

**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

Pastors: Rev. Dr. Jimmy Reader
& Rev. Joy Bergfalk

Organist: Ayn Patrowicz

AV: Brenda Dean

Greeters/Fellowship: Barb Cromwell
& Donna Schake

Order of Worship

September 24, 2023, 10am

**Please stand if you are able.*

Prelude “Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken” arr. by Don Hustad

Welcome & Announcements

***Responsive Call to Worship**

From Psalm 145

We will exalt you, our loving God;
We will praise your name for ever and ever.
Every day we will praise you
and extol your name for ever and ever.

**Great are you, Lord, and most worthy of
praise, whose greatness no one can fathom.
One generation commends your works to
another; we speak of your love to the next
generation.**

We speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty—
and will meditate on your wonderful works.
We tell of the power of your awesome works—
and will proclaim your great deeds.

**We celebrate your abundant goodness
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.
You, Lord, are gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and rich in love.**

***Opening Hymn No. 464**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

***Invocation**

Scripture Reading

Philippians 1:21-30

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. (cont.)

Scripture (cont.)

This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

Unison Prayer of Confession

Compassionate God, we enter your presence confessing the things we try to conceal from you and the things we try to conceal from others. We confess the heartbreak, worry, and sorrow we have caused, that make it difficult for others to forgive us, the times we have made it easy for others to do wrong, the harm we have done that makes it hard for us to forgive ourselves. Lord have mercy and forgive us through Christ.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Passing the Peace**

Children's Time

Unison Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living.

Amen.

Scripture

Matthew 20:1-16

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

“About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’

(cont.)

Scripture (cont.)

“‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered.

“He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

“When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

“The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

“But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

“So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Sermon

“Whatever Happens”

***Hymn of Response No. 343**

“Called as Partners in Christ's Service”

Offering

***Doxology**

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Heavenly Father, you have given us riches beyond measure. We can only return a fraction of what we owe you; but we ask, Lord, that you will bless our offerings and help us to use them wisely in your service and for your glory.

Amen.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

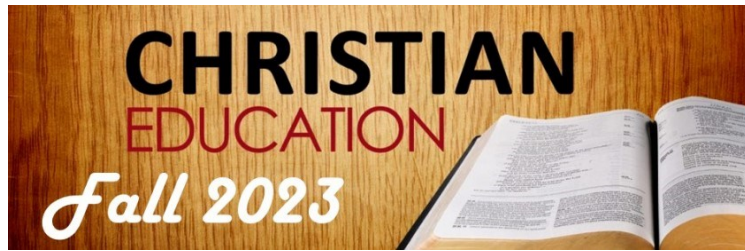
***Closing Hymn No. 438**

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

***Benediction**

Postlude

“O Be Joyful” by Elizabeth Hill



SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM YEAR 2023-2024 FOR KIDS

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, Philippians & 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 15 – November 19**, 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)

Ways you can SERVE



Liturgists: 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.

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!





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

Church Calendar

Sunday, September 24

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

Tuesday, September 26

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

Thursday, September 28

- Noon Bridge Class

Sunday, October 1 *World Communion Sunday*

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

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?
pastor@victorpres.org**

