



# First Presbyterian Church

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“Like” us Facebook: “First Presbyterian Church of Buffalo, NY”  
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*The mission of historic First Church is to bring diverse people of metropolitan Buffalo together to follow Jesus Christ through worshipping God, fostering spiritual growth, and serving the community.*

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## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 4, 2014

*Wherever ♦ appears, you are asked to stand if you are able to do so.  
Text in **bold print** indicates congregational responses.*

PRELUDE                      Partita on Praise God, Christians, All Together                      J. G. Walther

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

God’s promise is for us, and for all: **Repent, be baptized, and receive the Holy Spirit.**

Christ’s calling is to us, and to all: **Take and eat this bread; go and share the good news.**

### ♦PRAYER OF THE DAY (*responsive*)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray:

Almighty God, Jesus, our risen Lord, was made known to the disciples in the breaking of the bread. Open the eyes of our hearts that we may recognize his presence, and with his disciples cry, “The Lord has risen, indeed!” Through Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

♦HYMN 113                      “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!”                      Llanfair

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**Living God, we confess that we look for the living among the dead. You speak to us through your living Word, but we refuse to listen. You feed us with the bread of life, but we hunger for other things. Forgive us; give us new life! Lead us to repent and remember the promise of our baptism: the life that death cannot destroy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

All of us, like sheep have gone astray, but now we have returned to the shepherd and guardian of our souls. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

♦CANTICLE                      “Glory to the Father”                      Richard Wetzel

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as in the beginning, so now, and forever. Amen.**

♦PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GRATITUDE FOR APRIL FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS

Mark Armesto, Olga Rico-Armesto, Susan Koepfel, Karen Lewis,  
Jimmy Martinez, Madeline Mason, Shannon Rogers, Sue Snyder

FIRST READING: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

OT pages 564-565

ANTHEM Come Praise the Lord John Amner

Come, praise the Lord, rejoice unto our God, let us sing praise, sing praise to God our Savior.

O come into His presence with humility, praise with psalms, Let us sing praise to Him. Alleluia.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-25

NT pages 232-233

SERMON "The Art of Holiness" Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings

◇HYMN 503 "Come, Risen Lord" Sursum Corda

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY Ave Verum Corpus W. A. Mozart

Word of God incarnate, born of the Virgin Mary, who suffered on the cross for all people, make us pure by the blood flowing from Your side. Feed us with Your body so we are freed from death's agony.

◇DOXOLOGY 591 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

◇PRAYER OF DEDICATION (responsive)

Yours, O Lord, are grandeur and power, majesty, splendor, and glory.

**All in the heavens and on the earth is Yours, and of Your own we give You. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING (responsive)

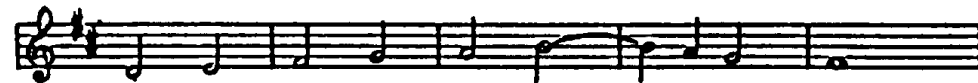
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

The Minister continues and then says:

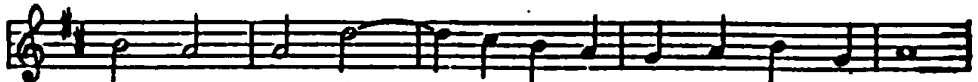
Therefore we lift our hearts in joyful praise, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - ly. Lord.



God of pow'r & might. Hea-ven and earth are full of your



glo- ry. Ho - san - - 2 - na in the high - est!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OFFICERS



SESSION AND TRUSTEES  
BY CLASS AND TERM

**Clerk of Session**  
Janet Hill

**Class of 2014**  
Mark Armesto (T) (1)  
John Darby (T) (2)  
Lauren Hill (T) (2)  
Marv Riegler (2)  
Erica Wichtowski (1)

**Class of 2015**  
Jean Hess (2)  
Tim Hess (1)  
Janet Hill (2)  
Don Houck (T) (2)  
Susan Koepfel (1)  
Virginia McIntyre (1)

**Class of 2016**  
Ian Bradford (T) (2)  
Mike Henry (T) (2)  
Stephanie Smith (1)  
Ryan Nadbrzuch (T) (1)  
Maria Oakley (1)

BOARD OF DEACONS  
BY CLASS AND TERM

**Class of 2014**  
Pat Brown (1)  
Russell Carlson (2)  
Mary Field (2)  
Karen Frieder (2)  
Olga Rico-Armesto (1)  
Lou Ann Luther Riegler (1)

**Class of 2015**  
Liz Kamke (1)  
Tina Osei (1)  
Judith Paradzai (2)  
Phil Sims (2)  
Denis Wettlaufer (2)

**Class of 2016**  
Jackie Addo (1)  
Cleo Alexander (2)  
Mark Juan Armesto (2)  
José Gomez (2)  
Gifty Koramoah (1)  
Ken Madell (2)



(T) indicates that the Elder has also been nominated or elected to serve as a Trustee while on Session.



