



The "Red Door" Church
First United Presbyterian Church
381 Main Street, Oneonta, NY 13820

www.reddoorchurch.info

First Sunday in Lent

10 AM - Sunday, February 22, 2026

Rebecca LaBarr, Liturgist

Jean Giuda, Director of Music/Musician

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Walton-Leavitt, Pastor

THE LITURGY

Order of Worship

* - *You are invited to stand.*

OneLicense.net #A-724947

All rights reserved.

SENTENCES OF MEDITATION

When you have been in the wilderness? How were you sustained?

What do you need to share boldly with God during this season?

Are there aspects of yourself or your life you want to invite God to change?

~Jill Duffield

PRELUDE (G618)

O Love How Deep

arr Melissa Blanton

GATHERING

WELCOME, everyone, to this time of worship. We are delighted to have you with us this morning! We are here to praise God and to enjoy one another's fellowship as we serve both God and our neighbor.

In-person worship is in the Sanctuary. Face masks available.

OR, join us online or by phone using Google Meet.

Every Sunday -- Same Link: meet.google.com/viu-hpxa-mjg

By Phone: +1 301-857-2390 // PIN: 931 769 968#

Please note: All virtual attendees (either by phone or online) will automatically be muted once service begins at 10:00 AM.

For Joys & Concerns: Please put a note in the CHAT -- OR alert our Social Media Usher that you would like to share something before the Prayers of the People.

As always -- all are welcome. Invite a friend to join us!

See Calendar at end of the worship portion of this bulletin.

Let us now prepare our hearts for worship by listening to the Introit.

INTROIT (G414)

Be Still and Know

Ken Barker

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Responsive reading from Matt. 4:1-11*)

Liturgist

Leader: People of God, on this wilderness journey -- what will you eat?

People: The word of the Lord is our daily bread.

Leader: People of God, in this time of temptation -- how will you live?

People: Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.

Leader: People of God, at this kingdom crossroad -- whom will you serve?

People: **We worship the Lord our God alone.**

OPENING PRAYER

Liturgist

Call to Confession

Happy are those whose sin is forgiven,
who no longer suffer in silence, but name their sin and seek God's grace.
Let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Lord God, you know the ways of good and evil.
You know the things that tempt us -- and the things that give us life.
You know our nakedness -- and you know our sin.

We confess that we have disobeyed your word,
denying your providence and care -- and relying on our own cleverness.

Have mercy on us, we pray: Cover us with your grace.
Feed us with the bread of life -- and re-create us in your image;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Happy are those whose sin is forgiven!
Be glad in the Lord and shout for joy: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

All are invited to sing Hymn No. 275 – <i>A Mighty Fortress Is Our God</i>

* **GTG Hymn No. 275** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* *Luther/Hedge*

**A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.**

**Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he.
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.**

**And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure.
One little word shall fell him.**

**That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.**

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still. His kingdom is forever.

WORD

Please join me in reading our Prayer of Illumination. [PAUSE] *Let us pray...*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION *(in unison)* Liturgist

O Lord, may the words of your mouth be our daily bread,
and may the leading of your Spirit become our way;
in Jesus' name. Amen.

CONVERSATION with ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

EPISTLE READING: Romans 5:12-19 *(First Nations Version of New Testament)* Liturgist

This is the Word of the Lord. [PAUSE] **ALL:** Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION based Matthew 4:1-11 *(page 3/NT in pew Bibles)*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(Living Faith from Presbyterian Church of Canada, 8.1.3)*

Leader: Life in Christ brings joy, liberty, glory.

People: **But it also brings conflict with unbelief, fear, and temptation.
Throughout our lives we struggle with disheartening difficulties.**

Leader: Yet the Holy Spirit helps us and gives us power to grow in Christ.

People: **While we are far from perfect -- yet our lives can be
pleasing to God and helpful to others.**

* GTG No. 649 *(vs. 1-4)* **Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound** John Newton

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.**

THANKSGIVING

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Health & wholeness: Sharon *(John B's sister)*; Robbi *(Fran's grandson)*; Jack E *(SFP)*;
Mike *(Jo Ann's husband)*; Alysa *(Larry's friend)*; Antoinette *(Barb's friend)*; Stuart/Allen
(Brandie's relatives); Emma *(Jan's friend)*; Linda/Timothy/Bobby/Alfred/ Meno/Shirley/
Michael *(Paul R's friends/ relatives)*; Shirley & Bob G and Grace *(Goble's grandchild)*

Grieving: Family & friends of Matt Goodrich and all those missing loved ones.

Homebound/Rehab/Managed Care: Judy C (and Dick, her primary caregiver)

Traveling mercies for all those on the move this season – near and far.

In Presbytery: United Pres Church, Cortland; Pastor David Johnson and the Session

In our community and country: Warming Station guests without housing – and staff.

Hate Speech: Change hearts of those who promote hate -- and comfort victims of it.

Violence in our country: Pray for victims, perpetrators – and solutions.

In the World: Prayers for *shalom* – peace, justice, and healing in the world.

