



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

www.reddoorchurch.info

2nd Sunday after Epiphany
10 AM - Sunday, January 18, 2026

Fran Puffer, 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.

SENTENCE OF MEDITATION

Remember who you are. You are a beloved child of God.

PRELUDE (G724)

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Arthur Mann

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 (G408)

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Doris Akers

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive reading Isaiah 49:1a, 6b*)

Liturgist

Leader: Listen to me, O coastlands. Pay attention, you peoples from far away!

**People: I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”**

OPENING PRAYER

Liturgist

Let us pray.

Holy God, you sent your son to be the light of the world,
 so that all may know the brightness of your love.
 Fill us with your grace this day
 that we too may bear witness to his light and serve your coming reign.
 In Jesus' name we pray. And let all the people say: **Amen.**

All are invited to sing Hymn No. 267 – Come, Christians, Join to Sing – Verses 1 & 2

* **GTG No. 267** (vs. 1 & 2) **Come, Christians, Join to Sing** *Bateman/Spanish folk*

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!

WORD

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION *(in unison)* Liturgist
Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove: Open our ears to the truth of your word,
that the testimony of Christ may be strengthened among us
and the glad news of deliverance revealed. Amen.

CONVERSATION with ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 *(page 165/NT in Bibles)* Liturgist

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

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION based John 1:29-42 *(page 92/NT in pew Bibles)*

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

Leader: By the power of the Holy Spirit God acts through Baptism.

**People: It is the sacrament not of what we do –
 but of what God has done for us in Christ.**

Leader: God's grace and our response to it are not tied to the moment of
 Baptism, but continue and deepen throughout life.

**People: Baptism is an act of discipleship that requires commitment
 and looks towards growth in Christ.**

Leader: Baptism assures us that we belong to God.

**People: In life and in death our greatest comfort is that
 we belong to our faithful Saviour Jesus Christ.**

* GTG No. 488

I Was There to Hear Your Borneing Cry

Ylvisaker

I was there to hear your borneing cry, I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;

in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on.

You were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,

I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in, and you shut your weary eyes,

I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borneing cry, I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

THANKSGIVING

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Expecting Birth: Susan Goldman & Quinn Scripter (*Cynthia's niece*) due May 2026.

Health & wholeness: Sharon/ Jim (*John B's sister/ friend*); Larry; Robbi (*Fran's grandson*); Lynn R (*EPMT*); Sharon/Viesti family (*Patti W's friends*); 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*); Tim/Grady/Joe/ Peg/Tina/Paul (*Jones' friends/ relatives*); Grace (*Goble's grandchild*)

Grieving: family and friends of Karen Jones 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: Cabin Hill Presbyterian Church, Pastor Deb Fleming 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: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

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

[A time of silence may follow each intercession.]

Let us pray.

God of steadfast love, you raise us up when we fall
and place our feet on steady ground.

Strengthened by your faithfulness, we offer our prayers
in thanksgiving for the grace that is ours in Christ.

We pray for the mission of your church,
that we may proclaim the good news of the age as we put our trust in you.

We pray for the world,
that your saving love may reach to the ends of the earth
as we serve the common good.

We pray for all who suffer,
that we may heed their cry as we share in your steadfast mercy.

We pray for your creation,
that we may safeguard its well-being as we labor together for redemption.

We remember before you those who have died
and pray for those who will die today, that they may know your peace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ -- in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
we come together to pray as Jesus taught us, 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.

MISSION EMPHASIS: Oneonta Warming Station

There are many ways to support our unhoused neighbors. See list of donation requests on inserts at entrances to the sanctuary and on box outside church offices. Please identify monetary gifts with "*Warming Station*" on memo line.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Our God has done wondrous things -- too numerous to count.
Through steadfast love and faithful care -- God enriches us in every way.
Therefore, do not delay!

Let us offer to God ourselves this day --
all that we have and all that we are, in praise and love of Christ.

ANTHEM (G853)

We Are Marching

South African

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, O loving God,
 that you have placed in the hearts of your faithful people
 the gift of generosity and the desire to do your will.
 Use these gifts to proclaim good news to every nation
 and restore all people to Christ. 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. 827 (vs. 1 & 2) O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright**

Nicolai

**O Morning Star, how fair and bright!
 You shine with God's own truth and light, aglow with grace and mercy!
 Of Jacob's race, King David's son, our Lord and Savior,
 you have won our hearts to serve you only!
 Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, all victorious, rich in blessing!
 Rule and might o'er all possessing!**

**Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there falls from God above
 a ray of purest pleasure. Your word and Spirit, flesh and blood
 refresh our souls with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure!
 Let your mercy warm and cheer us! O draw near us!
 For you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.**

SENDING

* **BLESSING AND CHARGE**

May God's steadfast love and mercy lead you -- and make your steps secure,
 keeping you forever safe on paths of righteousness and peace.

Go forth in peace, for God in Christ has enriched you
 with speech and knowledge and every spiritual gift,
 that God's salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

POSTLUDE (G451)

Open My Eyes that I Might See

Clara Scott

TODAY

Lectionary: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

10 AM Morning Worship.**11:00 AM - Hospitality Time** in social hall (*weekly*)**11:15 AM - Church School** in classrooms (*weekly*)

2:00 PM – Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration presented by Oneonta Branch of the NAACP at Elm Park United Methodist, 401 Chestnut St, Oneonta followed by reception. Clara Pokorny (Jan's granddaughter) singing in chorus. All are welcome.

THIS WEEK

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

Thursday – 5:00 PM – Session meets in Room 14

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)****SUNDAY, JANUARY 25th – 3rd Sunday after Epiphany**

Lectionary: Isaiah 9:1-4; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23

10 AM Morning Worship. Liturgist: TBA**Thursday, January 29th**

1:00 PM – Memorial Service for Karen Jones followed by a reception in the social hall. To assist with the reception, please call or text Rebecca LaBarr at 607-435-5847.

Saturday, January 31st

10:00 AM to 12 noon – Officer Workshop for Elders, Deacons, and Pastors at Walton UPC (58 East St.) and via Zoom. Leaders: Revs. Mary Anderson and Cynthia Walton-Leavitt. To carpool, contact Pastor Walton-Leavitt

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1st – 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Lectionary: Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

10 AM - Morning Worship. Liturgist: TBA**11:05 AM - Annual Meeting**

Call to the Annual Meeting: The Session of the First United Presbyterian Church, Oneonta, New York hereby calls the Annual Meeting of the congregation and corporation for 11:05 AM on Sunday, February 1, 2026 in the sanctuary to hear and vote on proposed changes to the bylaws, to elect ruling elders to serve on Session and members at-large to the Nominating Committee, to receive annual reports of all church groups and organizations, and to act on all necessary business at hand.

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.