



Fredonia Presbyterian Church
July 5, 2026



William H. Johnson, Harriet Tubman, ca. 1945, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Gift of the Harmon Foundation, 1967.59.1146

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 Weekly Guide Sheet. All people: toddlers, teenagers, Gen Xers, Boomers and beyond, LGBTQIA+ folk, conservative or liberal people, and those with differing abilities and mental health journeys—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 - Rey Spangler
- CHORAL INTROIT - The Choir
- *CALL TO WORSHIP – Emily Dickinson - Melissa Chwojdak
One: Emily Dickinson's words will help call us to worship. She wrote:
"Hope' is the thing with feathers – That perches in the soul – And sings the tune without the words – And never stops – at all"
All: We come to listen for God's song among us.
One: We gather with gratitude for the gifts of this land, with honesty about its wounds, and with hope for all that is yet to be.
All: When "The Sky is low" and "the Clouds are mean," we come seeking justice, mercy, and peace.
One: "The world is not Conclusion."
All: So we come to worship our God whose story is never done and who is never done with us.
One: Come, let us worship the God who is faithful through every generation.
- *HYMN NO. 340 *This Is My Song*
- 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
Holy God, we give you thanks for the work of human hands and the songs of ordinary lives. Receive these gifts and use them for healing, justice, and joy in our country, but more importantly, your entire world. May what we offer become part of your great song of love. 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 – James Baldwin
(You are invited to share your wrongdoings and sorrows with God).

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: Served on 1st Sundays. 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!)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we have often avoided what is true. We have turned away from the suffering of others, and from the demands of justice. We have loved comfort more than courage, and silence more than truth.

Forgive us, and teach us to face what must be faced so that we might be changed by your grace. 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. 693 *The Gift of Love (Though I May Speak)* vs. 1 & 2

Word

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION - Zora Neal Hurston

HEBREW TEXT: MICAH 6:6-8

Poem: Langston Hughes, *I, Too Am America* & Amanda Gorman, *The Hill We Climb* - Susan Spangler

CHORAL ANTHEM

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 11:16-19, 25-30

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

POEM: 23rd Poet Laurette, Joy Harjo, *Remember* & Wendell Berry *The Peace of Wild Things*

HYMN NO. 753 *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

PROSE AND POEM: Excerpts from Maya Angelou, *Still I Rise*

MUSICAL REFLECTION

- Lily Li

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, Venmo, 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

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. 69 *Here I am Lord*

*CHARGE & BLESSING

*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

Leaders, Susan & Rey Spangler
Pastor, The Rev. Holly Clark-Porter
Parish Associate, The Rev. Zoe Milliman

Director of Music, Lily Li
Liturgist, Melissa Chwojdak

Clerk of Session, Rey Spangler
Session: Janine Scaccia, Betsy White,
Kristi Leone, Trish Lehnen,
Rey Spangler, Matthew Carman
Admin. Response Team: Rey Spangler,
Matthew Carman, Betsy White

Deacons of the Month for July
Melissa Chwojdak & Sandy Johnson

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

Give a Secure Donation using **PayPal**. Use the drop down to give to a **certain fund**.



Fredonia Presbyterian Church
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