



O-R-D-E-R O-F W-O-R-S-H-I-P
JANUARY 29, 2017
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

REV. ANNE STEWART MILLER, INTERIM PASTOR
MR. KENNETH FRIESE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
MRS. DIANE STAROST, DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MUSIC
MS. TINA CODY, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S AND
YOUTH MINISTRIES

GATHERING

Prelude Improvisation *Ken Friese*

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "Jump for Joy!" J. JACOBSEN & A. BILLINGSLEY
The Kids' Choir

Call to Worship —*Based on Romans 12: 1*

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the mercy of God,

**People: to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and
acceptable to God.**

Prayer of the Day

*Hymn No. 26 "Earth and All Stars!" EARTH AND ALL STARS

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.

Kyrie Eleison, No. 551 "Lord, Have Mercy" LAND OF REST

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Minister: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life.

People: Amen.

*Gloria Patri, No. 581

*The Peace

Minister: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we also ought to forgive one another. The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Anthem "Jazz Contate" *A. Beck*
Youth Choir

Children's Moments *Julie Feltman*

WORD

Prayer of Illumination

First Lesson Micah 6: 1-8 O.T. p.866/P.1060
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 1: 18-31 N.T. p.166/P.202
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Third Lesson: Matthew 5: 1-12 N.T. p.4/P.4-5
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "God *With* His People" *Rev. Anne Stewart Miller*

*Hymn No. 803 "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" RESIGNATION

*Affirmation of Faith *Apostles' Creed (Traditional)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried, he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayers & 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Call to Receive our Tithes & Offerings

Receiving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

The Sanctuary Choir

*Doxology No. 606

*Prayer of Thanksgiving & Choral Response

Sending

*Hymn No. 697

“Take My Life”

HENDON

*Benediction

*Choral Response, No. 601

-Amen, Amen, Amen

*Organ Postlude

**Please stand, as you are able.*

THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP LEADERS:
Rev. Anne Stewart Miller, Interim Pastor
Doug Terc, Lector
Julie Feltman, Children's Moments
Charles Worledge, Usher Captain
Roger Ketcham, Bill Roe

—This morning's flowers are given to the glory of God.

If you would like to honor or memorialize a loved one, please sign the flower calendar in the central foyer or call the church office.

IN OUR PRAYERS:

**New to the prayer list this week: William Gray (Dorothy Mandrakos' father)
Kristin Keydel (Pam Fosella's sister)**

Continue to pray for those who remain on our prayer list:

Family of Edward Burgess (Paul's father), Caitlin Colbert (granddaughter of Jim and Kris Colbert), Bob Esser (member), Dave and Else Haddock (members), Joan Lobasso (member), Bill Murphy (Vera Murphy's son), the family of Les Park (former member), Our Pastor Nominating Committee and your next pastor, Cynde and Robert Raynor (Brett's parents), Rebecca Raynor (Brett's sister), Gerry Schult (member), Ed Williams (member), Grace Youngquist (member), and Diane Zamow (member) and her father.

Names on our prayer list will remain for a month.

If you wish to have a name remain on the list, kindly contact the Church Office

The Semi Annual meeting of the Congregation and the Annual meeting of the Corporation of Old First Presbyterian Church, Huntington, New York, will be held on Sunday, February 12, 2017 immediately following the worship service (at approximately) 11 AM, for the following purposes;

1. To receive program reports from church officers and program leaders.
2. To receive financial statements for 2016 and the budget for 2017.
3. To transact any other business which rightly may be raised.

By Order of the Session
Thomas Bosch, Clerk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMITTEE REPORTS: All committee year end reports are due. Please submit to the Church office **TOMORROW** at the latest by stopping by the Church office or email at cheriecornell@oldfirstchurchhuntington.org.

YOUTH ACTIVITY WITH TINA: TODAY after worship at 11:15am in the Youth Room—The Blessing Wall Project. All ages are welcome to participate.

YOUTH CLUB AND KIDS' AND YOUTH CHOIRS: The Youth club will meet this Wednesday, February 1, 2017.

- Youth Club grades 1-8 from 5-7 pm in Youth Room
- Kids' Choir (grades 1-3) 5-5:30
- Youth Choir (grades 4-8) 5:30-6

New singers are welcome in 2017 as rehearsals start again in the choir room - Come give us a try!

CONFIRMATION CLASS: will meet this Thursday, February 2 from 7-8pm in the Fiske Room for Lesson 2.

FOOD 4 THE SOUL will not meet in February but will resume Sunday, March 5 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Youth Room.

CHURCH SCHOOL: Mark your calendars. It's time for "Soaper Bowl Sunday!" During the month of January, the church school will be collecting items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toilet paper, etc. All donations will be given to the Community Food Council. Please help us by placing your items in the specially marked box by the Parish Hall entrance. Our collection will end on Sunday, February 12th. Thanks for helping us help those in need.

