



First Presbyterian Church of
NORTHPORT

2nd Sunday of Easter
April 12th, 2026



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.

Cover Art:

SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH, 2026

2nd Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM

~We Gather in God's Name~

PRELUDE "Pastorale Symphony (Messiah)" Daniel Berman
Handel

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH Elder Kim Gilbert

CHORAL INTROIT "In My Life (Lord, Be Glorified)" B. Kilpatrick

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

In the quiet places of our lives, where fear lingers and hope feels fragile, where doors are closed and hearts are guarded

The risen Christ stands among us and says, "Peace be with you."

When we carry wounds; memories that ache, losses that shape us,
and questions that have not yet found their answers ...

**The risen Christ is present with us, bearing his own
wounds and calling us into healing and wholeness.**

When doubt rises within us, not as rebellion but as longing;
a yearning to see, to know, and to trust more deeply ...

Christ does not turn away, but draws near, saying, "Come and see."

Come and worship the God who meets us in our fear and speaks peace, who meets us in our doubt and offers his eternal presence, and who meets us in death and brings forth everlasting life.

**Let us worship the risen Christ, whose love is stronger than fear, whose mercy is deeper than
doubt, and whose life is our hope, now and forever more!**

*HYMN NO. 244 "This Joyful Eastertide" VRUECHTEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsive)

Risen and living God, we gather in awe of your power and in wonder at your grace. You are the one who called light out of darkness, formed life from dust, set the stars in their courses, and breathed your Spirit into all creation. Yet even more wondrous, you are the God who enters our fear, steps into our locked rooms, and draws near to us in our trembling and uncertainty. In Jesus, the Christ, crucified and risen, you have revealed a love that does not turn away from suffering, but passes through it; bearing its wounds, redeeming its pain, and bringing forth life where death once reigned. You are our refuge and our strength, our steady presence in a shifting world, and our guide along paths we cannot yet see. In your presence there is fullness of joy; joy that is not shallow or fleeting, but deep and abiding, rooted in your unchanging faithfulness. And so, we lift our voices in praise, declaring that Christ is risen, hope is alive, and your mercy endures forever.

Merciful and compassionate God, you know us more deeply than we know ourselves, and still, you love us. We confess that we do not always live as people of resurrected life. When fear rises within us, we retreat behind the closed doors of self-protection, clinging to what feels safe and resisting the new life you offer. When doubt stirs, we are tempted either to deny it or be ruled by

*Indicates the congregation is invited to stand

it, rather than bringing it honestly before you. When you call us to trust what we have not yet seen, we hesitate, seeking certainty instead of relationship and control instead of surrender. Forgive us, O God. Enter the locked rooms of our hearts, stand among us, and speak your peace. Fill us with resurrected lives; faith that trusts your promises, love that reflects your mercy, and courage that follows wherever you may lead us. We pray together through Jesus, the Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (responsive)

The risen Christ comes to us; not waiting for perfect faith or complete understanding, but meeting us in our fear, our doubt, and our need. He stands among us and speaks peace, showing us his wounded hands, not as a sign of judgment, but a testimony to love that will never let us go.

In Christ's life, death, and resurrection, our sin is forgiven, our brokenness is healed, and our lives are made new. In Jesus, our risen Savior, we are forgiven, restored to relationship with God, and given new life! Amen!

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

Hymn No. 240
Refrain, vs. 1 & 2

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

God of everlasting life, you continue to reveal yourself through your Word and by your Spirit. As we turn now to these Scriptures, quiet our hearts and center our minds on your holy presence. Still any distractions that pull us away, calm any anxieties that confuse our thinking, and soften any places within us that may resist your truth. Speak to us Lord, for we are listening. Where we are uncertain, grant us clarity; where we are resistant, grant us openness; and where we are afraid, grant us peace. Open us to the presence of the risen Christ, that we may follow where he leads. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON 1 Peter 1:3-9 (p. 232, 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. 817 "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight" DUNLAP'S CREEK
Please remain seated

