

First Presbyterian Church
19 Seminary Street
Barre, Vermont



Sunday Morning Service, April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Welcome!

Join us as we experience our spiritual journey through Christian community and by living God's love in word and deed.

Email: fpcbarre@gmail.com, website: fpcbarre.org,
Phone: 802-476-3966

GATHERING

Today's hymns are from the purple Glory to God hymnal.

This service is being recorded for viewing on Facebook and on our website. Please remember to guard your privacy as best you see fit.

Gathering on Abenaki Lands

Prelude "Too Good to Title" (*From Sacred Concert #3*)

Duke Ellington

Welcome and Call to Worship (*Joanna Harader*)

One: We are branches, rooted in the vine of Christ.

All: We come because we seek to abide in Christ.

One: The branches that remain in the vine bear much fruit.

All: We come because we long to be spiritually vibrant, alive, productive.

One: If we abide in Christ, then Christ's words will abide in us.

All: We come because we strive to be faithful disciples.

One: We gather for worship now to the glory of God:

All: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

One: May we grow wildly as God tends us lovingly.

◆ Opening Hymn #285 "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

1. Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight, like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might: Come Holy Spirit, come.
2. To the members of Christ's body, to the branches of the Vine, to the church in faith assembled, to our midst as gift and sign: Come, Holy Spirit, come.
3. With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer, with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare: Come, Holy Spirit come.

PRAYING: CONFESSION/ASSURANCE

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *(in unison)*

We are hesitant to confess, Holy God, how hard it is to love as you wish. It is easy to love you with all that we are, except when you ask us to love our neighbor with all that we have. We find it hard to love our neighbor as much as we love ourselves, and difficult to love even You more than we love ourselves. Forgive us, Love Eternal. Help us to take risks to love others compassionately, to love ourselves genuinely, and to love you as completely as you love us.

(A moment of silent confession)

Words of Forgiveness

◆ **Passing of the Peace** - Now is the time we pass the peace saying "Peace be with you" and responding with "And also with you." When we pass the peace of Christ, we affirm that the nature of our faith is founded in the love, grace, and peace Christ continually extends to us.

LISTENING

Scripture Readings 1 John 4:7-21
 John 15:1-8

Prompting "Branches Are Not a Solo Act" Theresa Lever

RESPONDING

◆ **Hymn #727** "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

1. Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road. We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ light for you in the nighttime of your fear. I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

Announcements, Joys, and Concerns

Prayers of the People

(Bruce Prewer)

(Finishing with the Lord's Prayer, page 35. We invite you to use the words with which you are most comfortable.)

One: God we pray for your earthly family,

All: That they may know the fullness of your love.

Our Father/Mother, 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

Reflection Music

"The Call"

George Herbert and Ralph Vaughan Williams

Call for the Offering. *(We invite you to place your offering in the offering plate at the rear of the sanctuary. You can also give online or by mail. Thank you.)*

SENDING

◆ Closing Hymn

"O God, In Your Love"

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

(to the tune of "Immortal, Invisible")

1. O God, in your love, you have made us unique:
In gifts and traditions, in service we seek,
In race and in culture and family design
Diverse are the branches in Jesus the Vine.
2. Lord Jesus, you came to bring God's love on earth;
You welcomed the outcasts and showed us our worth.
You reached out to people whom others despised;
You said all are precious in God's loving eyes.
3. So may your church welcome in loving accord
All people who want to serve Jesus our Lord.
O Spirit, unite us in Jesus the Son;
In mission and ministry, God, make us one.

◆ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

◆ Please rise in body or spirit as you are able.

Theresa Lever is our Guest Minister today.

Thanks to James Nichols-Fleming for leading us in worship.

Thanks to Dan Krymkowski for making music with us.

