

**First
Presbyterian
Church** IN VICTOR
WHOEVER YOU ARE.
HOWEVER YOU HAVE COME.
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.



First Presbyterian Church

70 East Main Street
Victor, NY 14564
585-924-2289
www.victorpres.org

Guest Preacher: Rev. Michael
McNamara

Organist: Ayn Patrowicz

AV: Bill Martz

Liturgist: Dean Cornwell

Greeters/Fellowship: Kelly Fisher &
Donna Schake

Order of Worship

September 17, 2023, 10am

**Please stand if you are able.*

Prelude “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” arr. by John Carter

Welcome & Announcements

***Responsive Call to Worship**

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me,
bless God's holy name.

**Who forgives all your iniquity,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.**

The LORD works vindication and justice for all who are
oppressed.

**The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
So great is God's steadfast love.

***Opening Hymn** *GTG No. 401*

“Gather Us In”

***Invocation**

Scripture Reading

Romans 14:1-12

14 Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

7 For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. (cont.)

Scripture (cont.)

11 For it is written,
“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”
12 So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God,
you call us to work for a world
where all will be fed and have dignity,
but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires.
You call us to seek justice and peace,
but we are satisfied with injustice and discord.
You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed,
but we do not insist on freedom for all.

Forgive us, O Lord.
Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit,
so that all may know your justice and peace;
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

Assurance of Pardon

***Passing the Peace**

Children’s Time

Unison Prayer for Illumination

**Loving God, fountain of every blessing,
open us to your life-giving word,
and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that living
water may flow through our hearts--
a spring of hope for a thirsty world.
Amen.**

Scripture

Matthew 18:21-35

21 Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.
23 “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, 25 and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ (cont.)

Scripture (cont.)

27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Sermon

***Hymn of Response** *GTG No. 727*

“Why Church?”
“The Servant Song”

Offering

***Doxology**

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

**Almighty and merciful God,
from whom comes all that is good,
we praise you for your mercies,
for the goodness that has created us,
your grace that has sustained us,
your patience that has borne with us,
and your love that has redeemed us.**

**Help us to love you,
and to be thankful for all your gifts
by serving you and delighting to do your will,
through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

***Closing Hymn** *No.442*

“The Church’s One Foundation”

***Benediction**

Postlude “O Had I Jubal’s Lyre” by GF Handel, arr. by Hal Hopson



The PNC is proud to introduce

Rev. Michael McNamara as the FPCV Pastor candidate!

- Today we welcome Rev. Mike McNamara to lead worship.
- Immediately after worship, please stay for the **Congregational Meeting** to vote.

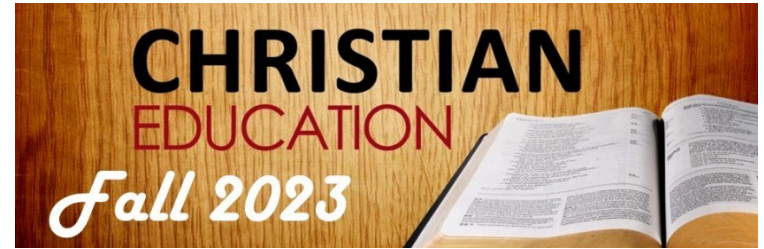


Communion Preparers: We are in need of additional volunteers to help prepare the elements for communion each month this Fall/Winter. Communion will be served on the second Sunday of each month.

Greeters and Coffee Hour Volunteers: Please sign up on the volunteer schedule bulletin board in the Welcome Center, or email Courtney in the office if you would like to help.

Breads from Around the World

We are looking to provide a culturally diverse selection of breads for World Communion Day. If you would like to provide a loaf of bread for this service on 10/1, please sign-up in the Welcome Center. We also ask that you read a short passage about the breads at the worship service on 10/1 if possible. All bread will need to be brought to the church on Saturday, September 30. Recipes are available from the church office or bread can be store/bakery bought. Thanks for your help in serving our congregation!



SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM YEAR 2023-2024 FOR KIDS

We kicked off the new Christian Education Program Year on Sunday, **September 10th**, 2023. We're excited to dive into our FALL curriculum for kids! We are using **Whirl Lectionary**, a Lectionary-centered curriculum that follows the Revised Common Lectionary.

The scripture-based lessons include time to explore the Bible together, watch engaging animations that help kids relate the Bible stories to their lives, respond to the Scripture with creative leaflet activities, & pray together. The Fall scripture lessons are from Matthew, Philipians & Romans.

COMING SOON TO COFFEE HOUR

We're launching something new for ALL AGES! Intergenerational Activities, Projects, Crafts! Grandparents, grandchildren, Moms & Dads, siblings...anyone who is interested may join in the fun. No pre-registration is needed & materials are provided. Watch for more information to be announced soon!

ADULT EDUCATION

A six-week book study will be co-led by Amy Reinhardt & Jan Astles October 15th – November 19th, after Sunday Worship. We will meet at 11:30 in the Library. Grab a cup of coffee & a snack & come join the discussion!

The book, "When Christians Get It Wrong" by Adam Hamilton, invites reflection & discussion of attitudes, actions & beliefs of Christians that are most often cited as problematic by non-Christians. The author offers insights & suggestions at the end of each chapter, on what it looks like when Christians get it right. As we seek to follow Jesus, get to know our neighbors & minister to the needs in the community around us, let's acknowledge that we sometimes get it wrong, determine to get it right, & "learn more about the way of humility, confession, compassion, and renewed commitment to a deeper integrity." (quote is from book review by Scot McKnight)



**Upcoming Church & Community events to add to your calendars:
*details on each event in your eNews***

Church Calendar

Sunday, September 17

- 9:20 am Choir Rehearsal
- 10 am Sunday Worship with Sunday School
- 11:15am *Congregational Meeting* & Fellowship
- 7:30pm AA & Al-Anon meetings

Monday, September 18

- 6:30 pm Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, September 19

- 9:30 am Free Panera
- 7 pm Bridge Class

Saturday, September 23

- 5 pm Community Dinner (Hosted by Coffee Connection)

The meal train continues for Marilyn & Larry Teel as Larry continues to heal. Please scan the QR code to sign-up! *Meals must be **gluten-free** and they like fresh fruits and vegetables.



Thank you for the gift of your presence here this morning. We are so glad you have chosen to spend this time in this space. Please know you are invited to participate in any way that is most helpful for you. You are not expected to announce your presence, but you are most welcome to reach out to anyone here. You are invited to fellowship following worship downstairs in Corey Hall and we would love to share a coffee and a chat. If you would like to have us reach out to you in the days ahead, please fill out the Visitor Card in the pew and drop it in the Offering plate or use the *QR code below*.

If you are here with children, that is wonderful, and they are welcome too. Sunday School is offered during the worship service for youth ages 4 through grade 6, following the Children's Time. Youth Group Sunday School is also offered for children in 6th grade and up every other Sunday. The Infant Care Room, equipped so users can hear and watch the service, is located at the top of the eastern stairs in the back of the sanctuary.

It is good to have you here. Welcome.

**Interested in becoming a member?
Please call or email one of our pastors.
Pastor Jimmy: 585-315-9241, Pastor Joy: 585-315-7826
pastor@victorpres.org**

