



First Presbyterian Church of
NORTHPORT

12th Sunday after Pentecost
August 31st, 2025



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

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 Elder Amy Means. Amy Means is an actively serving Elder at Old First Church in Huntington. She was 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 girls on in dance, cross-country, lacrosse, and field hockey. They are also proud Michigan State University alumni and parents to their son, who recently completed his freshman year as an MSU Spartan. Amy has spent over twenty years as an educator and teaches in the South Huntington Union Free School District.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31ST, 2025

12th Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

~We Gather in God's Name~

PRELUDE

"Air"
G. Muffat

Daniel Berman

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Carolyn Louis

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

from Haggai 1, Psalm 127, & Matthew 6

Come, people of God, giving careful thought to our ways.

We come, leaving behind our busyness, in search of the one who gives true, everlasting life.

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it will labor in vain.

Our hope and trust are in the Lord, our God.

Jesus says, "Do not worry about your life – what you will eat or what you will wear."

We will seek first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness.

Let us worship the God who provides, who calls, and who loves.

With grateful hearts and joyful spirits, we lift our hearts and voices in worship and praise!

*HYMN NO. 22

"God of the Sparrow"

ROEDER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsive)

Holy and gracious God, you are the creator of heaven and earth. By your word, the stars were set in place, and by your spirit, the breath of life fills every living thing. You clothe the lilies of the field in beauty and not even a sparrow falls without your care. You are faithful beyond measure, providing for us even before we know what we need. You call us into covenant relationship, inviting us to trust you, walk with you, and find our life in you alone. You are our rock and our redeemer, our true foundation and our everlasting hope. And so, with grateful hearts, we worship you, Parent, Child, and Holy Spirit; Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer; one God, now and forever.

Merciful and forgiving God, you call us to "give careful thought to our ways," but we confess that far too often, our ways are turned inward. We hurry to build our lives, neglecting the life you are building within us. We fill our calendars with commitments, our minds with worry, and our hands with endless tasks, forgetting that you are the source of everlasting peace. We spend much, but are rarely satisfied. We labor hard, but our hearts remain restless. Forgive us, O Lord.

Reorder our priorities so that we may seek first your kingdom. Forgive our striving after lesser things and teach us to rest instead in your gracious abundance. Draw us back into your embrace, so that we may once again know the joy of living in your love. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS

(Moment of silence for personal confession and reflection)

*Indicates the congregation is invited to stand

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (responsive)

Hear the good news of salvation: the prophet reminds us that even when God's people turned inward, building their own houses and neglecting the house of the Lord, God did not abandon them. Instead, God called them back with love and patience: "Consider your ways and return to me."

We rejoice that in Christ Jesus, that call is fulfilled. Christ has built the true and everlasting temple – not of stone and wood, but of grace and mercy. By his life, death, and resurrection, our sins are forgiven, our priorities are reordered, and our lives are made new! Thanks be to God! Amen!

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

"Take My Life"

Hymn No. 697 vs. 5 & 6

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Holy and living God, from the beginning you have spoken light into darkness, order into chaos, and truth into wandering hearts. We are quick to listen to many voices, but slow to listen to yours. Come Holy Spirit, silence within us every distraction, every worry, and every competing desire, until only your Word of Life remains. Speak to us with clarity and grace, planting your truth deep within us, reshaping our priorities, and building our lives upon the foundation of Christ Jesus, our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

~We Hear God's Word~

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthians 3:9-17

(p. 167, pew Bible)

HYMN NO. 450

"Be Thou My Vision"
(Please remain seated)

SLANE

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Haggai 1:1-11

(p. 878, pew Bible)

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

SERMON

"Give Careful Thought to Your Ways"

Elder Amy Means

~We Respond As God's People~

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison)

The Confession of 1967, 9.32-33

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to all people commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the

inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord. Amen!

***SUNG RESPONSE**

"Take My Life"

Hymn No. 697 vs. 2 & 3

OFFERING

Please scan the QR Code on the back page

OFFERTORY

***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)**

Generous God, all that we have is a gift from you. You are the creator of heaven and earth, the giver of daily bread, and the one who clothes the lilies and feeds the sparrows. You have entrusted us with gifts of time, talent, and treasure, calling us to use each one for your glory and the good of the world. Receive these offerings as signs of our gratitude, symbols of our trust, and tokens of our desire to put you first. Build us into living temples, spiritual homes where you may dwell and through which your love may shine into the world. 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. 307**

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

CWM RHONDDA

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

"Trumpet Voluntary"

J. Clarke

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

Announcements

Help for Flood Victims – <https://pcusa.org/donate/dr000191-disaster-relief-us-flooding>

Checks can be mailed to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) P. O. Box 643700 Pittsburgh, PA 15264

Sunday School Classes – During the months of July and August there will not be a children's message during worship. All children can be dropped off on the lower level before worship and picked up following worship. Miss Joey & Miss Mary will have fun activities for the children to do. Children are also welcome to stay in church and worship with their families. Sunday School classes and the children's message will resume next Sunday, September 7th.