Lives torn apart by hostilities: Palestine, Israel, Sudan, Ukraine, and places in conflict.

Climate change concerns and disasters, past and pending...

World Council of Churches Prayer Cycle: France, Germany, Monaco

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER (debts) (GTG page 35)

[A time of silence may follow each intercession.]

With all the faithful, let us pray to the Lord,
who is our hiding place in times of trouble,
who surrounds us with glad cries of deliverance.

We pray for all who are hungry –
whether hungry for power and glory -- or hungry for a simple meal.
Show the mighty that you alone can satisfy their deepest need,
and feed the poor from the abundance of your good creation.

We pray for the church in times of trial --
whether tested by tempestuous change -- or tempted by safety of the status quo.
Give us peace when anger and fear threaten to divide us,
and challenge us when we are too comfortable in this world.

We pray for leaders in high places --
whether determined to help those who suffer –
or distant from the cries of the oppressed.
Open their eyes to see your saving power at work,
and open their ears to hear your prophets’ calls for justice.

Lord God, instruct us in the way we should go
and let your steadfast love surround us always;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior who taught us to approach you saying:

**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;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**



* **GLORY TO GOD** (GTG No. 582, vs. 1)

Vasile

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

MOMENT FOR MISSION: Souper Bowl of Caring

Jan Andrews

All month monetary donations may be put in the soup pots in the sanctuary on Sunday.
Please make checks payable to *FUPC* with *Souper Bowl* on memo line.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

As God so freely offers us the gift of life in Jesus Christ,
let us respond with gratitude, -- offering our lives to God.

ANTHEM (G833) *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go* *Matheson/Peace*

Tithe and Offering Options:

Sanctuary: Offering plates (and envelopes) are near the exit doors.

- U.S. Post to FUPC at 2 Walling Ave., Oneonta, NY 13820
- QR Code (*Quick Response Code*): This is **our new unique QR code** →
- Vanco Mobile Faith app can be downloaded on your Smartphone.
Type in "Oneonta" to find our church.
- Computer: **New web address for donation** is the following Vanco link – which can also be found on our website: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZD01>
- Bill Pay: Use your bank's online bill pay system.
- Electronic funds transfer: Set up from your savings or checking account.



PRAYER of DEDICATION of our GIFTS

Let us pray.

We give you thanks and praise, O God,
for the free and abundant gift of grace you have given us in Jesus Christ.
Let the simple gifts of our lives
be a sign of our unending gratitude for your undying love;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. And let all the people say: **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with you!

People: And also with you.

Leader: All are invited to exchange signs of Christ's peace and reconciling love.



* **GTG No. 819** (*vs. 1 & 2*) ***Be Still, My Soul*** *Schlegel/Sibelius*

**Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.
Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
to guide the future surely as the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.**

SENDING

* BLESSING AND CHARGE

May the steadfast love of God surround you throughout these forty days
and into everlasting life.

Always and in all ways -- worship the Lord. Serve only God.

POSTLUDE

The Love of God

Frederick Lehman

TODAY

Lectionary: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

10 AM Morning Worship

11:00 AM – Lenten Soup / Hospitality Time in social hall (*weekly thru Palm Sunday*)

To assist with soups, sides, and/or desserts, please contact Rebecca LaBarr.

11:15 AM - Church School in classrooms (*weekly*)

7:00 PM – ChurchNtheHood gathering online

for “Healing, Justice, & Purpose” with Rev.

LaDana Clark on YouTube at

<https://www.youtube.com/live/n7zzU2cYYiA>

THANK YOU to all who assisted with the service
and reception in memory of Matt Goodrich. The
family and friends truly appreciated our hospitality!

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUNDAYS 10:00 AM – FUPC

10:00 AM – ORPC

11:00 AM – Quakers

TUESDAYS 7:00 PM – AA Big Book

WEDNESDAYS 6:00 PM – Choir

FRIDAYS 6:30 PM AA (men's group)

THIS WEEK

Tuesday - 1:00 PM – Chain Gang in social hall.

Saturday – 11:30 AM – Ethiopians Mission Network online Lenten Bible Study

“From Temptation to Resurrection: Following Jesus’ Way” every Saturday during Lent.

2/28: The Sermon on the Mount theme “The Way of the Kingdom” Matthew chapters 5-7

3/07: Parables of the Kingdom theme “Seeing and Hearing the Kingdom” Matt. ch.13

3/14: Who do you Say that I am? theme “Discipleship, Confession, Way of the Cross”

from Matthew 16:13-28; 17:1-9

3/21: The Last Supper, Trial, Crucifixion theme “Love Poured Out” Matthew ch. 26-27

3/28: Resurrection & Great Commission theme “New Life and Sending Forth” Matt. 28

Join Zoom Meeting: Meeting ID: 817 0953 5094 // Passcode: 965325

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81709535094?pwd=KThHTmda88bXWHjevmy4lxmlclxaJc.1>

SUNDAY, MARCH 1st – Second Sunday in Lent

Lectionary: Genesis 12:1-4a; Ps 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17; Matt 17:1-9

10 AM Morning Worship including Covers of Love dedication of gifts in memory of
Karen Jones (Fran Puffer) AND a Conversation with All God’s Children @ OGHS
Fish Banks (Jan Andrews). Liturgist: TBD

Covers of Love IMO Karen Jones: We are taking a special collection in
memory of Karen’s work with Covers of Love at St. Paul’s Episcopal in
Sidney to support the unhoused in Broome and Chenango counties.



