



First Presbyterian Church of
NORTHPORT

2nd Sunday of Advent
December 7, 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.

The four Sundays before Christmas Day comprise the season of Advent, days which point toward the coming of Christmas in much the same way Lent points toward Easter. In these ever shorter and ever darker days, the progressive lighting of candles on an Advent wreath becomes an enactment of our trust that "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5) The passages read as the candles are lit are the prescribed Old Testament lectionary passages for the day.

Cover Art :

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH, 2025

2nd Sunday of Advent/Communion Sunday 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 "Poème Mystique (It Came Upon the Midnight Clear)" Daniel Berman
R. Purvis

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH Rev. Rachel Vione

MINUTE FOR MISSION "Christmas Joy Offering" Elder, Marilyn Fox

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE OF ADVENT AND CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

The Melgar Family: Alan, Paige, Johnny and Daisy

Last Sunday, we lit the first candle for hope. On this Second Sunday in Advent, we light the candle for peace. As we prepare for the coming of Jesus, we remember that Jesus brings peace unlike anything the world can give us.

"For a Child has been born for us, a Son given to us; authority rests upon His shoulders; and He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6-7)

God promises us that, in Jesus, His Kingdom will reign, bringing peace to all. Let us worship with hope, for our Savior is indeed coming.

*HYMN NO. 88, v. 1-3 & 6 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" VENI EMMANUEL

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Merciful God, in a world of quick fixes and fast answers, we confess that we forget how to wait. We have rushed past your voice and ignored your promises. We have filled the silence with noise instead of listening for your coming. Forgive us, Lord. Renew our hope and teach us to watch again for You, through Jesus Christ, our Coming Lord. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

*Indicates the congregation is invited to stand

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

Hymn No. 132, v. 3

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; Now we need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls us one and calls us all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

~We Hear God’s Word~

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Shelley Pierce

**Savior God, guide us by your word and Spirit, that we might hear your truth,
heed your call and be prepared for Christ’s coming this Christmas. Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 25:1-10

(p. 502, pew Bible)

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND PRAYER

5th grade and younger gather on the chancel steps.

Following the children’s message, children are invited to attend Sunday school on the lower level.

HYMN NO. 347

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”
(Please remain seated)

PICARDY

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 21:25-36

(p. 85, pew Bible)

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

SERMON

“The Work of Waiting”

Rev. Rachel Vione

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERING

Please scan the QR Code on the back page

OFFERTORY

“Advent Processional”

D. Greig

*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)

**Holy God, you are the source of all love, power and justice. Our world is broken, in need of your
love, your light. Take these offerings and multiply them so they may bless others. Bless those who
give and those who receive, that they may know you better. Amen.**

~Holy Communion~

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

COMMUNION HYMN NO. 92 "While We Are Waiting, Come"

WAITING

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS [congregation sings]

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*Communion will be served by intinction. You are invited to come forward by the center aisle beginning with the front rows, take a piece of bread, eat it, then move to the juice filled trays. After drinking the juice, please take the empty cup back to your pew by the side aisles and place it in the cup rack.
If you are unable to come forward, a server will come to your pew. All elements are gluten free.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

"I Wonder As I Wander"

K. Pederson

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*HYMN NO. 100

"My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"

B. Harlan

*POSTLUDE

"Lift Up Your Heads!"

Praetorius/P. Fey

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

Announcements

Today we continue our stewardship dedication for 2026! Thank you to all who have already pledged for 2026. If you have not yet pledged, we invite you to do so by placing your pledge card in the offering plate today. You may also pledge online at <https://onrealm.org/FPCNorthport/AddPledge/stewardship2026> or by scanning the QR code on the back of your bulletin. Thank you for your generosity!

Birthday Celebrations First Sunday of the Month! Everyone with a December birthday is invited to celebrate their birthday with us at coffee hour. We will sing Happy Birthday and there will be an ice cream cake!

Sunday School and Nursery Care – Sunday school with Mrs. Crowley will meet on the lower level of the building. Nursery care with Miss Mary and Miss Joey is available on the lower level.

