

First Presbyterian Church
19 Seminary Street, Barre, Vermont
Welcomes You to Worship
7th Sunday of Easter Year A



Jesus Ascension

We are glad you are here. You are a beloved child of God. Join us as we experience our spiritual journey through Christian community and by living God's love in thought, word, and deed.

GATHERING

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

Hymns today are from the Glory to God purple hymnal

Gathering on Abenaki Lands and Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship (Psalm 68:7-10, 32)

Leader: O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, the earth quaked,

People: the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

Leader: Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished; your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

Congregations: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord.

★ **Opening Hymn No 409** **God is Here!**

- 1. God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and**

hearts.

2. Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.
3. Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.
4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive: we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

PRAYING FOR RECONCILIATION AND FORGIVENESS

Remembering our Baptism and Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, you have loved us from generation to generation. You have shown your faithfulness more often than we can recall. The Bible tells us of your steadfast mercy. You even pray for us.

Yet we live holding on to past hurts; we are not open to your new creation. We prefer the safety of what we know to the excitement of discipleship. Forgive us, we pray, and make us again as you would have us be.

(Time of silent confession)

Leader: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Here the Good News! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

People: **Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

★**Passing of the Peace** please greet one another with "Peace be with you" and you may respond "And also with you." Forgiveness from Jesus Christ brings peace that passes understanding (Philippians 4:6-7)

LISTENING

Scripture Lessons Acts 1:6-14, 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

People: **Thanks be to God**

Sermon "Trials and Tribulations" Rev. Dwight McCormick

Meditation Music

RESPONDING

★**Hymn No. 418 Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling**

1. **Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me. See, on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for your and for me.**

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

Children's Sermon

★Closing Hymn No.664

Morning Has Broken

1. Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for them singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dew fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!

Benediction

"A Franciscan Prayer"

Postlude

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

Thanks to Jim Nichols-Fleming for helping lead us in worship this morning!

Online Security - If you change your screen name, please email Winnie McCormick, winniemccm@gmail.com so she can admit you to the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MEETINGS

May 23rd Indoor Yard Sale time TBA Believe it or not SPRING really is coming! Another joy of having the vestry back in action is that we can plan on our indoor Yard Sale. The date is Saturday, May 23 which is Memorial Day Weekend. We now need DONATIONS . Please help us to fill the alcove in the vestry downstairs with your donations. We are taking donations for: Jewelry, dishes, antiques, knick knacks, lamps, artwork, linens, toys, games, puzzles, decorations, videos/dvds, craft items, tools, musical items and sports stuff. We will not have a food sale this year. Any questions? Ask Diane Nichols-Fleming.

May 24th Cookout details to follow. Join us as we kick off summer as we often do in the U.S. with a cookout. This week's e-note will share details-we will also have them here and announce during worship.

Deacons - Preparing a meal for the Good Samaritan Haven Saturday, May 16th, 2:20 PM in our church kitchen.

Sessions - Meeting Sunday May 17th. 11:15 am in the vestry and on Zoom.

Regular Monthly Meetings:

Session, 2nd Sunday, 11:15 a.m.

Deacons, 1st Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Outreach, 1st Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Book Group, 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

Meditation Group, Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Prayers - Each week we pray for a different person or family in our church. This week please keep Deanna & Chris Bailey in your prayers. Gracious Lord, we give thanks for them. Hold them in the palm of your hand let them feel your love. Give them the wisdom and strength to do your will and the faith and courage to face what challenges may arise.

As part of being the connectional Presbyterian Church, we keep in our prayers other ministries usually within the PNNE. This week our prayers are for the Leadership Commission and Committees of the Presbytery.

First Presbyterian Church, Barre is part of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We are members of the Presbytery of Northern New England.

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UPCOMING BIRTHDAY

May 17th - Ruby Edgerly-Walsh

May 21st – Pam Cyr

May 21st – Winnie McCormick

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES:

May 17th - PD & Kim Kelty

May 20th – Dan Krymkowski & Rebecca Mueller

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We are a Matthew 25 church in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

This means we have three areas of focus to our ministries:

**building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism,
and eradicating systemic poverty.**