*The Minister continues and says:*

Great is the mystery of faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

*The Minister continues and says:*

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are Yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray:

LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

**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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*unison*)

**Gracious God, You have made us one with all Your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for Your service. Help us who have shared Christ's body and received His cup, to be His faithful disciples so that our daily living may be part of the life of Your kingdom, and our love be Your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

◇HYMN 361 "How Firm a Foundation" *Foundation*

◇CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Prelude on *O Filii et filiae* *Healey Willan*



## FIRST CHURCH STAFF LIST

<b>The Reverend Dr. Philip S. Gittings</b> , <i>Interim Pastor</i> RevPhil@firstchurchbuffalo.org Voicemail extension 13 / Cell: 548-0466	<b>Christina Banas</b> , <i>Business Manager</i> CBanas@firstchurchbuffalo.org Voicemail extension 11
<b>The Reverend John Long, D.D.</b> , <i>Parish Associate for Community Outreach</i> johnrlong17@verizon.net	<b>Quinton Meyer</b> , <i>Volunteer Assoc. for Pastoral Care</i> meyer405@aol.com / Cell:909-2259
<b>Dr. David Bond</b> , <i>Organist/Choirmaster, Bookkeeper</i> DBond@firstchurchbuffalo.org Voicemail extension 17	<b>Liz Kamke</b> , <i>Outreach Assistant</i>
<b>Meg Doerzbacher</b> , <i>Christian Education Director</i> Meg@firstchurchbuffalo.org Voicemail extension 16	<b>Tom Hollfelder</b> , <i>Custodian/Security Guard</i> <i>Church Office</i> Voicemail extension 10 email@firstchurchbuffalo.org <i>Weddings</i> Voicemail extension 15 weddings@firstchurchbuffalo.org

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2014

Today's Liturgist is Lauren Hill.

Today's acolyte is Mark Juan Armesto.

**Welcome to all visitors— you have a friend at First Church!** If you would like to learn more about our diverse, welcoming faith community, please speak to a Deacon after worship.

If you have a prayer request to include during Prayers of the People, please use one of the blue prayer cards available in the Narthex or by asking a Deacon. Please write neatly and give your card to a Deacon.

### TODAY IS FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

The first Sunday of the month is designated "Food Pantry Sunday." Donations of canned goods can be placed near the chancel. Monetary donations to the Lyon Food Pantry are also appreciated. First Church feeds an average of 20 hungry people every Tuesday, right here in our neighborhood. This is an opportunity for hands-on mission that helps many. Thank you!

### COUCHSIDE CALVIN

The Young Adult Couchside Calvin group will meet at Phil Gittings' home (54 Irving Pl, in the back) on Tuesday, May 20 at 7:00 PM. Street parking is available. Copies of the chapter to be discussed can be picked up today by seeing Phil.

### WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION THEMED BASKET AUCTION SUNDAY, MAY 11TH

Donate a theme basket to the Women's Association Mother's Day auction— then May 11th during coffee hour, bid on the one you would like to take home.

### MOTHERS' DAY SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR SUNDAY, MAY 11TH

after worship in the Chapel  
with fresh fruit  
Sponsored by the Church Life Committee  
*Celebrating all women!*

### MAY ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Sunday Mornings:** In the first few weeks after Easter we are focusing on the time from the Resurrection of Jesus to the Ascension when he was taken up to heaven. The meaning of the Ascension is too often lost on contemporary Christians because we just don't focus much on this event. On Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in Phil's office you can learn more about the fascinating story and meaning of Christ's Ascension.

**Wednesday Afternoons:** Join our lively discussion of the Gospel of Matthew at 1:00 p.m. every week in Phil's office. This group is always fun and interesting as we read and discuss the Word of God together. We hope you'll join us any time you can.

# CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, May 4	9:30 a.m.	Adult Christian Education — Pastor's Study
	11:15 a.m.	Worship & Communion, Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings preaching — Sanctuary
	12:15 p.m.	Fellowship Time — Chapel
Monday, May 5		Building Closed
Tuesday, May 6	10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting — Pastor's Study
	12:30 p.m.	Food Bag Assistance — Historical Hall
	4:30 p.m.	Literacy Tutoring — Chapel
	5:30 p.m.	Worship & Music Committee Meeting — Pastor's Study
	7:00 p.m.	Lands & Buildings Committee Meeting — Historical Hall
Wednesday, May 7	1:00 p.m.	Bible Study — Pastor's Study
	4:30 p.m.	Literacy Tutoring — Chapel
Thursday, May 8	7:30 p.m.	One Symphony Circle Board Meeting — Historical Hall
	7:30 p.m.	CMO Committee Meeting at SPoT Coffee on Hertel Ave.
Friday, May 9		No events
Saturday, May 10	12:30 p.m.	Baby Shower — Chapel
Sunday, May 11	9:30 a.m.	Mothers' Day Adult Christian Education — Pastor's Study
	11:15 a.m.	Worship, Rev. Dr. Philip S. Gittings preaching — Sanctuary
	11:30 a.m.	Sunday School — Classrooms
	12:15 p.m.	Fellowship Time — Chapel
	12:15 p.m.	Board of Deacons Meeting — Historical Hall