



First United

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1917 Fifth Avenue, Troy, NY 12180
Unitedprestroy.org † (518)272-2771

NOVEMBER 16, 2025

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & FRAMING

*GATHERING WORDS

In the beginning, God created day and night—

Yes, and God created sunrise and sunset, dusk and dawn, too!

In the beginning, God created sea and dry land—

Yes, and God created marshes, bogs, swamps, and wetlands, too!

In the beginning, God created summer and winter—

Yes, and God created autumn and spring, and every micro-season between, too!

In the beginning, God created man and woman—

Yes, and God created the full spectrum of humanity, in all of our gender variations, too!

Let us worship the One who transcends every binary!

*OPENING SONG

“As Colors in the Sky”

*As colors in the sky, we move and blend in love,
a touch of this, a mix, a match, as gifts from heaven above.
Our genders may seem fixed, but even these may change
as we find beauty in between that may at first seem strange.*

*Our bodies may not match the way we feel inside,
but we can change, transform, and find your love still deep and wide.
So if we break the mold traditions put in place,
let us with courage live our lives with kindness, love, and grace.*

*Creating God, you dance, you move as one in three.
Come show us, by your rainbow light, our shared humanity.
The heavens and the earth are made new every day,
help us discover by your grace, new truth, new life, new ways.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Kaleidoscope God,

You call us to see your image reflected in the faces of neighbors, and to honor the sacredness of all races, all genders, and all sexualities. We confess that we have turned our backs on you and on those you have claimed as your children. We have prioritized our own comfort over the safety of our transgender neighbors, and have failed to demand accountability from politicians who scapegoat and marginalize. Forgive us, we pray. Turn us again towards you and open us to choose respect over rejection, conversation over misinformation, and relationship over alienation. We ask this in the name of the table-turner, the oppression-healer, and the lover of outcasts: our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence is kept for Prayer and Reflection.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE TO GRACE

#155- Raise a Song of Gladness

***Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth!
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!***

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Luke 21:5-19
Jeremiah 38:1-13

SERMON

“Rescued from Isolation”

Rev. Marranda Major

REMEMBERING TRANS ANCESTORS

*RESPONSE

#787- God Weeps with Us Who Weep and Mourn

***God weeps with us who weep and mourn; God's tears flow down with ours,
And God's own heart is bruised and worn from all the heavy hours
Of watching while the soul's bright fire burned lower day by day,
And pulse and breath and love's desire dimmed down to ash and clay.***

***Through tears and sorrow, God, we share a sense of your grief:
The weight of bearing every prayer for healing and relief,
The burden of our questions why, the doubts that they engage,
And as our friends and loved ones die, our hopelessness and rage.***

***And yet because like us, you weep, we trust you will receive
And in your tender heart will keep the ones for whom we grieve,
While with your tears our hearts will taste the deep, dear core of things
From which both life and death are graced by love's renewing springs.***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

Adapted from Rev. Mike Schuenemeyer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kin-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin-dom, and the power, and
the glory, forever. Amen.**

MOMENT FOR MISSION

David Graham

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

#654- *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

***In the Lord I'll be ever thankful;
In the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God; do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.
Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.***

*PLEDGE DEDICATION

Adapted from "Flames of Love" by
Kimi Floyd Reisch

**Transforming God, bless these gifts as our commitment to recenter love
in our hearts, in our minds, and in our world. Light within us a flame of
radical love and give us courage to speak out for those who have been
silenced, those who have been persecuted for living authentically, and
those who have been othered and forced into the margins. By your
Spirit, guide us to change the world so that no one lives without hope or
without justice, for in you, with you, and through you, all things are
possible. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN

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 woman and man, a place at the table —
and all those between, beyond, and besides;
expanding our world, dismantling power,
each valued for what their voice can provide.***

***For gay, bi, and straight, a place at the table,
Invited to wed, to baptize and preach,
a rainbow of race and gender and color,
for queer, trans, and ace, God's justice in reach.***

***For bodies diverse, a place at the table,
All manner of speech and movement and minds;
Enabled to lead and teach us new language,
For bodies diverse, a church redesigned.***

***For just and unjust, a place at the table,
a chance to repent, reform, and rebuild,
protecting the wronged, without shame or pressure,
for just and unjust, God's vision fulfilled.***

*BLESSING AND SENDING

SENDING MUSIC



Pastor: Rev. Marranda Major (marranda@unitedprestroy.org)

Guest Pianist: Andy Abolafia

Onscreen Visuals: Charlotte Albertin, Martha Juenger,
and Jim Parmelee

Audiovisual Production: Jim Parmelee and Don Drew

Session

Class of 2026

Dan Rogers
Peggy Smith Savchik
Sue Wright

Class of 2027

Jim Parmelee
Sue Steele
Marilynn O'Dell

Class of 2028

Alan Chandler
Kodzo Dzikunu
Bruce Reed

Diaconate

Class of 2026

Peg Drew
Martha Juenger
Pat Rudebush

Class of 2027

Debbie Brown
Miriam Parmelee
Brenda Westbrook

Class of 2028

Diane Chandler
Olga Green
Noel Hains