



Fredonia Presbyterian Church
September 13, 2026



The Braves of 9/11 ! Bravos do 11 de Setembro 2001, on 780 Third Avenue in Midtown, mural artist [Eduardo Kobra](#), photo by [kobrastreetart](#)

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+ folx, 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

CHORAL INTROIT

- The Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

- Rev. Zoe Milliman

One: Faithful people, let us pause and take notice. The pace of these days can distract and overwhelm us. And, we wonder, does it have to be this way?

All: So we gather here, and we breathe.

One: In the company of one another, we ground ourselves in a different rhythm.

All: We make space for Holy Wisdom. We make room to consider what is true.

One: Let us take stock of our lives—what is broken, what is beautiful, what gives life and what takes it away.

All: God, open our hearts to the truths that bring life.

One: And trusting that God is still at work among us, let us worship.

*HYMN NO. 157 *I Danced in the Morning*

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

Spirit of Conviction, we hope to be faithful to the stories of past generations and to honor those who struggled but who fought for life when evil came to destroy. May we honor them with our lives. Bless these gifts that our next generation might tell *our* stories of faith, hope, and love. Amen.

HYMN NO. 606 DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly 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).

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, you ask us to see what is in front of us, and too often we look away. We become accustomed to suffering. We grow tired of naming injustice. We accept what should never have been acceptable. Forgive us for the ways we have chosen comfort over courage, silence over truth, and certainty over curiosity. When we have caused harm, give us the humility to listen and make amends. And when the work feels too large for us, remind us that we are not asked to do it alone. Shape us again in your truth and freedom, and make us people who choose life. 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. 314 *Christ, Be Our Light*, vs 1, 2, & 5

Word

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW TEXT: EXODUS 14:21-25, 30

ANTHEM

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18: 21-35
One: The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

SERMON - Rev. Holly

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. 853 *We Are Marching in the Light of God*

*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	Clerk of Session, Rey Spangler
Pastor, The Rev. Holly Clark-Porter	Session: Janine Scaccia, Betsy White,
Parish Associate, The Rev. Zoe Milliman	Kristi Leone, Trish Lehnén,
Director of Music, Lily Li	Rey Spangler, Matthew Carman
Liturgist, Rev. Zoe Milliman	Admin. Response Team: Rey Spangler,
Childcare Staff: Reece Lehnén	Matthew Carman, Betsy White
Fred Kids Teacher: Katie Sanders	Deacons of the Month for September:
	Sandi Askin and Jennifer O’Boyle

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**.



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