Coffee Hour Activities for Children – Parents are invited to bring their children to coffee hour where they can participate in making crafts and other age-appropriate activities while parents enjoy coffee hour.

Sunday School Christmas Pageant Sign Ups Today! Our annual Christmas pageant will take place at 10:00 AM on Sunday, December 21. Please sign up with Mrs. Crowley today during Sunday school. We have parts for everyone and there are no rehearsals prior to the pageant.

Adult Ed Class – Adult Ed will continue with the Advent series by Matt Rawle, titled *Experiencing Christmas; Christ in the Sights and Sounds of Advent*. Join us on Sunday mornings through the month of December at 9 AM before service in the Chapel for coffee, pastries and lively discussion. Hope to see you then!

Adopt-a-Family – ‘Tis the season! We will again participate in the Adopt-a-Family this year. Beginning today, November 30th, the stars will be on the tree in the Hartt Room. Please take a star and sign your name, telephone, and email address next to your star’s number. Unwrapped gifts may be dropped off in the chapel at the church by Sunday, December 14th. Please contact Kim Gilbert with any questions. Thank you for your generosity!

Youth Group is Going Shopping – On Sunday, December 14 the Youth Group will go shopping following worship for our Adopt-A-Family kids. All youth in grades 6th-12th are invited to participate in this fun event. We will leave the church parking lot by 11:30 and return by 2:00. Come join the fun!

The Sanctuary Guild will continue sign-ups for the Christmas dedications after worship in the Hartt Room through December 14th. You can purchase a Poinsettia(s) to adorn the Sanctuary and contributions for the brass will be accepted. Dedications will appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Make sure to sign up early. Poinsettias are \$25.00. Should you have any questions, contact Sharon Noonan at 631-368-7545 or 631-487-4709.

Daily Devotions “These Days” – Copies of the new issue of “These Days” for January - March are available in the Hartt Room.

Pioneers will meet again on Wednesday, December 10th – Senior adults are invited to join our Pioneers for fellowship, fun, chapel at 10:00 in the Hartt Room. For more information, please call Sharon Noonan at 631-368-7545.

Weekday Nursery School Early Enrollment is currently underway for current school families and church members who would like to enroll for the 2026-2027 school year. If you are considering enrolling, please act soon as some classes fill up quickly. Please contact Michelle Micucci at 631-757-1342 or email info@weekdaynorthport.com for more information.

Prayers

Linda Wenze (friend of Deidre Gehrke), Bob Treanor (Susan Van Deusen's father), David Capobianco (Marcia & Ron Mercer's brother-in-law), Karen Caputo (friend of Kathy Landi), Rebecca Zusman (friend of Marilyn Fox), Phyllis Crowley (Dennis & Janeen's sister-in-law), Don Tiberie (friend of the Newmans), Ed Cohen (friend of Diana & Bob Montusi), Cyndi Mignella (friend of Jim Zima), Diane User and son, Adam (friends of Jim Zima), Lugenia Gantt, Sean Tinker (Pegge Strella's nephew), Christians who are being persecuted around the world, **the family of: Bart Allen, those in Healthcare facilities** – 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.

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### **Advent & Christmas at First Pres.**

***Sunday, November 30th – First Sunday of Advent***

***Saturday, December 6th – PW Christmas Lunch 12 noon Hartt Room***

***Sunday, December 7th – Second Sunday of Advent, Communion***

***Saturday, December 13th – Holiday Concert - 7:00 PM Fellowship Hall***

***Sunday, December 14th – Third Sunday of Advent, Service of Lessons & Carols***

***Sunday, December 21st – Fourth Sunday of Advent, Children's Christmas Pageant***

***Wednesday, December 24th – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service***

***with Communion 5:00 PM***

***Pre-service music at 4:45 PM featuring soloists, trumpet and special music***

***Sunday, December 28th – First Sunday of Christmas***

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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

Dana Laughlin

Finance and Weekday School Manager

Michelle Micucci

Director of Weekday Nursery School

Lisha Schlaich

Sunday School Teacher

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
Hart330

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



Enter Your 2026 Stewardship Pledge

