



First Presbyterian Church of  
**NORTHPORT**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent  
November 28th, 2021



#### 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 OF NORTHPORT

- Whether you live in the area, are new to the area, or are visiting from out of town, we are glad you are here.
- 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 refreshments and conversation on the Memorial Garden patio or in the Hartt Room in case of rain.

## HOW TO CONNECT

- Come to worship—we're here every week!
- Watch our LiveStream on our YouTube Channel!
- Join the church!
- Find the most current information on our website ([www.fpcnorthport.org](http://www.fpcnorthport.org)).



Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the church.

The network name is FPCN\_Guest

The password for the guest network is Hartt330

## 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.

# SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

## ~We Gather in God's Name~

+PRELUDE

"*Picardy* (Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence)" -  
Dr. Brenda Clark

Charles Callahan

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Rachel Vione

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT AND CALL TO WORSHIP

*Marjorie, Tom, Logan & Abigail Sundquist, Anne Mateer*

Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. This is the candle of Hope. With Christians around the world, we use this light to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of God's Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness----on them light has shined."** (Isaiah 9:2)

Let us open our hearts to the joy and gladness of Jesus' coming, for He is our light and our hope. Come, let us worship God!

\*HYMN NO. 106

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

CALL TO CONFESSION

You know what time it is:

**Now is the time to wake from sleep.**

Salvation is near!

**Let us confess our sins.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Lord God,**

**we praise You for sending light into this world.**

**We confess that we live as though**

**the light had never defeated darkness.**

**We confess that we ignore the Savior You sent**

**to be among us and to live in us.**

**We've kept the birth of Your Son confined to the Christmas season**

**and do not yearn for His coming each moment in our waiting hearts.**

**Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Jesus.**

**Prepare us for His return.**

**Help us rejoice in the light**

**so that Your grace can illuminate the darkened places of our hearts.**

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

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

### ±\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*We invite you to share a sign of reconciliation and friendship with one another.  
If you are comfortable, turn to those around you and offer a smile or a hand over your heart,  
using the following words:*

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

### \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*“People, Look East”*

Hymn No. 105 v.1

*People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.*

### ~We Hear God’s Word~

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 21:25-36

<sup>25</sup> “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup> “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

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

### SERMON

“Wake Up!”

Rev. Rachel Vione

~We Respond As God's People~

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison)

*from A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (USA)*

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

**With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

\*SUNG RESPONSE

*"People, Look East"*

Hymn No. 105 v. 5

*Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.*

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.**

OFFERING

Please give online at [www.fpcnorthport.org](http://www.fpcnorthport.org)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Long-Awaited One"

Nicole Elsey

Chancel Choir

\*DOXOLOGY

*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.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN NO. 93

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

TRURO

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Grand Choir in F Major"

Theodore Salome

## Announcements

**Adopt a Family** - 'Tis the season! The stars will be available today on the Christmas Tree in the Hartt Room. Please choose only one star, as we have fewer families this year. Gift cards are always a welcome addition. Please remember to sign your name and telephone number on the sign-up sheet. Gift drop off is Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 12-5 in the Hartt Room. Thank you for your generosity. Contact Shelley Pierce or Claire Newman with any questions.

**Youth Group News.** All youth in 6-12 grades are invited to join us on Sunday, December 5 to shop for our Adopt a Family gifts. We will leave church at 11:30 and plan to shop and have lunch. Please watch your email for more information.

**Sunday School News.** Mark your calendars for a special event on December 12<sup>th</sup> in the Hartt Room from 4:00 to 5:00 pm! Children are invited to come for a Christmas celebration of singing and telling of the Christmas story, culminating in a "Pop-up Pageant"! Kids can dress up or be Readers and we'll act out the story of Christ's birth as it unfolds in the Bible. We'll have a fun, free-form time with no performance pressure! Older kids who would like to help out will be welcome! Please contact Lisa Nikrant, [slnikrant@gmail.com](mailto:slnikrant@gmail.com), if your children would like to participate and if you would like to be there to help as well.

**Want to offer a gift to your church this holiday season?** – How about joining the Chancel Choir for an anthem or two during the Advent and Christmas season. We rehearse every Thursday from 7:30-8:30 pm in the Sanctuary!

**Pioneers meet on Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.** All older adults are invited to join our Pioneers on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Please join us for fellowship, fun, chapel, and lunch.

**Women's Bible Study continues Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>!** - This fall, we will begin Jen's Wilkin's Better: A Study of Hebrews. This will be an insightful look at how the Old Testament relates to Jesus and the new covenant from God. We've really enjoyed Jen's studies in the past. We will meet every other Thursday morning at 10:00 am, in person and simultaneously on Zoom. This arrangement has worked very well to include those who are comfortable meeting together and those who would rather be at home. Contact Lisa Nikrant, [slnikrant@gmail.com](mailto:slnikrant@gmail.com), for more info on this opportunity!

**Presbyterian Women (PW) Christmas Tea Party** - will be held in the Hartt Room Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 11 am. We will provide a babysitter for the young ones. We look forward to being together and enjoying a lovely lunch followed by desserts and many pots of a variety of teas. The luncheon cost will be \$15 pp. The last day to sign up is December 5<sup>th</sup>. Please make your reservation check payable to Presbyterian Women and mail to the church at 330 Main Street, Northport NY 11768 - Attention of PW. Thank you. If you have any questions, please call Diana Montusi at 516-991-0114

### **Weekday Nursery School Early Enrollment**

Enrollment opens on December 1<sup>st</sup> and continues through December for church members for the 2022-2023 school year. If you would like information and a tour, please contact Christine Mulholland at 631-757-1342 or email [info@weekdaynorthport.com](mailto:info@weekdaynorthport.com)

**Saturday Hikes:** The Membership Ministry hosts Saturday morning hikes at Sunken Meadow State Park the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month, weather permitting. Join us at 10:00 am for a nice morning of conversation and walking with other church members. We meet in the far eastern parking lot where there's access to both the boardwalk and the beach/cliff trails. Hope to hike with you soon!

## Prayers

Cindy Corso, Janice Haas (aunt of Janeen & Dennis Crowley), Rosalie Heckman Torres (family member of Diane Lobaugh), Sean (Pegge Strella's nephew), Demetra Innes (Deidre Gehrke's friend), John Bailey (David Dickman's cousin), Justin Yoskowitz, Aaron Thomas, Brian Brewer (Faustine White's son), **the family of:** Carole Gandy, David Troy, Edward Zima (brother of Marie and James), Barbara Sanderson, **those in Healthcare facilities** – Whisper Woods of Smithtown: Art Shaw, Sunrise Senior Living: Joan DeNigris, Atria: 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.)

**Online Prayer Service and Check in with Pastor Rachel** - Our Zoom Prayer Group meets every Wednesday at Noon and will continue to meet through the fall. Please join us as we lift up our prayers for one another and for the world.

The Zoom information is the same each week:

Meeting ID: 7760178040

Passcode: Pray21

## 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 "Big Blue Bin" near 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: flour, sugar, spices, ketchup, salad dressing.

## **Contact Information**

### **Church Office**

Phone: (631) 261-6434

Email: [office@fpcnorthport.org](mailto:office@fpcnorthport.org)

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

### **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](http://www.facebook.com/weekdaynorthport)

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

**Give Online**



**Enter A Pledge for 2022**

