abate the desire to hoard, and spread the desire to share. 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. 300

“We Are One in the Spirit”

THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“Psalm VIII”

W. Baylor

The flowers in the Sanctuary are in celebration of Marcia and Ron Mercer’s 25th Anniversary given by Marcia Mercer.

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

Announcements

Sunday School Classes – Classes will resume next Sunday on September 10th. Nursery care is provided in the nursery on the lower level.

Chancel Choir starts rehearsing this Thursday, September 7th 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 first rehearsal, along with our returning members, on Thursday, September 7th at 7:30 pm in the choir room (lower level) with Colleen Agovino and Brenda Clark!

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. Invite your friends to experience the warmth, love and to experience the Holy Spirit working in our midst!

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.

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

Pioneers will meet on Wednesday, September 13 – Senior adults are invited to join our Pioneers for fellowship, fun, chapel and lunch at 10:00 in the Hartt Room.

Thank you! To all who donated school supplies for those in need. The backpacks and supplies were given to children and families from YDA and our Food Pantry clients.

Daily Devotions "These Days" – The new issue of "These Days" for October - December has arrived. Copies are available in the Hartt Room.

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 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 Office Hours – The church office will be open Monday - Friday from 9:00 - 1:00 beginning on September 11.

Prayers

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, 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:** 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. 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