Theresa Lever



Theresa Lever is a member of Bethany United Church of Christ in Montpelier. She has been active in the Vermont Conference for many years, especially in the area of justice and peace and in providing worship leadership in dozens of churches. She retired in 2019 after working 38 years as a social worker in Central Vermont Medical Center's nursing homes and cancer center.

Prayers - Each week we pray for a different person or family in our church. This week we invite you to keep Alison, Neil, Emma and Anna Cerutti in your prayers. Gracious Lord, we give thanks for them, and their presence in this congregation. Hold them in the palm of your hand and let them feel your love. Give them the wisdom and strength to do your will and the faith and courage to face whatever challenges may arise.

Being part of the connectional Presbyterian Church, we keep in our prayers other ministries within the Presbytery of Northern New England. This week our prayers are for the Litchfield Community Church Presbyterian in New Hampshire and Rev. Mark Dayton, Minister.

The Annual Retreat for Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Northern New England will be May 10-11, 2024. It will take place at the Calumet Lutheran Camp and Conference Center in Freedom, NH. The theme of the retreat is "Make a Joyful Noise" and there will be lots of singing, in addition to other fun activities, such as a Women of the Bible Fashion Show (Friday night). Registrants may come for Friday night and Saturday, or just for the day on Saturday. For more information please contact Janet Fuhrmeister.

Online Security - If you choose to protect your online security by changing your screen name, please send a **chat message** upon logging into our zoom service. Josh will then know that it is you and can admit you to the service.

UPCOMING GUEST SPEAKERS

May 5 (Communion) - Rev. Carol Ann Barker
May 12 - Rev. Dr. Lawrence Jones
May 19 (Pentecost) - Rev. Simon Ruth de Voil
May 26 (Trinity Sunday) - Rev. Susan McKnight

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Session, 3rd Monday, 7:00 p.m. *(No meeting in July)*
Deacons, 1st Monday, 7:30 p.m. *(No meetings in July and August)*
Outreach, 1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
Book Group, 4th Tuesday
Meditation Group, Thursdays, 10 a.m.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

May 4th - Robert Loso, Jr.

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

None

TO CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE:

Phone: 802-476-3966, Email: fpccbarre@gmail.com
Website: fpccbarre.org

TO CONTACT CINDY HOOKER, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Cell: 802-793-0639, Email: nonnicch@gmail.com

CHURCH SESSION & DEACONS

Building - Lee Aura Bonamico

Faith Development - Cathy Jamieson (chair), Janet Fuhrmeister

Fellowship - Lee Aura Bonamico, Janet Fuhrmeister

Finance - Cathy Jamieson (chair), Diane Nichols-Fleming

Flood Recovery Sub Committee - Diane Nichols-Fleming, Cathy Jamieson, Dottie Ricks, Lee Aura Bonamico, Sylvia Mitton

Nominating - Lee Aura Bonamico, Cathy Jamieson

Outreach - Jim Nichols-Fleming (co-chair), Roxanne Casadonte (co-chair), Dottie Ricks

Personnel - Chris Fuhrmeister (chair), Jim Nichols-Fleming

Worship - Dan Krymkowski (chair), Dottie Ricks

Deacon - Sylvia Mitton (chair)

Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) - Barb Bernatchy, Marcia Cochran, Rachel Hickory, Dan Krymkowski, Diane Nichols-Fleming, Katherine Paterson, Dottie Ricks

OUR CHURCH

Administrative Assistant - Cindy Hooker

Music Director - Dan Krymkowski

Custodian - Jennifer Milne

Organist - Dan Krymkowski

Pianist - Alison Cerutti

Treasurer - Kathy Adams

Deacon of the Month - Barbara Bernatchy

Elder of the Month - Cathy Jamieson



MATTHEW 25

As a Matthew 25 church, First Presbyterian, Barre works to engage the community, dismantle structural racism, and eradicate systemic poverty.

First Presbyterian Church, Barre is part of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and is a congregation in the Presbytery of Northern New England.

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service
obtained from ONE LICENSE #734910-A.*