



First United

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1917 Fifth Avenue, Troy, NY 12180

Unitedprestroy.org † (518)272-2771

FEBRUARY 1, 2026

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & INTENTIONS

*GATHERING WORDS

How shall we gather to worship our God?

Shall we bring with lots of money for the offering basket?

Shall we bring our carefully scripted prayers?

Shall we sing in tune with perfect four-part harmony?

Mortals: you know what God declares "good."

Let us worship God with our minds set on justice, with our hearts open to loving kindness, and with our feet marching in solidarity with our persecuted neighbors!

*OPENING HYMN

#70- *What Does the Lord Require of You?*

What does the Lord require of you? What does the Lord require of you?

Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we aim to seek justice, but when it requires sacrifice, we rush to cheap grace. We aim to embrace kindness, but then snap at loved ones, shut out the stranger, and remain ignorant of our neighbor's needs. We aim to walk humbly with our God, yet willfully ignore how our path diverges from Yours. Forgive us for the times when we cry "peace!" but we mean "compliance!" Forgive us for the times when our silence is complicity. Forgive us for the times when we have aligned with the rich and powerful instead of with those whom you name as blessed. Grant us your mercy and teach us to walk humbly, we pray. Amen.

Silence is kept for Prayer and Reflection.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE TO GRACE

#442- *Just as I Am* (vs. 4)

***Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!***

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you!
And also with you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Micah 6:1-8
Matthew 5:1-12

SERMON

“Blessed Are the
Peacemakers”

*HYMN

Blest Are They

***Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.***

Refrain:

***Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; Holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!***

***Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill.***

***Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God.***

***Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs.***

***Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me.
Rejoice, be glad; yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

COMMUNION

INVITATION

*Based on Jan Richardson's
"And the Table"*

And the table will be wide.

And the welcome will be wide.

And God's arms will open wide to gather us in.

And our hearts will open wide to receive.

And we will come as children and trust there is enough.

And we will come unhindered and free.

And our aching will be met with bread.

And our sorrow will be met with wine.

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD

SANCTUS

#552- *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

(Tune: Land of Rest)

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!***

THANKSGIVING FOR CHRIST

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

#553- *Christ Has Died; Christ is Risen*

***Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.***

INVOCATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name,
thy kindom come, your 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. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom, and the power, and
the glory, forever. Amen.**

AMEN

#554- *Amen*

Amen, amen, amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND
CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Adapted from *Jan Richardson's
"And the Table"*

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

*An offering plate will be passed during the service,
or you may give online through Tithe.ly: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1309305>
Please note where you would like your gift to be directed (general fund, deacons, etc.)*

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

#468- *In My Life* (vs. 1)

***In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of Sacred Solidarity, your love is not neutral: you draw near to the poor and the oppressed. Your justice disrupts evil. Your grace invites all to join in a holy uprising of people who dream of a better way. For all that you make possible among us, we bring our gifts with thanks. We offer what we have and who we are, with joy and trust, for the sake of your kindom. Bless these gifts to strengthen the ministry of our church as we seek to follow you and answer your call to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

#769- *For Everyone Born*

***For everyone born, a place at the table,
For everyone born, clean water and bread,
A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
For everyone born, a star overhead.***

Refrain:

***And God will delight when we are creators of justice
and joy, compassion and peace;
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!***

***For all who share life, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for all who share life, a system that's fair.***

***For young and for old, a place at the table,
A voice to be heard, a part in the song,
The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
For young and for old, the right to belong.***

***For all who have breath, a place at the table,
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,
a rainbow of race and gender and color,
for all who have breath, the chalice of grace,***

***For everyone born, a place at the table,
To live without fear, and simply to be,
To work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
For everyone born, the right to be free.***

*BLESSING & SENDING

SENDING MUSIC



Pastor: Rev. Marranda Major (marranda@unitedprestroy.org)
Guest Pianist: Andrew Abolafia
Onscreen Visuals: Charlotte Albertin, Martha Juenger, and Jim Parmelee
Audiovisual Production: Martha Juenger and Dan Rogers

Class of 2026

Dan Rogers
Peggy Smith Savchik

Class of 2026

Peg Drew
Martha Juenger
Pat Rudebush

Session

Class of 2027

Jim Parmelee
Sue Steele
Marilynn O'Dell

Class of 2028

Alan Chandler
Kodzo Dzikunu
Bruce Reed

Diaconate

Class of 2027
Debbie Brown
Miriam Parmelee
Brenda Westbrook

Class of 2028
Diane Chandler
Olga Green
Noel Hains