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON John 20:19-31 (p. 115, pew Bible)

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

SERMON "Peace Be with You" Elder Amy Means

*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

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

Hymn No. 240, Refrain, vs. 3 & 4

OFFERING

Please scan the QR Code on the back page

OFFERTORY

"Sanctus"
Chancel Choir

J. Gallina

*DOXOLOGY NO. 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Generous God, every good and perfect gift comes from you, and in Christ Jesus, you have given us the greatest gifts – new life, living hope, and the promise of your abiding presence. Receive these offerings of time, talent, and treasure as fruits of our labor, symbols of our trust, and signs of our commitment to follow you. May each one bring light into places of darkness, healing into places of pain, and hope into places of despair. Send us out as bearers of your grace and instruments of your peace, that we may live boldly as people shaped by the resurrection – courageous in faith, generous in love, and steadfast in hope. Through Christ Jesus, our risen and reigning Lord. 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. 255

"O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing"

O FILII ET FILIAE

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

"Hosanna, Hosanna"

J. Althouse

*POSTLUDE

"Sortie"

Franck

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

Announcements

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

Adult Ed Class – Today we will begin a 4-session video series on Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a brilliant pastor, theologian and writer who was safely in the US during WW2 and returned to his native Germany to help the resistance against the Nazi government. Hosted by Eric Metaxas, this series will help you discover the major themes of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's writing, how he helped transform an entire faith community in Germany during WW2, and how his beliefs continue to impact the Christian faith today. We welcome all to join us at 9 AM prior to service for pastries and coffee and lively discussion.

Presbyterian Women (PW) – Please save the date of **Saturday, April 18** at 12:30 for the “Annual Presbyterian Women’s Spring Luncheon.” It will be held this year at Crossroads Café. Reservation dates are March 29, April 5 and 12 after worship. A wonderful gathering time ladies!

Plaque Dedication April 19th – Dedication for Rev. Kenneth Mellinger on Sunday, April 19th following worship in the Narthex. All are welcome to attend as we dedicate Rev. Mellinger’s plaque and give thanks for his ministry among us.

Presbyterian Women’s (PW) Book Discussion - Tuesday, May 12th - 10 a.m. The next PW Book Discussion will be about "The Stolen Queen" by Fiona Davis. The talk will be held at the home of Christine Spiller. Please call Christine at 631-757-8167 to let her know if you will be attending.

Hello hikers! Peacemaking will be sponsoring a spring church hike **Saturday, April 18th at 10:30 am**. We will be taking the Kings Park Trail. The trail starts in the back of the public parking lot across from the Fire Department on Main St in Kings Park. It's an easy walk on paved surfaces. We can go as long or as short as you like. Come out and join us hopefully in nice spring weather! Tell your friends, or better yet bring one! Call or email Cathy Coleman if you have questions. Hope to see all the hikers then.

Church Spring clean-up - Saturday, April 25th from 8-12 PM. Looking for all who are able to give some time to clean and garden around our beautiful church. See you then!!

Debtors Anonymous Meetings at FPC – A newly formed 12-step program will meet each week on Wednesday evenings from 7 - 8 PM in the Chapel.

Pioneers will meet again on Wednesday, April 15th – Senior adults are invited to join our Pioneers for fellowship, fun, & devotions at 10:00 in the Hartt Room. For more information, please call Sharon Noonan at 631-368-7545.

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.

Sign-up to be a Liturgist – 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

Carol & Ray Peres, Bob Van Deusen, Kristin Lombardi & Denton, Bob Montusi (Diana's husband), Bruce Solomon (Lilli's husband), Kate Wardle (friend of the Gladdings), Dominick Marinello (friend of the Noonans), David Bartlebaugh (Claire Newman's brother), Bob Treanor (Susan Van Deusen's father), Rebecca Zusman (friend of Marilyn Fox), Phyllis Crowley (Dennis & Janeen's sister-in-law), 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, **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.

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

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
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



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