



First Presbyterian Church of
NORTHPORT

2nd Sunday of Advent
December 5th, 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.
- 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).



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, DECEMBER 5TH, 2021

2nd Sunday of Advent

~We Gather in God's Name~

+PRELUDE

"Partita on *From Heaven Above*"
Dr. Brenda Clark

David Schack

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Rachel Vione

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

Sue, Eddy, Courtney & Dale Ebert, & Ginny & Rick Kranenberg

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

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

VENI EMMANUEL

CALL TO CONFESSION

God calls us to "prepare the way of the Lord" and in order to do so we are to "make his paths straight." **While we do strive to do just these things, we often find curves and bumps in the road along the way.** Let us confess our sin together so that God can help us continue to prepare the way going forward.

Let us pray...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

(from Luke 1:75 and Malachi 3:2)

Holy and righteous God, far too often we are a far cry from the holiness you invite us into. And often we fail to live up to your righteous standards for how we are called to live. Refine us with your righteous refiner's fire to remove all our sinful impulses and impurities. Cleanse us with the fullers' soap to make us pure and holy once again. Help us to live in a way that would be pleasing to you, our Lord.

(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 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist Cry” Hymn No. 96, v.2
*Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.*

~We Hear God’s Word~

ANTHEM

“He Comes!”
Carol & Westminster Choirs

Natalie Sleeth

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 3:1-6

Deacon Tiffany Thomas

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Light”

Rev. Rachel Vione

~We Respond As God’s People~

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (responsive)

from The Heidelberg Catechism

Q. 61. Why do you say that you are righteous by faith alone?

Not because I please God by virtue of the worthiness of my faith, but because the satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ alone are my righteousness before God, and because I can accept it and make it mine in no other way than by faith alone.

*SUNG RESPONSE

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Hymn No. 108, v.1

*Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega;
he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore! Amen.*

OFFERING

Please give online at www.fpcnorthport.org

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Come, Messiah!"
Chancel Choir

Lloyd Larson

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

COMMUNION HYMN NO. 529 "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

UNION SEMINARY

THE GREAT 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

Please use the communion elements that you received upon entering the sanctuary. The wafer is on the bottom and the juice is on the top. Eat the wafer when the words "take and eat" are said. Drink the juice when the words "take and drink are said."

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*HYMN NO. 82

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Postlude in A Minor"

George Calkin

Announcements

Stewardship Update Thank you to everyone who has pledged for 2022. We're off to a good start! If you have not yet pledged, please do so either online, in church, or by mailing your 2022 pledge card to the church office. Every pledge counts!

Mission Opportunity – HHIH Dinners -- Starting on Monday, December 27th, Mission Ministries is sponsoring an outreach program to prepare meals for homeless men who will be spending the night in Gloria Dei Lutheran church in Huntington Station. The food preparation consists of preparing bag lunches containing sandwiches, boxes of fruit juice and cookies. If you would like to sign up to participate in this program, please contact Marilyn Fox (zorra2@optonline.net).

Adopt a Family 'Tis the Season!! There are a few stars on the tree that are available today in the Hartt room. Please choose only 1 star as we have fewer families this year. Gift cards are always a welcome addition. Please sign up your star with Shelley Pierce or Claire Newman. Gift drop off is in the chapel now until December 12th. Please securely attach your star to the unwrapped package. Thank you all for your generosity!!

Youth Group News. All youth in 6-12 grades are invited to join us today, December 5 to shop for our Adopt a Family gifts. We will leave church at 11:30 and plan to shop and have lunch.

Sunday School News. Mark your calendars for a special event on December 12th 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, 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 15th. All older adults are invited to join our Pioneers on December 15th. Please join us for fellowship, fun, chapel, and lunch.

Presbyterian Women (PW) Christmas Tea Party - will be held in the Hartt Room Saturday, December 11th, 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 5th. 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 1st 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

Saturday Hikes: The Membership Ministry hosts Saturday morning hikes at Sunken Meadow State Park the 1st and 3rd 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

James Zima, 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. 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

Website: www.fpcnorthport.org

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

Brenda Clark
Director of Music & Organist

John Kennedy
Facilities Manager

Kevin McKerr
Finance and IT Manager

Christine Mulholland
Director of Weekday Nursery School

Karen Twitchell
Office Administrator

Ariana Warren
Carol and Westminster Choirs Director

Dana Warren
Chancel Choir Director

Give Online



Enter A Pledge for 2022