Save the date! Our Fall Kick-off Sunday will be held next Sunday, September 7th. Join us for worship as we welcome back our Chancel Choir and celebrate the Lord's Supper together. Following worship, all are invited to a special coffee hour in the Hartt Room where Long Island Softee will provide the ice cream! All are welcome to attend as we come together again after the summer months.

Adult Ed Class – September 7th – Adult Education is kicking off this year beginning next Sunday, September 7 at 9 am before church. We are starting an eight-week video series by Devin Brown on C.S. Lewis' book *Mere Christianity*. The book highlights Lewis' take on the basic tenets of all Christianity, with his philosophy on why Christianity must be true, starting with why there must be a God! It is interesting, historical and sometimes controversial; with the book written as spiritual encouragement for England while the British were fighting the Nazis during WWII. Come and join us for pastries, coffee, and lively discussion. See you then!

Save the date! Blessing of the Backpacks, Sunday, September 14th All children are invited to bring their backpacks/book bags to worship on Sunday, September 14. There will be a special blessing of the backpacks during the children's sermon.

Fall New Members Class – Have you been worshipping with us regularly and want to hear more about membership at FPC? Come to a new members' class after worship on **Sunday, September 14th** in the Chapel. New members will officially join the church on Sunday, September 21st.

Presbyterian Women (PW) Book Discussion – The next book discussion will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 23 at 10 AM. The book we will be talking about is called *Miss Morgan's Book Brigade* by Janet Skeslien Charles. This book is a wonderful historical novel. It will be held at Christine Spiller's home. Please call Christine at 631-757-8167 to let her know if you plan to attend. Please join in.

School Supplies Collection – Thank you to all who donated school supplies!

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

Please pay your per capita for 2025 – The per-capita for 2025 is \$42.09 per person. In essence: Per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Text "FPCNPT percap 42.09 to 73256 to give using your mobile device. Online - <https://onrealm.org/FPCNorthport/give/percap> or scan the QR Code on the back page.

Volunteers Needed for Coffee Hour Hosts – In addition to our Ministry Committees who sign up to host coffee hour, we would like to invite members of the congregation to sign up to host as well. The Sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Hartt Room.

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

Prayers

Phyllis Crowley (Dennis & Janeen's sister-in-law), Don Tiberie (friend of the Newmans), Ed Cohen (friend of Diana & Bob Montusi), Lorraine Fisher (friend of Marilyn Barker), Cyndi Mignella (friend of Jim Zima), Diane User and son, Adam (friends of Jim Zima), Jennifer Caputo (Kathy Landi's friend), Ginny Kranenberg, Lugenia Gantt, Sean Tinker (Pegge Strella's nephew), **the family of:** Anthony Iorio (John Iorio's father), **those in Healthcare facilities** –St. Johnland: Diane Lobaugh, Gurwin Nursing & Rehab: Lillian Mosher, **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."! **Pantry's New Website - elcfoodpantry.org** – where you can find information and make donations.

Specific Pantry Needs

The food pantry is in need of the following items:

Pasta sauces	Peanut butter & jelly, crackers	Pancake mix, cake mix
Oatmeal, corn flakes, rice krispies	Mustard, ketchup, mayonnaise	Flour, sugar, brown sugar,
Canola & olive oils (small cont.)	Cookies, snack foods, chips, dips	Hot chocolate, juice boxes
Laundry soaps, dish soaps (small containers)	Cooking Oil	Baby Food

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

Daniel Berman

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, Cathy Coleman (Assistant Clerk), Dennis
Crowley, Frank Dentrone, Vicki Field, Marilyn Fox,
Kim Gilbert, Susanne Haffner, John Iorio, Diana
Montusi, Claire Newman, David Ofsharick, Betsy
Radecki

Deacons

Jim Beyer, Janeen Crowley (co-moderator), Tim
Gladding, Kathleen Landi, Anne Mateer, Robin
O'Neil Gonzalez, Robert Spiller, Pegge Strella
(co-moderator), Marjorie Sundquist, Libby
Yoskowitz

Give Online



Pay Your 2025 Per Capita