STEPHEN MINISTERS TRAINING Sunday, February 5th in the Library from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:

- **CIRCLE-3/Bible Study** Our next Bible Study will meet on Wednesday, February 15th at 12:30 pm in room 101. We continue our study, "Who is Jesus?" looking through the lens of the Gospel of Paul. We ask you to read lesson five in preparation.
- **CIRCLE-4/QUILTING** meets on Thursdays from 9:30-11:00 am in Room 101. All are welcome. No experience necessary.
- **CIRCLE-6/CRAFTS** meets on Friday mornings at 9:45 a.m. in the craft room - 212. All are welcome.
- **LAYETTE:** The layette is in need of girls baby blankets.

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- **THRIFT STORE:**
- Volunteers are needed for Thursdays and Fridays from 11am to 1:30pm. Please let Cynthia know if you can work occasionally or every week.

COMMUNITY FOOD COUNCIL: Items needed for the month of January are: **canned goods—meat, fruit, vegetables, and Mac-N-Cheese.** The items need for the month of February are: **dry milk and rice.** Thank you for your generous donations.

WEEKLY EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, January 29 - 2017

- 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Worship w/Kids' & Youth Choirs
- 10:20-11:00 a.m. Church School (*Room 102*)
- 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Youth Activity with Tina (*Youth Room-204*)
- 5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Family Potluck/Game Show Night (*Parish Hall*)
- 6:15-8:45 p.m. AA (*Downstairs Room 10*)

Monday, January 30- 2017

- 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. The Learning Center (*Basement*)
- 9:15-10:15 a.m. Gentle Bends (*Room 102*)
- 7:30-9:00 p.m. N.A. (*Downstairs AA Room 10*)

Tuesday, January 31 - 2017

- 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. The Learning Center (*Basement*)
- 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Thrift Store (*Basement/Room 11*)
- 1:00-2:00 p.m. AA (*Basement, Room 10*)
- 2:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, February 1 - 2017

- 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. The Learning Center (*Basement*)
- 9:15 -10:15 a.m. Gentle Bends (*Room 102*)
- 5:00 -7:00 p.m. Youth Club (*Youth Room-204*)
- 5:00-5:30 p.m. Kids' Choir Rehearsal (*Room 211*)
- 5:30-6:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal (*Room 211*)
- 7:00-9:15 p.m. AA (*Basement, Room 10*)
- 7:30-9:00 p.m. B.S. Troop 32 (*Gym*)

Thursday, February 2 - 2017

7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. The Learning Center (*Basement*)
9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. PW-4/Quilting (*Room 101*)
11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Thrift Store (*Basement/Room 11*)
5:00-9:30 p.m. Giant Steps (*Room 102*)
7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Confirmation Class (*Fiske Room*)
8:00-9:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (*Room 211*)

Friday, February 3 - 2017

7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. The Learning Center (*Basement*)
9:30-11:30 a.m. Al Anon (*Room 101*)
9:45 a.m.-12 p.m. PW-Crafts (*Craft Room-212*)
11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Thrift Store (*Basement/Room 11*)

Sunday, February 5 - 2017

10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Worship
10:20-11:00 a.m. Church School (*Room 102*)
6:15-8:45 p.m. AA (*Downstairs Room 10*)

WORSHIP NOTES FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

Life is not to be valued according to appearances. But such a truism is easier to speak, than to follow. In our society it is always a temptation to look on the outward expression and take it to be a sign of what's really there. Success comes to those who work hard for it and deserve it the most. Prosperity is a token of blessing. Though we know better, we find it hard to resist such conclusions.

The three lessons for this Sunday join in warning the people of God that they should not be confused or intimidated by appearances or by how the larger society values this or that. A faithful hearing and responsiveness to the God of the Bible may not fare so well or look so good in terms of the world's standards of judgment. But what is required and blessed is a community ordered according to the commitments shaped by our gracious covenants with God and attuned with what Paul called the "foolishness" and "weakness" of God.

In the passage from Micah (6: 1-8) Israel, when give a chance, presents its case before the divine court. The questions it raises indicate a thorough misunderstanding of (God's) Yahweh's demands—burnt offerings, calves, rams, oil or (even) eldest child. The categories used by the surrounding culture to determine true religion are totally inappropriate to Yahweh. What God wants is nothing less than a refocusing of life—to do justice, to love loyally our covenant with God and to walk humbly with our God.

Paul in his lesson (1 Corinthians 1: 18-31) argues eloquently that the gospel looks to many like nothing more than weakness and folly. The cross symbolizes defeat, an anathema to a success-oriented society, but is really the instrument of power and salvation. It is just God's way to take the low and despised, the weak and the foolish, to confound the wise and mighty.

Finally, the Beatitudes (Matthew 5: 1-12) describe the direction of God's blessing. Surprisingly, it is the poor in spirit, the meek, those hungering for justice, the merciful, the peacemakers and those persecuted for righteousness who are the apple of God's eye, singled out for blessing.

-Texts for Preaching A Lectionary Commentary Based on the NRSV-Year A

Old First Presbyterian Church

125 Main Street, Huntington, NY

Phone: 631.427.2101 Fax: 631.427.2116

www.OldFirstChurchHuntington.org



Cherie Cornell, Church Secretary

Ellen Correll, Financial Secretary

Bob Grill, Church Sexton

FIRST LESSON

Micah 6: 1-8

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.” “With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON
1 Corinthians 1: 18-31

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THIRD LESSON
Matthew 5: 1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.