Covers of Love collection box is outside church offices to receive sleeping bags, underwear, socks, tee shirts, sweatpants & sweatshirts, gloves, scarfs, hats, coats, non-perishable snacks (ex. individual peanut butter packets, cheese crackers, tuna packets, fruit snacks) and Bibles. The completed bags are distributed to the homeless community in Binghamton and through Sidney Catholics Charities office.

To donate money: Please mark it "Covers of Love." Make checks payable to St. Paul's Episcopal Church (25 River St., Sidney, NY 13838) with Covers of Love on the memo line. Deadline: Sunday, March 1st is the deadline for this special appeal. Pastor Walton-Leavitt will take all donated items and monetary gifts to Sidney on Monday, March 2nd.

SUNDAY, MARCH 8th – Third Sunday in Lent

Lectionary: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

2:00 AM – Daylight saving time begins – Spring ahead 1 hour

10 AM Morning Worship. Liturgist: Emma Kirsch

Wednesday, March 11th

10:30 AM – CCAL Class *Rather Be Reading* with Pat Norton-White meet in Blue Room.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15th – Fourth Sunday in Lent

Lectionary: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

10 AM Morning Worship. Liturgist: TBA

SUNDAY, MARCH 22nd – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Lectionary: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

10 AM Morning Worship. Liturgist: TBA

2:00 PM - Summer Institute of Theology at Hartwick College (SITHC) planning team to meet in Room 14.

Heating Season Is Here: Please help keep the heat IN by closing doors behind you and don't forget to turn down thermostats when leaving!

2026 Per Capita Apportionment: All Active Members – please consider giving \$50.51 per member in your household to help meet our per capita commitment to support PCUSA administrative and operating costs. We benefit from being a part of our denomination.

Upper Room Devotionals (*March/April*): Many find these daily readings a blessing. Extras are on the small table in front of the sanctuary and outside the church offices. To have one sent to you, contact Carol at 607-432-7520 or reddoorchurch@stny.rr.com

Presbytery Camperships: Plan Ahead - Apply before August 31st

Every year our presbytery provides camperships for children and youth through 12th grade – and adults with special needs -- to attend church camp. We do this not only to help with the cost of summer camp, but because we believe that the experiences people have at church camp are meaningful and significant to their Christian faith journeys.

For more information, contact Pastor Walton-Leavitt.

Redeem bottles and cans to support our church: Take to Northern Eagle Redemption Center on Railroad Ave. (next to The Depot restaurant) – tell them the money goes to the “Red Door” Church. Hours: 9 AM to 4 PM Tuesday thru Saturday. Phone: 607-432-0400

Please notify Pastor Walton-Leavitt at 607-242-8184 (cell) or cynuff@aya.yale.edu
OR Carol Sprague, Office Administrator, at 607-432-7520 or reddoorchurch@stny.rr.com
in case of illness or need of pastoral care.



Moment for Mission – Souper Bowl of Sharing

Supporting The Salvation Army Food Pantry, Oneonta, NY

A Moment for Mission on Sunday, February 22, 2026

Compiled by Pastor Walton-Leavitt, First UPC, Oneonta, NY

Our Souper Bowl of Caring collection this month will go to The Salvation Army Food Pantry to benefit our local population of those in need of help. Our contributions - along with donations from others -- make a big difference for local non-profits.

Envoy Margie Aitken serves The Salvation Army Church in Oneonta as their pastor and administrator. She reports that their relationship with neighbors continues to improve because of funding flexibility received from the community that enabled them to significantly remodel their outdated food pantry.

They replaced a chest freezer with an upright commercial “reach-in” 2-door stainless steel freezer. Selecting food is easier and it avoids any potential food contamination should a product leak. It also makes stocking and inventorying much easier on their limited staff.

The pantry is now a more modern client-choice food pantry. They also received a glass-door fridge to give the shopping experience more dignity and respect that their neighbors deserve. The improved cooling equipment makes it possible to provide more perishable foods which promote nutritious foods and healthy eating.

The needs continue to grow – as do creative programming and working with partners like Cornell Cooperative Extension, local agricultural programs that provide fresh produce and dairy products, and those helping families to understand the concept of food as medicine.

There are some pantry users less willing to try perishable produce that is new to them. However, when Margie and her team work with kids and talk about cooking and nutrition – some families are willing to try healthier food.

Soup Pots are in the sanctuary during the month of February to receive your donation -- OR you can drop it off at the church office – OR mail it to church marked *Souper Bowl*.

Please make checks payable to *FUPC* with *Souper Bowl* on memo line.

When we all give a little – it adds up to a lot...