



FREDONIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MAY 25, 2025
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Banksy

Prepare for Worship

Welcome to worship, where God gathers us in the name of love. At FPC, we hope to be challenged by Scripture, comforted by community, and energized by service. If you're new here or it's been a while, we're glad you walked in today. For more, check out the bulletin insert. All people: toddlers, teenagers, Gen Xers, Boomers and beyond, LGBTQIA+ folx, conservative or liberal people, and those with differing abilities and mental health—all—are cherished and affirmed here.

Catch up with one another as you come in! When the **chiming of the hour** sounds, please keep the silence as we prepare for worship.

Reformed worship centers around the Word, both the Word of scripture and Christ as the Word incarnate. Worship, then, is our communal and individual response to the Word.

Bold text is read by the congregation in one voice.

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Confession isn't to prove you're pious. It's to help rebuild connections between you and God, you and yourself, you and others, and us and the world.

GATHER

PRELUDE

- Lily Li

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Use this moment of silence to gather your heart and mind as we prepare for worship.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Rev. Holly

CHORAL INTROIT

- The Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

- Liturgist, Betsy White

One: Come in. Come in with your longing for a better world, even if you're not sure one exists.

All: We come with worn-out hope and the tiniest flicker of belief.

One: You're not alone. There's a story bigger than despair. It's about a river that never dries up, a tree that keeps on giving, a world where healing is real.

All: We'd like to imagine that world! We'd like to believe it's not too late.

One: So come—bring your ache, your doubt, your tender, wondering heart. This is holy ground.

All: Let us worship God.

*HYMN NO. 623 *I've Got Peace like a River*

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

In lieu of passing the plates, please use this time to consider your gift to the church.

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, we want to believe this world can be better. More healed. More whole. We want to be a part of that, even if we're not sure how. So take these gifts: our money, our time, our brave hearts—and use them for something bigger than us. Let them ripple out in ways we may never see. Let them build a world where every nation is loved back to life. Amen.

HYMN NO. 606 DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heaven-ly host; *praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Or Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost*

CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT CONFESSION

(You are invited to share your wrongdoings and sorrows with God).

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we confess: we've gotten too good at shrugging our shoulders. We scroll past sorrow. We let cynicism harden our hearts. We say, "Well, that's just the way things are."

(prayer continues)

Scripture: Our pastor (usually) follows the Revised Common Lectionary, an ecumenical, Biblical reading program. This helps the Holy Spirit move into places we might otherwise miss.

Our Choir: Anyone can join the choir. They practice Sunday mornings at 9:30. Just show up!

The Lord’s Prayer: We use “debts and debtors” in the Lord’s Prayer. If you’re more comfortable with the “trespass” language, please use it. Or if this prayer is meaningful to you in a different language, pray it that way. We all get to “Amen” together.

Communion: Anyone, regardless of age or membership, is invited to partake. We use non-alcoholic grape juice. Gluten free bread is available with its own cup. If you're nervous, just ask someone. You can't mess this up (although sometimes, we do make a mess and that's okay too!)

But you speak of rivers and trees, of healing and light, of a world where the gates are never closed and no one is left out. We’ve forgotten how to long for that world. We’ve forgotten how to work for it.

Forgive us. Soften what’s calloused. Heal what’s cracked. And teach us to hope again—not just with our words, but with our lives. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
One: We are forgiven, healed, and made whole. May all God’s people say,
All: Amen

SUNG RESPONSE TO THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Hymn No. 582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

WORD
PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

GREEK READING: Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

CHORAL ANTHEM *I Sing Peace* by Bill Cantos

MOMENT WITH GOD’S YOUNG DISCIPLES
After this time, children 3-12 are invited to attend Fred Kids!, a time for faith-formation and fun.

GOSPEL: John 14:23-29
One: The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

SERMON

MUSICAL REFLECTION - Lily Li

WELCOME NEW MEMBER: Sandi Askin

ENGAGE
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering: Giving does not buy you God’s love—that is free. Giving simply helps keep our heat on, our ministries going, and our staff, paid.

An offering plate is found at the front of the sanctuary. You may also mail or PayPal a donation.

We affirm our faith together because as diverse as we are, as differently as we vote, as many interests as we have, we have these beliefs that we share.

Benediction is a fancy word for blessing.

Worship Notes
Some of today’s liturgy is used with permission from *enfleshed*. Music is printed and recorded under the CCLI #CSPL121737 & 11497292

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the One Triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives. 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. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.
From: A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (USA)

*HYMN NO. 753 *Prayer of St. Francis*

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*SHARE THE PEACE OF CHRIST
Go now in peace, go now in peace, May the love of God surround you everywhere, Everywhere you may go.

WORSHIP LEADERS
Pastor, The Rev. Holly Clark-Porter Clerk of Session, Rey Spangler
Director of Music, Lily Li Session: Janine Scaccia, Ned Divine
Childcare Staff: Reece Lehnen Carol Calarco, Cori Coia
Liturgist, Betsy White Trish Lehnen, Rey Spangler
Fred Kid’s Teacher, Katie Sanders Admin. Response Team: Carol Calarco
Deacon of the Month: Ned Divine, Rey Spangler
May – Peg Sisson

ALL ARE WELCOME to a time of fellowship from 11:30-12:15 after the service today in the Fellowship Hall.

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, WORSHIP WILL NOT BE IN OUR CHURCH Presbytery is holding a special Presbytery-wide Pride Service at 9:30 on 6/1 at Lafayette Presbyterian in Buffalo. Congregations from all over Western New York will share in worship together then either join in the parade or watch outside together. Folks from Fred Pres who would like to attend should use the sign up sheets in the fellowship hall to coordinate rides, as parking will be limited. Those who cannot attend the service in Buffalo, will be able to see a recording of the service at 10:30 in our fellowship hall that Sunday. **There will be a live stream opportunity to see it in our Fellowship Hall**

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